

Report about learning foreign languages through the eyes of a young person

My name *

Valentin Budini

How do you learn foreign languages? A few methods which you find are good. How would you like to learn foreign languages? A few tips! - Wie lernst du Fremdsprachen? Einige Methoden, die du gut findest! Wie möchtest du Fremdsprachen lernen? Einige Tipps! *

Liitin Lukio is a finnish High School in Kausala. There are currently 120 students and 15 teachers. Here, the school year is organized very differently than France : The students got 5 periods where they have to choose the school subjects . If they choose a subject, Math or English for example, they will have 5 lessons of 45 minutes each week. There are many different school subject that we can't find in France like art, technology and cooking (for middleschoolers) . We have seen and participated at lots of different lessons and we have noticed many differences compared to France. First of all, we went to language classes: it seems to be mostly focused on speaking and communicating more than any other language ability . The teachers gives the students a subject (for example, a music band or trip in the woods) which can be a text, a podcast or a film trailer. Then she gives some instructions and let them work on their own for the rest of the lesson. The teachers said that the goal of this method is to make students speak as much as possible. She also said that she tries to encourage every students to do their best but she doesn't force them to do their Homework : It is their choice !

We also noticed that the number of students per class is very small compared to France (5 to 15 students max) which is really relevant in a positive way because the teachers can help all the students individually.

Some other different things that were interesting:

- they never work in groups of 4 or more
- they never have a text and a recording at the same time
- they call the teachers by their surname

We have also participated to a distance teaching class. There were 12 students from different schools of Finland. Using The Adobe Connect software, the students and the teacher were able to communicate and participate to the lesson from far away. It is a very fun method that allows pupils to learn by doing quizz and games. They have marks but they don't get feedbacks from the teachers, only if the assignement is important.

During the german lesson , we have been working with an app called Quizlet . We were working in pairs and we had to find the corresponding german word. It was really nice way to learn new vocabulary , not boring at all , and very efficient .

The learning methods are very different from what we do in France but we enjoyed it because it wasn't our usual, so it was interesting for us to see other ways of learning. I would surely repeat this experience again.

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