



THE SECRET AGENT'S HANDOUT OF LANGUAGE CHALLENGES

WELCOME, AGENT!

You are about to begin a series of missions that will sharpen your language skills and your confidence. Each challenge in this handout invites you to try something new, take a small risk, and discover how much you can already do in other languages. Pick a challenge, give it your best shot, and enjoy the adventure. **Your mission starts now.**



AGENT'S DETAILS

Your agent code name:

Agent's head instructor (teacher):

Your real name:

Your finger prints:

Agent's division/school/institution:

DEAR AGENT,



As an international agent you are going to visit new places and foreign lands. It will be challenging. A good agent needs to be confident about their language skills to ensure never to reveal their identity! Therefore you will need to be able to speak foreign languages as fluently as possible. This handout has been developed to help you become a top agent.

The language challenges contained in the following pages mostly relate to authentic, everyday communication tasks that agents need to be prepared for.

Research has shown that some learners hesitate to take risks and do not always take opportunities to practise a language they are learning outside the language classroom.

Real-life communication in a foreign language is not stress-free, especially when you are on a mission. It may involve making mistakes, being misunderstood, misunderstanding others, taking on a different identity, changing the way you use language.

A WORD FROM THE CHIEF AGENT

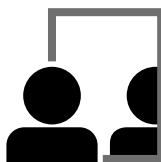


This secret agent's handout will prepare you for these situations. Taking as many language challenges as possible will, importantly, help to boost your confidence on a mission.

Good luck, agent!

YOUR MISSION

Complete as many tasks as possible.
Enter the date on which you
completed the task in the space
provided and confirm this with
your signature. The code of honour
applies.



Once you have completed all the tasks, you can
download a certificate from the European Day of
Languages (EDL) website.

edl.ecml.at/languagechallenges

Attention: this handout will not self-destruct after you have completed all the challenges!



WHY THESE CHALLENGES?

First and foremost the challenges should be fun! We call them challenges as they encourage you to do something new - that you probably would not normally do and indeed to go a little beyond your comfort zone. Some involve an element of risk - but as the saying goes - nothing ventured, nothing gained!

These challenges offer a varied range of possibilities, which you can pick and choose from according to whether you are applying them while on a mission, in a classroom setting, on your own, or with friends or family. Some are more difficult than others but the majority are intended to be flexible and adaptable to different ages, contexts, languages and levels of language proficiency.

We hope that you will be inspired by some of the challenges and, as a result, will develop your own which you are then welcome to add to the list.

YOUR TASKS

1. I saw a film in a foreign language.

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

2. I wrote the shopping list in a foreign language.

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

3. I spent an afternoon with my friends only speaking a foreign language.

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

4. I identified 5 words in my own language that are the same as/borrowed from other languages.

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

5. I identified 5 languages (correctly!) in the ****Which language is it?**** game on the European Day of Languages' website. (<https://edl.ecml.at/whichlanguage>)

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

6. I used a dictionary, or another source, to look up and learn 10 new words in a foreign language.

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

7. I counted from 1 to 10 in four foreign languages.

Date accomplished: _____ Signature: _____

