



2025

EUROPEAN DAY

OF LANGUAGES

ACTIVITY KIT

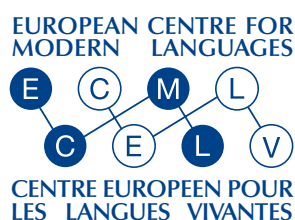


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WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES?

The European Day of Languages is an annual initiative launched by the Council of Europe together with the European Commission in 2001. It is celebrated every year on 26 September and aims to promote linguistic and cultural diversity in Europe.

The main aims of the Day are to raise public awareness of the importance of language learning, to highlight all the languages spoken in Europe and to promote multilingualism. It also aims to encourage intercultural dialogue and strengthen mutual understanding between different cultures and language communities. Languages are much more than simple means of communication. They are living witnesses to the history, culture and identity of each people.

Each year, the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) chooses a theme for the Day. To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the European Day of Languages, the slogan “Languages open hearts and minds” is proposed, reflecting the fact that language learning involves both the emotions and the brain. As well as improving cognitive skills and providing a bridge to connect people, language learning facilitates the exchange of ideas, emotions and experiences, building empathy and respect for different ways of life.



ACTIVITY KIT

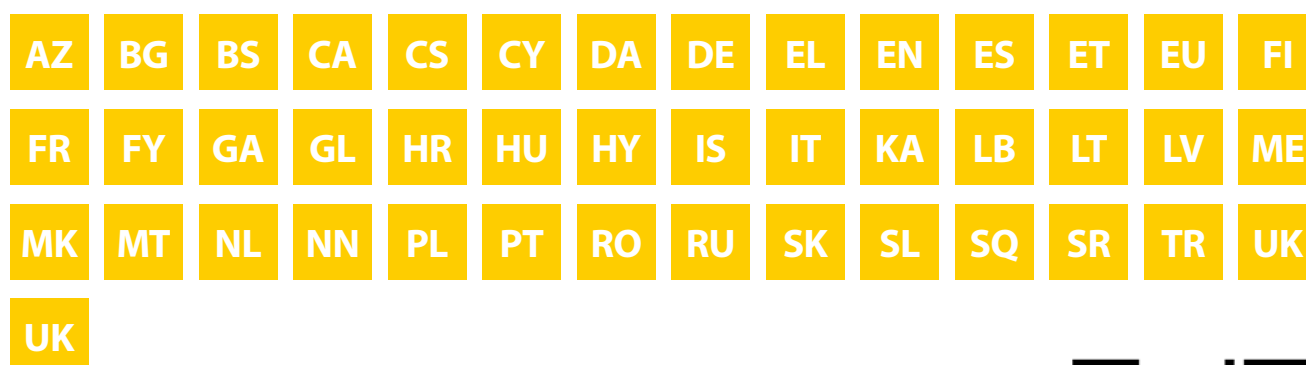
LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

To mark the European Day of Languages, the Institut national des langues Luxembourg (INLL) is delighted to present a language activity kit based on activities proposed by the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML), designed to (re) discover and explore the wonders of languages.

The activities in this kit are suitable for any age and can be done in groups, individually or in the classroom. Whether you're a beginner or already familiar with one or more languages, these fun and educational activities will arouse your curiosity and inspire you.

Dive into the world multilingual and let yourself be amazed by Europe's linguistic diversity. Explore languages through interactive games, linguistic puzzles, riddles and much more. Discover the peculiarities of languages, their melodious sounds, intriguing alphabets and charming idioms.

The ECML's activities are available in several languages on the European Language Day website languages. the bottom of the activity pages and choose your language from the bar below:



Start exploring the EDL website!
edl.ecml.at



ACTIVITY 1

AN ANTHEM FOR THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Help to create (and perform) a multilingual anthem for the 25th anniversary of the European Day of Languages!

With the help of artificial intelligence we have generated the text of a song in English entitled “Voices of Europe”.

We now invite schools, organisations, associations and, of course, other language enthusiasts to make it a truly multilingual work — either by translating/adapting the text into a language they speak, or even to go a step further and develop their own version of an anthem.

