IDEAL Project Newsletter March 2021

IDEAL TRAINING EVENT

The movement towards different modes of language teaching, from classroom-based to blended and fully online modes can not be stopped. As evidenced by the recent Covid-19 pandemic, the need for language teachers to be able to operate in non-traditional capacities and to be able to make use of digital tools is self-evident.

Teaching online, however, is different and it requires language teachers to develop new competences and updated skills for moderating, developing and designing language activities, facilitating active learning and supporting collaborative interaction in digital environments.

Language teachers require training on how best to use available digital tools and platforms that can not only support the process of language teaching, but make it inspiring and engaging. This requirement is further reflected in the extended Companion Volume of the European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR, 2018). The Erasmus+ IDEAL Project aims to support the professional learning of language teachers in adult education to effectively use digital tools in language learning.



The IDEAL Project organised a recent training event between March, 1-3 with 20 language teachers from Germany, Poland, Italy, Ireland, Spain and France working in adult and higher education. Thanks to the training, the participants:



Learned about the IDEAL project profile of a digitally competent language teacher in adult education - particularly with regard to the requirements of Digital Competence Framework for Educators (DigCompEdu, 2017) and the CEFR with new descriptors.



Gained a new perspective on how to benefit from digital competences and innovative digital technologies as a language teacher.



Exchanged practical tips with language teachers from different European countries on how to use digital tools as teaching aids for creating various language communicative activities.

You can view the developed project outputs on the IDEAL project learning platform @ http://platform.ideal-project.eu/





TRAINING FEEDBACK

The training was held online over three days and focused on the IDEAL project, the DigCompEdu framework, the CEFR Companion Volume with new descriptors, the IDEAL project European profile of a digitally competent language teacher and IDEAL project learning platform as well as a range of relevant digital tools and supports.

Feedback on the event was very positive with participants noting that:



"I think you do a wonderful job; the presentations that have taken place during these days have been very interesting, very practical and inspiring congratulations!"

"I had a great time with the whole group. Thank you very much for the opportunity to meet new colleagues, share teaching experience and get a glimpse into the digital world of teaching tools."





"the most important is that I might NOT be afraid of new tools, this change is extremely meaningful for me, plus I see a lot of situations in which I could apply the tools"

"The online training offered by the IDEAL project was very inspiring. an excellent choice of collaborative online tools, presented in a very lively and comprehensive way. I will definitely integrate these tools in my future online classes."

Mona, Germany

"The event was utterly enjoyable, productive and enlightening. The three days training gave all the participants the opportunity to be exposed to the huge impact digital technologies have and will continue to have in the field of language teaching. To me, learning and practicing at the same time was the key for a very successful exchange between competent colleagues."

Leonardo, Italy

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