IHLA NEWS

International and Heritage Languages Association - Fall 2010

Hope your summer holidays were filled with sunshine and colours!

Well Under Way! The Learning Goes On!

Welcome back to community language teaching. We hope everyone had a restful summer and that your school activities have begun on a positive note. Here at IHLA we have been working and planning our activities for the year for a while now, and we are happy to be able to re-establish our news conversation and updates to work together during the school year. We are keeping some common features of our newsletter, such as the IHLA Updates and Dr. Olenka Bilash articles, to help us reflect and plan for our classes. Remember to mark your calendars for the **8th Annual International Mother Language Day Celebration, on Saturday February 19, 2011 in Edmonton.**

We add one new feature for this year: practical tools for teaching. We are including printable pages that you can use for your lessons and we invite you to check out our online space where these pages can be downloaded as word documents and modified. You can contribute your own ideas online and add to our collection.

I hope you will enjoy this issue and continue to participate in our language education journey together. Have a great fall everyone!
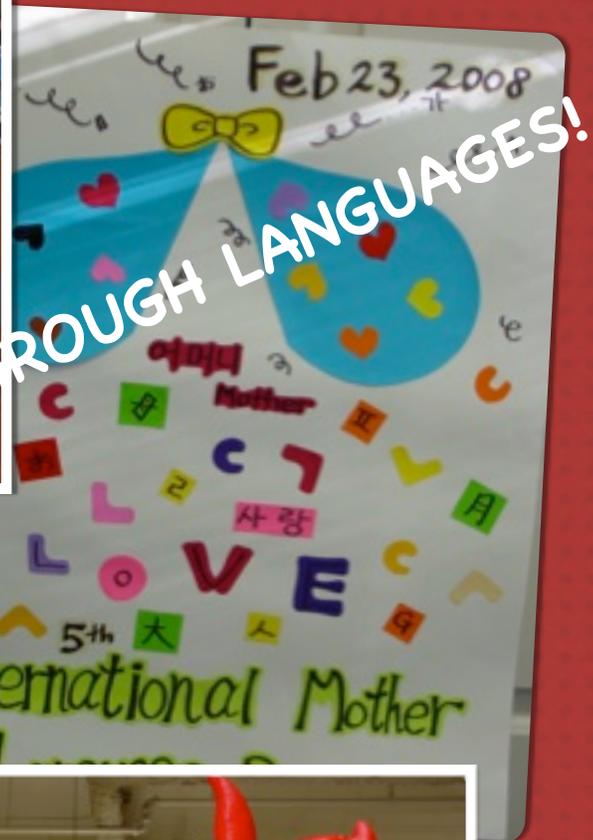
Josephine Pallard, President

ACTIVITIES

MLD 2011

UPDATES

TEACHING TOOLS

8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

MLD 2011

CONNECTING OUR WORLD THROUGH LANGUAGES!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2011

ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTRE

1:00 – 4:30 P.M.

PLAN TO PARTICIPATE AND ATTEND WITH YOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.

IHLA Updates

UPDATES

- ☑ **IHLA 2009-2010 GRANT** - the final report for this grant was completed by IHLA and we are happy to communicate you that the project was successfully carried out by our organization. IHLA has submitted a request for a new conditional grant to Alberta Education, our long-time supporter and funder. We are anxiously awaiting a reply from the office of the Minister of Education. We shall keep you posted!

- ☑ **SLIC Conference - Edmonton, October 29-30, 2010.** IHLA will be represented by our coordinator, Valeria Palladino, who will present a technology-based

LANGUAGE IS A CITY TO THE BUILDING OF WHICH EVERY HUMAN BEING BROUGHT A STONE. – RALPH WALDO EMERSON,

workshop on integration of free online tools to enhance the second language classroom. Check the poster page in this newsletter.

