



Report of pilot project with Net Languages English for Teens ESO 1 and ESO 2 online material.

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1. Summary of the project

Net Languages carried out a pilot project with 4 secondary schools during 7 weeks from 19 April until 14 June 2010:

IES Icària
IES Menendez y Pelayo
IES Ernest Lluch
IES Joan Boscà

ESO 1 and ESO 2 students and teachers were given access to Net Languages:

English for Teens - ESO 1 and ESO 2 - byte-size & Activity Bank

The aim of the pilot project was:

1. to give teachers and students first-hand experience with the Net Languages material
2. for Net Languages to receive valuable feedback which would be used to make changes to the byte-size material and especially to Net Languages' new **English for Teens - ESO - course** version of the material.



2. Findings - English for Teens - ESO - Byte-size

Student response

The student responses received were overwhelmingly positive to the materials.

92% of the students enjoyed using the English for Teens materials.

90% found the units interesting.

94% found the units fun.

90% learned new things with the material.

71% said they would definitely like to use the material next year.

Here are a selection of their comments:

"I have liked to use very much this program because I have learned very much".

"Netlanguages is a program to interest my".

"This program is very fun and interesting"

"I don't have any problems.I like it!! =)"

"I liked so much. I would like use this program next year".

For detailed information on the students' answers see Annex 1,

Teacher response

The response from the teachers was also extremely positive and also very constructive.

- They agree that their students enjoyed using the material on the whole.
- They think the students found the materials interesting.
- On average their students found the units fun.
- Their students learned new things with the materials.
- They would like to use the materials next year.
- They think that on the whole the material is interesting and appropriate for ESO 1 and 2.
- They think that the level is correct for ESO 1 and ESO 2.
- And the material is very easy to use.



Here are a selection of the comments we received from teachers during the pilot project by email, on the forums we set up and in the questionnaire.

Plan B

Laura

El problema que tenim amb qualsevol llibre digital que agafem pel curs vinent és que, d'entrada, no sabem quan tindrem els ordinadors pels alumnes ni quan haurem pogut solucionar el problema dels endolls per a la càrrega de les bateries. O sigui que això vol dir que al començament -i ni idea de com serà de llarg aquest "començament"...- el curs començarà sense ordinadors. Teniu pensat algun tipus de suport en format paper per poder tirar endavant sense que ens agafi la depre total? En els llibres més "clàssics" hi ha la possibilitat de fer-los comprar el Students' book, per exemple, i tirar de fotocòpies o coses similars fins tenir els ordinadors i que es puguin fer funcionar. Què passarà si agafem el vostre i no disposem de la infraestructura a temps?

Solució Net Languages

Podríem incloure pdfs dels exercicis perquè en cas de tenir problemes es podrien imprimir i treballar. Si féssim això, ho trobaries suficient?

Laura

Fiona, em semblaria perfecte. I no només a mi; segur que a tots els professors. Una de les pors més grans d'aquest invent de 1x1 tan precipitat per a tots és que sempre haurem de portar la "hora B" preparada. Si el professor pogués tenir aquests PDF tindria una solució correcta, perquè encaixaria amb el que estiguessin treballant.

No sé si seria possible que pensessiu en fer una mena de guió de quins aspectes gramaticals convindria revisar amb cada unitat. Ja sé que el vostre plantejament és diferent -i per això a mi m'agrada-, però alguns professors tenen por "de fer poca gramàtica"

Solució Net Languages

Incloure en els pdfs un resú de cada unitat incloent-hi el punts gramaticals (versió curs).

Methodology and contents

Ma Rosa

When I started using the Net Languages materials with Eso 1 I was just practicing (introducing in fact) the past tense, so I asked the students to do Unit 7 "Ancient Egypt", which deals with the past tense in an appropriate context, and it is interesting for young students. Then I proceeded with the textbook we are using (and which I don't really like) and the other units in Net languages don't "fit" with the syllabus in the textbook, but it's not a problem because I am in favour of context leaning and teaching, and also of content-based materials, so, whatever I am doing with the textbook at a given moment, the students do their units of Net Languages when we go to the computer classroom once or twice a week. They don't seem confused by this. I am not sure if it would be more useful if a course like Net Languages followed the common curriculum of eso 1 and 2, in a way, it would be more formal but then, the approach would be more "grammatical" and I think one



of the strong points of Net Languages is that it provides a content-based context for learning , almost CLIL oriented, for each unit. So, it provides the students with something that the textbooks don't offer: interesting and significant themes and vocabulary that students would most likely never come across in textbooks.

Maria

I've missed revision of some topics such as the weather and food

Ma Rosa

Hi! I miss some topics for 1st of ESO, such as the weather, for instance.

Net Languages solution:

Incorporate the weather, food, months and seasons into ESO 1 units, now.

Logical structure?

