

Short summary of the project

16 000. Approximately 16 000 words are spoken by everyone of us each day. We know that often people who come to the top are very eloquent. This has been the case in history and this will also be true in the future. Our needs analysis shows that companies need people who are able to give a profound analysis in English on a given topic. One of the things we often hear from people who work in (big) companies is that their staffmembers do no longer know how to do a speech, how to write an effective report, how to get along with people from other companies of other countries. As the title implies, the aim of this project is thus first and foremost to raise pupil's eloquency about current topics. Words, and the power of words, have become of utmost importance in our every day life. Therefore, we want to give 24 pupils the chance to work on this urgent matter. These pupils, aged 15-18, divided into teams, will focus on specific aspects concerning speaking, discussing and reflecting, both during prepratory phases to be developed in each school and during the learning activities organised as an exchange meeting in one of the partner schools. This manner the students will not only acquire knowledge about speaking in public, but also try to conquer their possible fear and enjoy the opportunity of having a hands on experience with other European citizens speaking about current affairs. As a result, their speaking comprehension will be boosted. We can speak, I have a word to say, Our words change things and The birth of a common language are different parts of our project. We'll focus on speeches and the best way to give a speech, analysing the use of different ways of communication (both written and oral texts) to compare the reliability of the different sources, historical figures who gave society changing speeches and debating respectively. We will devise and create a common website for the project that is linked directly to our respective school websites. This will not only be used for uploading results and correspondence, but also to present the stages of our project to the school as well as the local community. All results will also be uploaded on eTwinning and continuously displayed in our Erasmus+ project corners at school. Articles will be written on diverse issues that concern our project and be published on school websites as well as transmitted to the local press in each partner city. One of our main objectives is to make a tutorial on how to give a proper speech. This is helpful as a guideline for teachers and students all over Europe, because pupils will write these guidelines themselves. This way they become aware of the pitfalls of speeching and they make sure others can benefit from their researches. All the aforementioned activities will facilitate raising an awareness of shared concepts and promote the capacity to act on related issues. The participation in this project will allow our schools and communities to promote a positive attitude both towards European pupils and to dare to speak in front of a public. The project aims to grow teenagers who are more conscious about the fact that being able to tell their opinion in a structured, respectful way is of utter importance in everyday life. They will become more aware of differences and similarities between different European countries, of how working together can bring them to a higher level. Their level of English will increase, as well as their sense of initiative and their digital competence. These skills are important for their future at school and when they look for a job. This project will help them to raise their skills to the top.