- ☑ **SOHL Conference, Regina, October 22-23, 2010 -** Valeria will also present a similar technology-based workshop to heritage language school teachers in Regina, for the Saskatchewan Organization of Heritage Languages teacher annual conference. IHLA is proud to have collaborated in the past few years with the organization in Saskatchewan, sharing our teaching expertise with our

colleague instructors of heritage languages.

- ☑ **ACTFL Conference - Boston, November 17-21, 2010** - Our coordinator will be presenting at the American Conference for Teachers of Foreign Languages a special session on ideas on technology for the Italian classroom. Valeria will be attending workshops as well and will bring back great ideas from this annual conference which gathers over 5,000 second language teachers of foreign languages each year.

- ☑ **CLA Update** - IHLA is a member of the Canadian Languages Association, and as such it participates in the national conversation of heritage language teachers. CLA is working on a national initiative to support language learning at all levels, and IHLA is part of this ongoing conversation. To learn more about the CLA updates, visit their website at: www.canadianlanguages.ca

- ☑ **ERLC Update** - As a proud member of the Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium committee for International Languages, IHLA has participated in the last few years in the ERLC meetings, and contributed ideas and expertise to support the professional development initiatives of the consortium. The ERLC runs a very useful website that allows language teachers to register for new PD sessions. IHLA PD sessions will also be advertised through the ERLC website, and will be open to all teachers in the province. The website is available at: http://erlc.ca/

Adult Classes

Gil Vicente would like to begin offering **Portuguese Language** classes to adults. If you or anyone you know is interested please contact Dulce for more information.
Dulce Azevedo

(780)456-8049 or

dulcedoceu@gilvicenteedmonton.ca

Photos of the new Russian Educational Centre, a community school dedicated to the teaching of Russian language and culture, just recently created and a new member of IHLA. Read more about this new school on page 6.

- ☑ **IHLA Heritage Language Schools Overview Presentation - Red Deer, September 18, 2010** - IHLA run a 2.5 hours overview workshop at the Red Deer Public Library about heritage language (HL) schools and programs in Alberta. Members of the Russian, Ukrainian and Spanish communities in Red Deer attended the session and begun an interesting conversation about the possibility to start their own community language programs. IHLA shared expertise and information about HL schools and anecdotal stories about the challenges and the rewards of this type of community effort. IHLA will remain in contact with these communities to support them in achieving their goals.

- ☑ **The Edmonton Korean Language School Program and collaboration** - IHLA is collaborating closely with the Edmonton Korean School, working together on the revision of their locally developed high school 3-y program of studies and learning about their planning and students' progress. IHLA's visits to the school and meeting with its teaching staff are filled with appreciation for the hard work and the progress that its students achieve during their learning at the school. IHLA looks forward to sharing some tips and ideas that will generate from this close collaboration in future issues of this newsletter. If you wish IHLA to work closely with your school and help out with your planning, e-mail us and we can arrange visits and special meetings to talk about your language classes. You can e-mail us at: edmontonihla@gmail.com .

- ☑ **IHLA School Registrations are now open** - Ensure you have registered for a new year of membership to IHLA. Remember the membership fees and form are due each year on September 1 and will be valid until August 31 of the following year. The IHLA website school list will be fully updated by October 31. Make sure you have sent in your information and paid your school or personal fees to maintain your membership in good-standing.

- ☑ **IHLA Leadership Projects 2009-2010 Update** - As you may remember from our last issue, two IHLA schools qualified for a special project fund of up to $500.00 each for a project proposal they had submitted to IHLA in the spring. IHLA will keep you updated with the school's developments on their project and how the funds will be used.

UPDATES

Both schools projects are set to be completed in the spring of 2011.

IHLA

Have you renewed your IHLA membership for 2010-2011?

Call us today!