Ma Rosa

I think they are, but I need some more time to get a better general picture. So far, it has seemed logical to me. Some of the topics have surprised me and the students. Eyes??? they said. But then they really enjoyed this unit, and so did I.

Isabel

It would be better to follow the curriculum of ESO (students opinion is the same), or nothing and have a good SEARCH tool. If the material is complementary, I would prefer to have units about subjects, without any structure of course and a good tool of SEARCHING. It's difficult for me to work at the same time with the book, because I have to search the materials in all the units.

Net Languages solution:

Use the Activity Bank which contains a good search filter or use the course version of the English for Teens ESO material.

Level

Ma Rosa

Yes, it is interesting and appropriate, in terms of level and also of topics.

Isabel

Yes, students like the activities and they don't need to know all to solve the exercises. M^a

Isabel

Easy to use?

Ma Rosa

Yes, very easy, intuitive and logical. At first some students got confused, when they finished an exercise or activity they wouldn't know what to do, so I had to repeat a few times the procedure, but there are always students who don't seem to grasp the logic



behind websites, I mean, they'll freeze before the screen and not know what to do or they just don't read the instructions or the links..I always tell them that computers don't exclude reading, that they actually have to read what is on the screen:) and that even if they make a mistake, clicking on a link they shouldn't have clicked, the computer won't explode, that it's alright to explore. This usually happens with students who are not so computer literate, whereas other kids will just take a look at the screen and know immediately what they have to do,

Ma Isabel

Yes, students don't have any problem. They know more than us how to use computers and it's easy for them. They have problems to log in, they don't write correctly their usernames or passwords, but it is different with the materials, they solve exercises in an intuitive way.

Are your students enjoying using the material?

Ma Rosa

Yes, they are! they engage in the activities easily and are absorbed (and the teacher can relax a little bit and is happy too hehe)

Ma Isabel

Yes, they are in general. They don't stop working! They find them very funny! But students who don't usually work, don't work with these materials, they don't motivate them, they find them boring, they find all boring.

Technical problems?

Ma Rosa

No, none. It was a happy coincidence that when we started using Net Languages the school has just set up a new internet connection, because prior to that we just couldn't work with the internet, we had 6 megas for the whole school! So with this new, faster connection, sites really work and Net Languages is easy to use and intuitive for the students.

Ma Isabel

No, I haven't. I worked in three different computer rooms and I only could work well in one of them, the problem were the rooms, not your material. It is very difficult to have the only room that works, everybody wants it!

Laura

We have had technical problems due to the poor internet connection at school. Therefore, the appreciation is somehow partial. They didn't have really good opportunities to test the materials.



3. Findings - Activity Bank

Student reponse

- 100% students enjoyed different parts of the Activity Bank.
- 100% students found the exercises interesting.
- 100% students found the exercises ok.
- 88% students found the Activity Bank relatively easy to use.
- 88% students would like to use the Activity Bank next year.

More detailed information in Annex 3

Teachers reponse:

- The teachers think that the students enjoyed some exercises and not others.
- They think the students found the exercises quite interesting.
- They think it is very useful to supplement other course work.
- They would like to use the Activity Bank next year.
- They think the content is very interesting and appropriate for ESO.
- They think the level is very appropriate for ESO
- They think the Activity Bank is relatively easy to use.

More detailed information in Annex 4

Some comments on the **Activity Bank**

Is the Activity Bank useful?

Iolanda

I think it is. The only complaint my students had was they couldn't access the assignments, but now they can.

Technical problems?

Maria

Yes. It's Maria, from IES Ernest Lluch. I can't set homework from the Activity Bank. The kids can see the instructions but can't do the task. Apart from that, the children love the programme.

Yolanda

The only problem I have found is the same Maria mentions in her post. I can assign homework for the students, but they just see empty boxes.

I was told by Fiona that they are working on this problem.

Apart from this, everything is fine and students quite like the activity bank.

Net Languages solution - this problem has now been fixed and homework can now be assigned.



Annex 1 - Student questionnaire for English for Teens - ESO - Byte-size

We received 51 replies to the student questionnaire about the English for Teens, byte-size course.

1. Did you enjoy using the English for Teens materials?

Yes, very much 39%
I liked some things and not others 53%
No, not at all 8%

2. Did you find the units interesting?

Yes, very much 31%
They were quite interesting 59%
No, not at all 3%

3. Did you find the units fun?

Yes, very much 29%
They were ok 65%
No, not at all 6%

4. Have you learned new things with the English for Teens material?

Yes, a lot 53%
Yes, a little 37%
No, not at all 10%

5. Which exercises did you like the best:

Videos 8%
Animations 12%
Reading 2%
Listening 8%
Vocabulary 8%
Grammar 6 %
Games 14%
Comics 12%
Quizzes 27%
Worksheet 4%

6. Would you like to use English for Teens next year?

Yes 71%
No 12%



Don't know 18%

7. Any comments?

I have liked to use very much this program because I have learned very much.

is the interestic and difficult

Netlanguages is a program to interest my.

