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ENACT Newsletter 3: October 2021

The ENACT Web App: Learn Language through Culture

ENACT is a free web app from Newcastle University, UK. With the ENACT interactive player, <https://enacteuropa.com/> you can learn a foreign language through the foreign culture by carrying out a cultural activity – our app shows you how. Learn Japanese while making an origami boat or Turkish while making a shadow puppet!

You can also tell others about your own language and culture! With ENACT author, the ENACT materials you produce will enable users to learn aspects of your language and culture by carrying out the cultural task which you show them.

Why not join our online community of people interested in learning and teaching about cultures and languages? Simply go to <https://enacteuropa.com/> and create an account to send messages, leave comments, and create your own activity!

Contact us at: enacteuropa@newcastle.ac.uk

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#)

In your social media posts, use the hashtag: **#EnactEuropa**



Newcastle University, UK

It's been a busy summer for the Newcastle University ENACT team!

Co-production workshops

We ran fourteen 3 day co-production workshops with participants from a diverse range of cultures and backgrounds. Partners worked together to explore each other's culture and language, and develop activities which can be found on the app, spending two days on campus and the final session being held online using Zoom.

The feedback from participants on their experience was overwhelmingly positive:

"I enjoyed this experience of making a language learning resource and I hope that the activities I made are useful to help someone learn a few words in my mother's beautiful language."

"I liked the fact that anyone who was a user could contribute and improve upon the content on the website. Shows a sense of community that is eager to learn about cultures and languages."

"I really enjoyed talking to people from different countries with different cultures."

"I really enjoyed the experience, the thinking behind it, the interaction - thank you for the opportunity!"

Have a look at the activities they produced on the [Enact web app](#).



One day workshop with NEST and Action Foundation

On Saturday 21st August we ran an additional workshop with participants from NEST and Action Foundation, who joined us to explore UK cultural activities. We learnt about Bonfire Night, Hallowe'en and other aspects of UK culture, and worked together on some tartan weaving. Participants enjoyed getting to know one another and discussing their own cultural heritage as well as learning more about the UK.

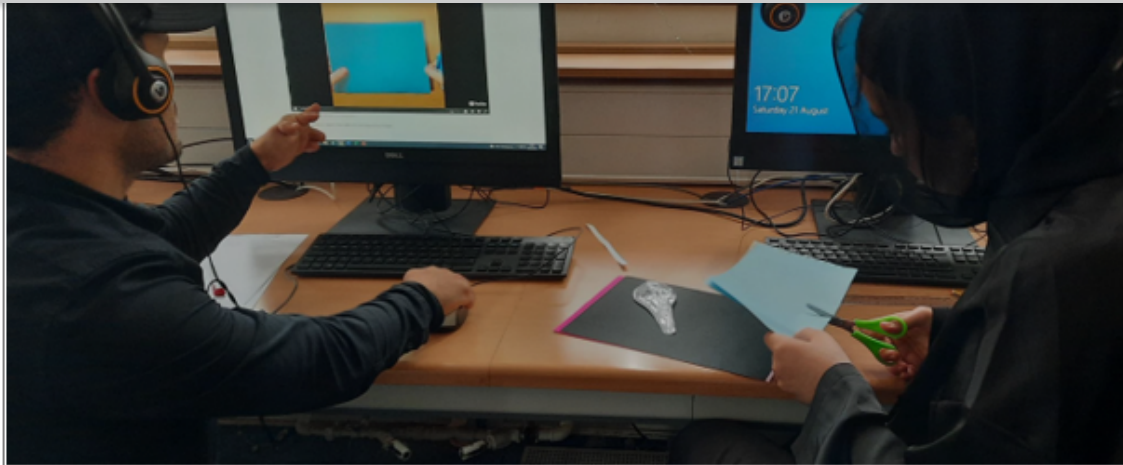
It was a really fun session for both the participants and the facilitators, and the feedback was fantastic:

“There was a lot of fun atmosphere. It's like we've known each other before. It's a good time, and we've learned new things.”

“Meeting with the group was absolutely great. It was so beautiful and pleasant. The staff was very nice and helpful. They are "the salt of the earth". I enjoyed it and I have learned something new.”