For the initiative, we invite videos of the resulting anthem being performed as well as the song text in the language used for the performance — a truly multilingual version of the song will be developed from the submissions!

Who knows, you could be contributing to a chart-topping hit!

Deadline for submissions: 15 October 2025



Class / whole-school activity

See the full lyrics and participate!
edl.ecml.at/EDLanthem



ACTIVITY 2

“LANGUAGES OPEN HEARTS AND MINDS!” POSTER INITIATIVE

Create a poster illustrating the 25th anniversary motto of the European Day of Languages “Languages open hearts and minds!” This reflects that learning languages harnesses both the emotions and the brain. As well as potentially boosting brain power and connecting people, learning languages can facilitate the exchange of ideas, emotions, and experiences — strengthening empathy and respect for different ways of life.

You can use symbols, quotes and artwork to convey messages and let your creativity run wild!

Send us an image (jpg or gif) of the poster you produce to be showcased on the EDL website. There will be prizes for the top 5 most creative entries and 25 of the posters will proudly be displayed at the premises of the European Centre for Modern Languages in Graz, Austria.

Deadline for submissions: 15 October 2025.



Group / class / whole-school activity

Begin your creative process!
edl.ecml.at/heartsandminds



ACTIVITY 3

SELF-EVALUATE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS

The 'Self-evaluate your language skills' tool helps you to assess your level of proficiency in the languages you know according to six reference levels described in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The tool draws on the CEFR's self-assessment grid.

Individual / group / class activity

Self-evaluation test questions are available in multiple languages.

You can download your evaluation results as a PDF.

A1 A2 B1 B2 C1 C2



Get a certificate showing your language skills!
edl.ecml.at/languageskills



ACTIVITY 4

20 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THE WORLD OF LANGUAGES

The “20 things you might not know about the world of languages” posters are available in more than 15 languages. These posters can be used in the classroom to create discussion on a variety of topics. For example, did you know that the French language has 16 different ways of writing the sound “o” or that only 5% of Portuguese speakers live in Portugal?

Group / class activity



The 2025 poster showcases 20 birthday traditions from around the world – to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the European Day of Languages.

Download the posters
edl.ecml.at/posters



ACTIVITY 5

ARE YOU A LANGUAGE DETECTIVE?

Individual / group / class activity

Can you recognise all the languages being displayed in the game? The game features 40 languages! Even if you don't succeed at first, remember to try, try and try again!

Language 2 (out of 40):

...знали шта то значи, или бар на ком је језику? Отприлике 225 аутохтоних језика чини језичко наслеђе Европе богатим и разноликим, што је нешто вредно славља. Али, колико су Европљани добри у учењу језика својих непосредних (и посредних) суседа? Многи Европљани можда сматрају да је један језик сасвим довољан, али...

German

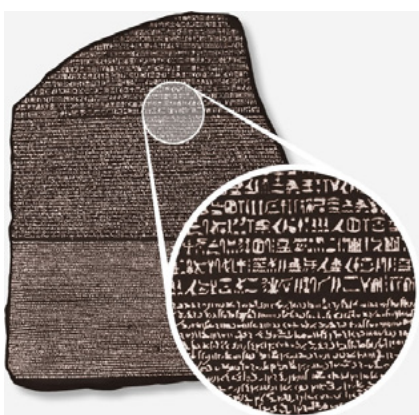
Catalan

Italian

Norwegian

Serbian

Ukrainian



On the same page you will also find the fascinating story of the Rosetta Stone. This ancient artifact, discovered in 1799, held the key to understanding the enigmatic hieroglyphs of ancient Egypt.