IMPORTANT DATES

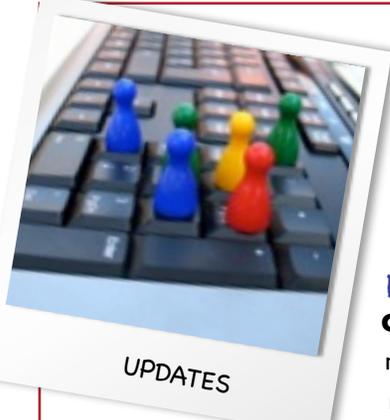MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE SPECIAL IHLA EVENTS DATES:

- **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2010** – MLD GATHERING OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS. CONFIRM YOUR MLD PARTICIPATION TODAY!

- **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2010** – 8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY.

IHLA Updates (cont.)

UPDATES

☑ **IHLA Resource Centre** - IHLA purchased a number of new language resources for its centre in several different languages. Our resources are available to every member free of charge, and can be viewed at our office, Monday to Wednesday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Phone our office to set an appointment with the IHLA administrative assistant (Leticia) and come and view the resources yourself. IHLA lends it resources to its schools and will be glad to assist school members with using new materials for their classes. The resources were purchased with Alberta Education grant funds in the past six years, and range from textbooks to multimedia materials.

☑ **IHLA 2002-2010 Board of Directors** - As you can see on the left columns of this page, this is our IHLA Board of Directors for the 2010-2011 term. IHLA is very thankful for the hard work that our directors so generously attend to every month. The IHLA board is a group of highly dedicated community members that share their expertise, guide IHLA's decisions for the benefit of its member schools and keep the goal of language education at the community level close to their hearts. It is thanks to the dedication of its board members that IHLA has not only survived but flourished for the past 32 years, and it continues to remain a positive presence and contributor in the language education field in Canada. We wish our board members a good working year and look forward to their wisdom and support for a long time to come.

☑ **SAHLA News** - IHLA wishes to extend its warmest and sincerest good wishes to Michael Gretton, the coordinator of the Southern Alberta Heritage Languages Association, SAHLA, on its candidacy to run as a Calgary School Board trustee. IHLA knows that Michael would be a great addition to the district in Calgary and it hopes for a successful outcome in Michael's favour.

JOSEPHINE PALLARD

CINDY PEREIRA

SHIRLEY WOZIMIRSKY

NADIA KRYSCHUK

LOUELLA ANDRADA

GERMAN VIDAL

OLGA D'ENTREMONT

BONNIE SZULC

OLGA PROKOROVA

KIRAN UBHI

NATALIA KOVALIOVA

SABATINO RONCUCCI
(FOUNDER)

☑ **Congratulations**! - Two of our IHLA board of directors have some really good news to share about their own successes as community members as well as professionally.

Kiran Ubhi, our newest board of directors member, has successfully completed her Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta and was hired as a teacher of Punjabi by Edmonton Public Schools. We are very happy and congratulate Kiran on her hard work and well deserved new professional career as a certified teacher in Alberta. We are planning a special interview with Kiran and will soon publish on our website her inspirational story.

Dobrodijka Nadia Kryschuk, also a member of our board, was selected for the Hetman Award. Read below a brief note about the award. We are proud of Nadia and congratulate her on this great achievement!

In 1998, the UCC-Alberta Provincial Council initiated an Annual Hetman Awards to acknowledge significant volunteer achievements of outstanding Ukrainian Albertans. The Annual Hetman Awards are dedicated to the celebration of all volunteers who have chosen to give their time, effort and expertise in order to keep our Ukrainian Canadian community in Alberta strong, vibrant and active.

RUSSIAN EDUCATIONAL CENTER

The Russian Educational Center was founded in July 2010 by an enthusiastic group of Russian community members who believe that the main purpose of our organization is help provided to members of the community in various fields of our life. One of the goals of our Center is to preserve Russian language and culture in the Russian community and to promote it in our multicultural society. Another goal is to help newcomers to adapt faster to their new life.

The Center is maintained by professional teachers and dedicated community members. In our Center students learn not only Russian language, but also rich Russian Literature and History. We deliver courses for school students and adults as well.
Our Center gives students an opportunity to have additional lessons of Art.

