MINT - A Report of the teachers - Short exchanges

My Name and a short introduction of myself *

I am Outi Korpinen, the teacher of English at litti Upper Secondary School.

The report of the methods used during the exchanges *

I visited Lycée St Joseph in Lamballe, France, with two students and a colleague for a week (Oct. 14th- Oct. 20th, 2018). On those five days I followed English lessons.

Most of the groups, especially those with the older students, were taking their oral tests during the week. In some groups students presented their ideas on how and where they would spend the gap year after graduation from their school in Lamballe. Each student gave the presentation to the rest of the group either individually or in pairs.

Other groups had been dealing with American settlers and westward expansion and they gave their presentations on some aspect of this expansion. These presentations were very good. The fact that they took place in a school building and in a classroom seemed to fade away, there was just the student who wanted his or her message to go through and the variety of ways in which each student demonstrated his or her ideas. The group in my mind seemed to be artistic, and the lesson reminded me of watching a touching and memorable show more than a lesson at school. I admit I was sorry I missed some of the presentations.

The younger students were dealing with texts on multicultural matters concentrating on food and music and working on computers..

Something else interesting *

It was interesting to see how literature was used in teaching foreign languages. It became very concrete, too, because I had the privilege of deal one short story with a group of students. I thoroughly liked it and I enjoyed the story and the chance to work with a group in a way and taking an approach that is not so common in our country. It was a challenge that was worth taking.

The best things I have seen *

As I mentioned earlier, the presentations of the older students was something that I will probably remember as long as I work as a teacher.

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