“We learned in a easy and relaxing way the British culture, learning new words and doing a fun activity.”

Some of the participants went away and created their own activities on the app. If you'd like to create an activity, take a look at the simple how-to guide [here](#) and contact us for more information.



Halloween at Newcastle University

Happy Halloween! On Friday 29th October, we carved some spooky pumpkins with migrant families who said "It was amazing experience for my son and me" "We learned culture and shared with all". Thank you [North East Solidarity and Teaching](#) for joining us and our PhD students Trang, Dhaif Alzahrani, and Wala for your help!

Learn how to do it yourself: <https://enacteuropa.com/?q=node/56>
<https://enacteuropa.com/?q=node/87>



HundrED 2022

We were thrilled to be shortlisted for the HundrED top 100 leading education innovation list. Over the past 5 years HundrED's annual Global Collection has been highlighting 100 of the leading education innovations from around the world. We didn't make the top 100 this time but we're hoping that next year we'll make the cut!

<https://hundred.org/en/innovations/2-the-enact-app#051d7d4f>



Helsinki University, Finland

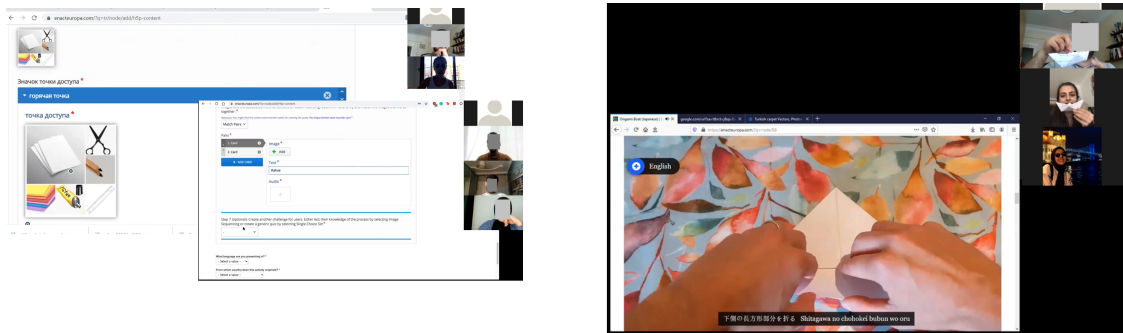
In Helsinki, we ran our first workshops in September at Cultura Foundation and Zoom. In the first face-to-face session, the participants learned to make Origami boats in Japanese and Rosa di Sant Jordi in Catalán. For their own project, the participants familiarised themselves with the Russian tradition of

cultural knowledge and learned new vocabulary in their respective second languages. Everybody was happy about the project's outcome:

“All the activities were really fun to do, but I especially liked learning about our neighbouring country's tradition. I hadn't realised that I don't know that much about Russian folk arts, and it was great to learn from someone with deep personal insight.”

“It was really great to get to know everyone. I had a lot of fun with the activities!”

“I liked that it was really hands-on, and I was proud of our little crafts. The technical stuff was also fun. I haven't had much chance to film and edit videos or anything like that before.”



ENACT Co-production workshops in Turkey

The Boğaziçi University ENACT team ran 7 online workshops in Turkey from May to July 2021. Partners with international backgrounds worked together to explore cultures and languages on the ENACT web app, tried out activities and co-produced their own activities online.

Partners produced their own ENACT activities and learned about each other's language and culture.

Our participants also expressed positive opinions about their experience in the workshops and the ENACT activities:

“Bu proje bir dil öğrenmek için çok güzel bir katkısı olduğunu düşünüyorum. Yeni bir dil öğrenecek birisine mutlaka öneririm. Hatta yeni bir dil öğrenmek ister buradan hangisi kolayına gelebileceğini kolayca anlar ve öğrenmek istediği dil ve öğrenecek dil listesine yeni bir dil katabilir. Ben de başkasına öğretip, tekrardan yapabileceğimi düşünüyorum.”

wants to learn a new language, he can easily understand which one is easiest and can add a new language to the list of the language(s) he wants to learn and the language to learn. I think I can teach someone else and do it again.]