Try the game here!

edl.ecml.at/languagedetective



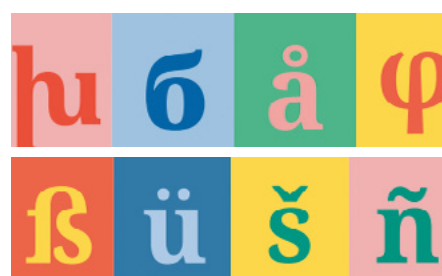
ACTIVITY 6

“LINGUINE” LANGUAGE BOARD GAME

“Linguine” is a fun, educational board game created to celebrate the European Day of Languages. The name comes from the Italian word, literally meaning “little tongues”, reflecting long, flat, ribbon-like shape of linguine, that resemble thin tongues.

The game seeks to test players’ knowledge of the many and varied languages native to the continent of Europe. Linguistic diversity enriches communication and culture, just as culinary diversity does with food! The game is primarily designed to be played in a classroom setting.

Working together in teams, players advance on their journey by answering questions and taking challenges about languages.



Groups of 2-6 players



Download the game and the manual
edl.ecml.at/edlboardgame



ACTIVITY 7

LARA'S LANGUAGE JOURNEYS

The languages you will encounter in this booklet reflect the diversity of the cultures and traditions which exist side by side on our continent. Some of the around 225 languages which are native to Europe are spoken by millions and others are spoken only by a handful of people. During this short journey, you will discover lots of similarities. You will also find out about their differences. All have a unique identity and their own story to tell!

Having found out about some 46 of Europe's mostly 'bigger' languages on her first journey, on this trip Lara chooses, on a new trip, to explore languages which are not so well known beyond the areas they are spoken in. In some cases the languages she encounters have several dialects, some do not have a standardised written form or can be rendered in different scripts and in many cases the numbers of native speakers are declining.

Also listen to how these languages sound! Download a language tree poster. There are a wide variety of suggestions for teachers on how to use these booklets.



Individual / group / class activity



Find it all here!

edl.ecml.at/languagejourney

ACTIVITY 8

THE LANGUAGE CHALLENGE APP AND HANDBOOK

As a 'secret agent' you are going to visit new places and foreign lands. A good agent needs to be confident about his/her language skills to ensure never to reveal their identity! Therefore you will need to be able to speak foreign languages as fluently as possible. The language challenges in the app and handbook mostly relate to authentic, everyday communication tasks that agents need to be prepared for!

Try your hand at being a secret agent, either with the handbook or the app – both available in 31 languages.



*Individual / group /
class activity*



Download the app here!

edl.ecml.at/app



Find the handbook here!

edl.ecml.at/languagechallenge



ACTIVITY 9

TRY YOUR HAND AT INTERNATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE!

International Sign language is often used among sign language users from different countries, who don't have a common language – as the name suggests it is an international language. In the European Union, there are estimated to be around 750,000 sign language users who rely on sign language as their primary means of communication.

Find out more about European sign languages – learn 25 words in International Sign and discover and test yourself on recognising country names!



Group / class activity

Share the game with your class!
edl.ecml.at/signlanguage



ACTIVITY 10

LISTEN AND GUESS THE LANGUAGE

Listen carefully! Can you guess which language it is? Thirty-eight audio recordings are available on the EDL website.

You may recognise some of the languages. You will also be invited to discover less common languages, perhaps even some languages you have never heard before.

Individual / class activity

Language 1 (out of 38):



Swedish? Estonian?
Croatian? Walloon?



Let the games begin!
edl.ecml.at/whichlanguage



ACTIVITY 11

“WHERE AM I?” GAME

You will be shown 20 random images from all over Europe. Can you identify, where those photos were taken? Use your language skills and the virtual magnifying glass to find clues that will lead you to the right place. Good luck!

Individual / class activity

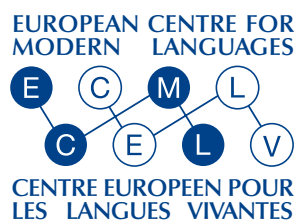
And: You can also submit your own photos of places to guess. Your photos will then be included in the quiz on the official European Day of Languages website



Let the games begin!
edl.ecml.at/whereami

European Day of Languages 26 September

WWW.COE.INT/EDL  #COEEDL



We wish to thank the *Institut national des langues Luxembourg* for allowing us to draw inspiration from their excellent brochure about EDL activities.