*This program is good, it's a form to learn English with out homework
i didnt say eby thinc*

I thing that this unit is to funny and is another form to learnt with out homework

It is very easy to use but...

The units are very simple and the most units have to listening things watch videos ...

This is boring and you only put 1 game.

It was very boring.

You have to improve it was boring"

IS GOOD

This program is very fun and interesting

I don't have any problems.I like it!! =)

hello,my name is claudia. I like this page, but it is very slow...I hope that they improve her...for everything else this one very well and I have liked it very much

hello, my names Mariela. molt is interesting, but not ho Entença.

hello my name is sam. Because interesing it? I 'm not like this.

"hello, my name is lydia. I like this page, but it is very slow ... I hope that they improve her ... for everything else this one very well and I have liked it very much.

hola me llamo lydia. me gusta esta pagina, pero es muy lenta. espero que mejoren esta pagina. por todo lo demas me gusta mucho. "

"m'agradat pero hi ha alguns fallos de tecnologia.que hi havien fotos i havies de posar el nom que i pertenia.i quan hi havia de posar el nom no hem deixava posar-la i es greu

adeu moltes gracies per a la web"

I like a lot to me was very interesting but a little hand side and the vocabulary is some what difficult

yes,i like but there are someones that i didn't like it



*Each student should have a password chosen by him.
To arrive at the perfection I think the teacher should know the answers of the student.*

I liked so much. I would like use this program next year.

*si na agradat molt
i liked so much.*

I like a lot, but I like the american english.



Annex 2 - Teacher questionnaire for English for Teens - ESO - Byte-size

2 teachers replied to this questionnaire

1. Did your students enjoy using the English for Teens materials?

Yes, very much 100%
Some things and not others
No, not at all

2. Did they find the units interesting?

Yes, very interesting 50%
Yes, quite interesting 50%
No, not interesting at all

3. Did they find the units fun?

Yes, very much
Yes, they did on average 100%
No, not at all

4. Do you think your students have you learned new things with the English for Teens material?

Yes, a lot 50%
Yes, a little 50%
No, not at all

5. Would you like to use English for Teens with your students next year?

Yes 100%
No
Don't know

6. Do you think the content is interesting and appropriate for ESO 1 and ESO 2?

Yes, very appropriate 50%
Yes, quite appropriate 50%
No, not very appropriate
No, not appropriate at all

7. Is the level of the material appropriate for ESO 1 and ESO 2?

Yes, very appropriate 50%
Yes, quite appropriate 50%
No, not very appropriate



No, not appropriate at all

8. Is the material easy to use?

Very easy 100%

Quite easy

Not very easy

Not easy at all

9. Any comments?

I've missed revision of some topics such as the weather and food

We have had technical problems due to the poor internet connection at school. Therefore, the appreciation is somehow partial. They didn't have really good opportunities to test the materials.



Annex 3 - Student questionnaire - Activity Bank- ESO

We received 8 replies to the student questionnaire about the Activity Bank.

1. Did you enjoy using the Activity Bank?

Yes, very much 63%
I liked some things and not others 37%
No, not at all 0%

2. Did you find the exercises interesting?

Yes, very much 63%
They were quite interesting 37%
No, not at all 0%

3. Did you find the exercises fun?

Yes, very much 0%
They were ok 100%
No, not at all 0%

4. Did you find the Activity Bank easy to use?

Yes, very easy 63%
Yes, quite easy 25%
No, it was difficult to use 12%

5. Which exercises did you like the best:

Reading
Listening
Vocabulary 25%
Grammar 25%
Writing
Pronunciation 12%
Functional Language 12%
Videos 25%
Mini lessons

6. Would you like to use the Activity Bank next year?

Yes 88%
No 0%
Don't know 12%



Annex 4 - Teacher questionnaire - Activity Bank- ESO
2 teacher answered this questionnaire

1. Did your students enjoy using the Activity Bank?

Yes, very much
Some things and not others 100%
No, not at all

2. Did they find the exercises interesting?

Yes, very interesting
Yes, quite interesting 100%
No, not interesting at all

3. Do you think the Activity Bank is useful to supplement other course work?

Yes, very useful 100%
Yes, quite useful
No, not very useful

4. Would you like to use the Activity Bank with your students next year?

Yes 100%
No
Not sure

5. Do you think the content is interesting and appropriate for ESO?

Yes, very appropriate 100%
Yes, quite appropriate
No, not very appropriate
No, not appropriate at all

6. Is the level of the material appropriate for ESO?

Yes, very appropriate 100%
Yes, quite appropriate
No, not very appropriate
No, not appropriate at all

7. Is the material easy to use?

Very easy 50%
Quite easy 50%
Not very easy