“Benim için çok akıcıydı. Ben biraz daha zorlanırsanız diye düşünmüştüm...belki uzar, yetiştiremeyiz, belki istediğimiz gibi olmaz. Ama açıkçası platform çok iyiydi. Arayüzü çok temiz. İsteddiğimiz gibi ulaşabiliyoruz, her şey elimizin altında. ... Ben çok keyif aldım, yeni şeyler de öğrendim.”

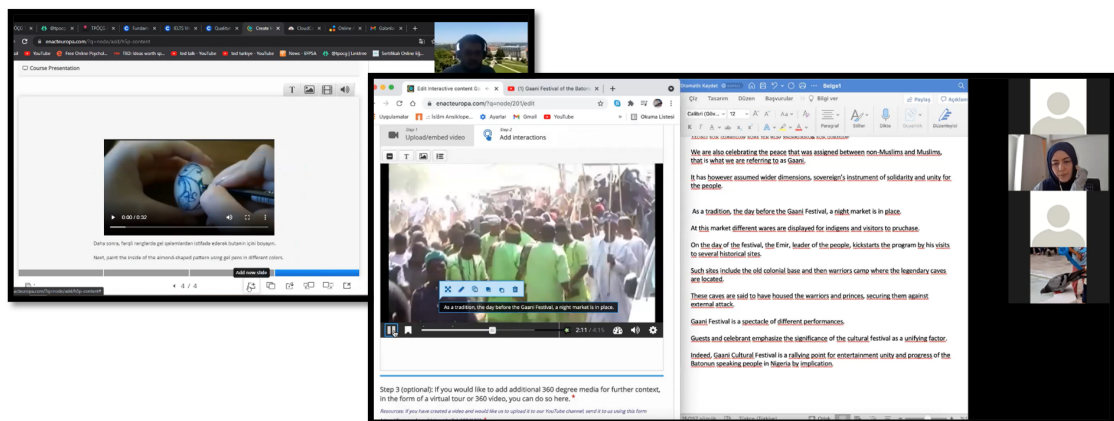
[It was very fluid for me. I thought we'd have a little more difficulty...(thought that) maybe it gets longer, we can't grow it, maybe it won't be as we want. But frankly, the platform was very good. The interface is very clean. We can reach as we want, everything is at our fingertips. ... I enjoyed a lot, I learned new things too.]

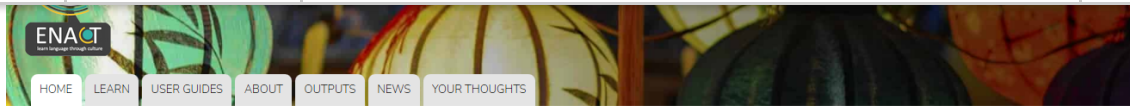
“Kültür öğrenimi açısından bayağı etkili gerçekten. Ben sitede başka şeylere de baktım. Gerçekten güzel, insanın aklında da kalıyor.”

[It's really effective in terms of cultural learning. I also looked at other things (activities) on the site. It's really beautiful, it stays in one's mind.]

“Bence ekip olarak çok faydalı yani. Bir de bu proje çok güzel. Gerçekten insanın ufkunu açıyor. Ben de bu kültürü, tabi burada Benin'deyim, ama o kadar yeni şeyler öğrendim ki anlatamam. Çok güzel oldu.”

[I think it's very useful (to work) as a team. And this project is very nice. It really opens one's mind. I am also here in Benin, but I learned so many new things about this culture that I cannot explain it. It was very nice.]





Learn Language Through Culture

LEARN



Use the ENACT Interactive Player to engage with cultural activities and learn a new language through the activities in the ENACT app.

CREATE



Use the ENACT Author to create your cultural activity in your language. Check out the example cultural activities to give you ideas and our advice on 'how to' create materials for language learning.

CONNECT



Register or log in to connect with others by liking activities, commenting, interacting with other user profiles and sending private messages. Become part of our community!

Contact us at enacteuropa@newcastle.ac.uk for more information on the project, and visit enacteuropa.com to try out all our fantastic activities or even create one of your own!

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CULTURA* SÄÄTIÖ



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