We believe that the ability to understand and communicate in different languages is very important in Canada where Multiculturalism is one of national policies. Development and nurturing of different languages contribute to the cultural and linguistic diversity of the society, to personal enjoyment, better understanding of people belonging to different cultures, and global citizenship.

Our Center is a member of International and Heritage Languages Association (ILHA). Our teachers are eligible for all first class Professional Development activities offered by IHLA.

We hold classes for children on Saturdays from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. beginning in September after Labor Day and ending at the beginning of June. The schedule for adult classes is decided together by students and instructors.
The Russian Educational Center is run by a non-profit community organization called Alberta InterScience Association.

We prepare adults to take GDL class 7 exam, provide its translation, and train for GDL Class 5 Road Test.

TEACHERS
The Center has an excellent and dynamic group of professionals who take part in different professional development courses in order to improve their teaching proficiency, techniques and skills. They are university graduates and have vast teaching experiences in Russia, Ukraine and Canada.

OUR LOCATION
Our Center is located in down town Edmonton. We sincerely thank St. Barbara's Russian Orthodox Cathedral for providing us space to run our courses. The address is 9566 – 101 Ave. Edmonton T5H 0B4 Alberta.
It offers free parking, comfortable premises and a very safe environment.

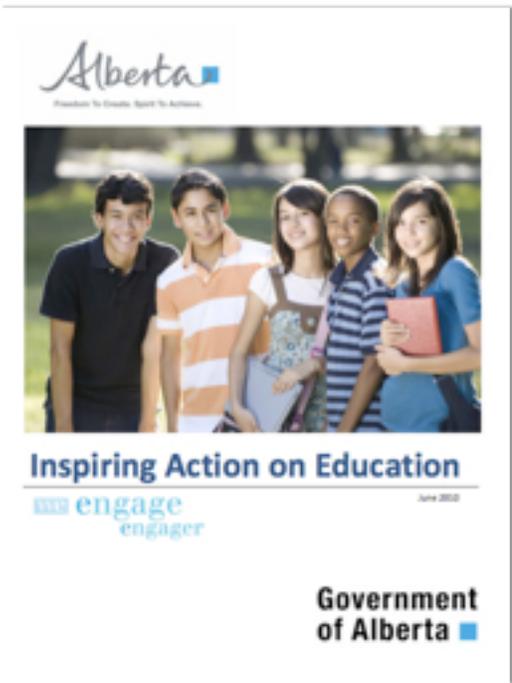For registration and more information call:
(780) 468 – 7157

Languages 2.0
Discover. Connect. Engage

ACTIVITIES

INSPIRING ACTION!

The Conversation Continues - The educational journey to reflect on Alberta's future on education, continues with phase two of the project, entitled: Inspiring Action.

IHLA invites you all to visit the following website:

http://engage.education.alberta.ca/

and learn more about this project, participate in the conversation tools on the website and share your views and concerns as well as hopes about language education and its place in the future education journey of young Albertans. This is our chance to be heard.

Participate today!

8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY

Saturday, February 19, 2010

Italian Cultural Centre, Edmonton, Alberta

1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

CONNECTING OUR WORLD THROUGH LANGUAGES!

MLD 2011

Register now! Details about this event will follow your registration. Hurry now! Do not miss the opportunity to participate in the great community event!

Use the form below to register your school for the 8th Annual International Mother Language Day.

print this form, fill it in and fax it to 780-428-5549

Your School **Full Name, Address** and **Contact** Information (correct **email** addresses please - all communication will occur via email)

Check all that apply - IHLA will contact each registered school with additional information.

○ My school will submit e-copies of students work (essays, posters, stories) for the IHLA MLD blog, publication and website postings.

Submissions will be completed and sent by November 30, 2010.

○ My school will participate in the MLD show with a skit, a dance or a music act (no more than 4 minutes long). One entertainment act per school please!

Details about the act will be sent by November 30, 2010.

○ My school will submit a special video presentation for the multimedia section of the celebration (a video file)

Submissions will be completed and sent by November 30, 2010.

