

Tasks

The amount of time and resource required of schools is reasonable:

Students

- Take two language tests (a combination of listening, reading and writing) and a Questionnaire.

Language Teachers and Heads of School

- Administer a short test with students a couple of months before the main tests
- Complete a Questionnaire (30-45 minutes).

School Coordinator

- Provide your National Research Centre with lists of language students and teachers
- Store and distribute test materials
- Organise the timetable and resources for the test administration

Test Administrators (teachers from your school) will administer and invigilate the actual tests.

Your participation in this exciting European survey, and the important data provided by your school, will be greatly valued and will help inform future European policies.



Key:

- SurveyLang Partners

The eight expert organisations that are collaborating to deliver the ESLC

- National Research Centres

The organisations that coordinate the ESLC on behalf of participating governments

How will the survey be delivered?

SurveyLang is an international consortium made up of eight organisations, each one a leader in its own area of expertise. For this survey, SurveyLang has developed **innovative** and **exciting** approaches, particularly in the **collaborative** language test development process which ensures maximum comparability across test languages and in the **unique software system** that manages the design, creation and delivery of all the survey instruments, whether administered in paper-based or computer-based mode. For more information on these developments, please visit www.surveylang.org

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European Survey on Language Competences

Your school will be taking part in the **MAIN STUDY** of the ESLC which is the heart of the entire project. By being involved, you can help inform the latest thinking about the language education and teaching practice.





What is the European Survey on Language Competences?

The European Survey on Language Competences (ESLC) is a major initiative by the European Commission to support the development of language learning policies across Europe. The survey aims to:

- Provide statistically representative data on language proficiency
- Understand how demographic, social, economic and educational variables impact language proficiency.

The survey relates to the following European Council policy objectives:

- Shaping of language policy both within and across European countries
- Stimulating a sound basis for the life-long learning of foreign languages
- Identifying and sharing of good language learning and language teaching practice
- Motivating the creation of environments in which the learning of different languages is encouraged.

What will the survey do?

- Our country will test ENGLISH and ITALIAN as the two most widely taught foreign languages in paper based mode.
- Test school students in Form 5.
- Use a representative sample of around 1,500 students per language tested, per country.
- Assess proficiency in listening, reading and writing.
- Collect contextual information on language learning and background factors from students.
- Collect contextual information on educational and language policies as well as teaching methods from principals and teachers.
- Report on results linked to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

How will your participation be facilitated?

- NRC will train teachers to act as Test Administrators. Test Administrators will conduct the actual test in paper format.
- Familiarisation materials and computer demonstrations for the language tests have been specially created so that students understand the different task types, instructions and types of required responses before they take the tests.
- The level of test each student receives is closely matched to their ability. This enhances their test experience, reduces boredom and allows each one to perform at their best.
- Data and results remain anonymous. No student data is ever released, so there is no pressure on students to 'pass' or to fear 'failing'. The survey will not compare individual students, teachers or schools.

What are the benefits of participation?

- Demonstrate your school's engagement with the world of teaching practice and participation in advancing understanding of language learning.
- Contribute to a unique international project that will inform future educational policy across Europe and in your country.
- Gain additional experience of working with international projects for teachers' professional development programme.
- Use the familiarisation materials developed by some of the world's leading testing developers as a classroom resource.
- Engage students with wider ideas of multilingualism, social cohesion and citizenship.
- Provide students with useful experience of taking language tests linked to the Common European Framework.
- Provide students with the opportunity to enhance their CVs or records of achievement with evidence of participation.

