



**Minutes from the meeting « Easy to Teach, if you know how »,  
Paris, 29-30 mai 2017**

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**Day 1: Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> of May 31, 2017**

1. Arrival of partners and welcoming speech
2. Presentation of the activities implemented from the previous meetings: dissemination activities etc.
  - Poland: in Jélenia Gora there are a lot of organizations like “Aktywni” working with seniors willing to study English and there are also universities of the 3<sup>rd</sup> age etc.
  - Spain: the minutes from Toledo will soon be sent to all the partners. Further events to come in Cuenca
  - France: presentation of all the events where the project was disseminated
  - Facebook page: done and some photos from the meeting in Toledo are already uploaded. Access to be given to all the partners so they can also upload pictures and news related to the activities.
3. Discussion about the activities done in the period between the meetings
  - Poland: Three working groups have been created: true and false beginners (the second one being led by Maja). They have regular meetings once a week, normally on Wednesday and Thursday, with all of the seniors being interested in learning English. Amongst the reasons for that: English for work; children and grand children living abroad, especially in the UK and the USA; using internet for basic things like communication, online shopping etc. At the beginning some of the students were



afraid of taking part in the classes but an interesting method using different games helped them out because they like the feeling of competition. Social values are also to be taken into consideration – Seniors in Poland like to make friends during the classes.

- Spain: around 20 students in Cuenca and Toledo. Their biggest difficulty – the pronunciation. They're real beginners. Spanish teachers are using different methods – real situations, role play, simple dialogues like hotel accommodation, airport situations, travelling abroad, visit at the doctor etc. Speaking with children and grand children abroad is also a strong motivation for them. Some of the seniors in Spain think they're too old to learn English from the beginning. Nevertheless, it has been suggested that they are having, slowly but surely a better level of English. Amongst the difficulties met by Spanish seniors: different disabilities (previous strokes, hearing issues, people counting on previous knowledge, lack of skills to do something more). Furthermore, they have no final exam in English when they finish their studies.

- France: multicultural group, no beginners this year for now – the majority is intermediates. The following topics have been discussed – hotel accommodation, guided tours, accommodating people at home, scrabble, gardening, customs, holidays etc. Sometimes seniors are giving their own presentations which is quite useful for their English



4. Administrative issues – next meeting in Cuenca **on the 26-28<sup>th</sup> of September 2017**; then **Poland 18-19<sup>th</sup> of June 2018** (final meeting)
5. Lesson plans:
  - Poland: through a game which invites seniors to speak about their family while playing. According to Ewa (the Polish teacher), the grammar is not the important part but creating simple constructions in Present Simple Tense. Introducing the different



members of the family is also a good idea through a work in small groups (a famous model introduced by the University of Cambridge with a family tree). No recordings are used because Polish seniors have difficulties to understand.

- Spain: two propositions – going to the hotel and going to the doctor. Simple questions and answers at the reception etc. Method: communicative approach using drama & role play and creation of dialogs between guests and receptionist.
- France: Paris Orientation for tourists coming to Paris with some hints and information about their stay in the city.

#### 6. Official dinner in Paris

### Day 2: Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> of May. Open workshops for French seniors studying English (MDA 3<sup>rd</sup> arrondissement, Paris)

1. Poland – the lesson went through a game called “The Snake and the Ladder”. The French seniors played with pleasure and seemed very happy with the approach. All of them have a very good level of English
2. Spain: a presentation of Toledo has been made by Victoria, the Spanish teacher. Then a quiz on Spain and its culture. Once again, the French seniors appreciated the approach but the questions seem quite complicated for them.
3. Free discussion and farewell to the partners.