○ My school will require ONE single table for our program display. NO FOOD ITEMS PLEASE!

Request to be sent by November 30, 2010.

Internet Homework assignments for Heritage Language Speakers and Learners

Dr. Olenka Bilash

Since the invention of the Internet in 1969, and the global deployment of the world wide web on top of the Internet around 1995, no other technology has had such a profound impact on global change. In only one generation, the world has distinguished what Rupert Murdoch called "digital natives" versus "digital immigrants." (2005) The former take modern Internet connectivity for granted, as an integral part of modern society. Anyone under 25 or 30 years of age is likely a digital native; our youth have grown up with cell phones, computers, laptops, notebooks, digital games. . . and the change is just beginning. While the digital immigrants are just becoming comfortable with distance between, and separation of, peoples being measured by time and bandwidth of modern digital communications (instead of miles, kilometers or timezones), more profound changes are emerging because of how culture and language are transcended by immediate connection of events and real-time interaction and even translation of languages. Few homes are without internet these days, but are heritage language teachers taking advantage of what the internet can offer? In addition to providing up to date information about language and culture

teaching methods and strategies and limitless other news and entertainment topics in many languages, the internet is an important tool for language use for the heritage language (HL) learner and speaker. In fact, as a flexible tool that can be accessed at any hour of any day, the internet's appeal increases with a learner's age. Whether a digital native or digital immigrant, HL instructors cannot avoid using the internet; further, by integrating HL internet use into their instruction they can become models of technology use in the HL and open innumerable doors to their students. Because some HL schools may have limited access to computers during classtime, this paper will focus on using the computer as a part of homework assignments. As such, it is designed to increase the HL learner's exposure to the HL, to teach learners about what the internet can offer them in their HL, to expose students to appropriate authentic materials, and to add novelty to and increase curiousity about the rest of the world that speaks the HL.

To begin integrating the internet into HL homework assignmens requires four steps : gaining parental support, searching for appropriate websites, designing appropriate tasks, and creating classtime to report on the

assigned tasks within the classroom.

Gaining parental support

Because the internet is so accessible and offers information on such a wide array of topics, not always suitable for children or adolescents, families carefully monitor what their children are viewing. Thus it is necessary for the HL instructor and administration to work closely with parents about homework that involves internet use. It may be useful to write parents a note to introduce the series of internet homework projects. See Appendix A.

Distributing homework assignments through email may also be an effective strategy for several reasons. By sending a message to both the HL student and his/her parents everyone has equal access to the same information. Parents will know which sites their children are supposed to be visiting. Second, everyone will be free to share interesting sites in the HL with one another. you can educate all members of the family about websites in the HL. Parents and students may be able to introduce you, and other families to additional useful websites. And, of course, using email is eco-friendly and saves the use of

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paper!
Be sure to check with parents for permission and support in 1) giving internet homework assignments and, 2) in exchanging information through email.

Searching for appropriate websites

While there is no shortage of websites in most languages of the world, not all sites are appropriate to every audience. In order to find sites that will interest your students you may have to spend 3- 5 hours searching (or more). At first this may feel tedious but when you experience the surprises you find and see the excitement of your students when you direct them to these sites, you will no doubt feel that the time was well spent. Think of the time you are searching as a good investment: you are improving your searching skills in the HL; you are finding sites you do NOT want students to visit and making a list of them; you are saving good sites for future use; and your creativity is being sparked by exposure to many new sites that you never knew existed.

Use the following criteria to help you select sites for your students :
1. Is the language level of the site appropriate for

your students ?
2. Is the content appropriate for your students' age and interests?
3. Is the site easy to navigate or explore? Are there too many links?
4. Does the content fit with and complement themes you are covering in your HL classes?
5. How much time would it take for students to do an activity on the site?

Finding Useful Sites

The following ten types of websites may help both digital natives and digital immigrants get started looking for appropriate HL websites. Remember: be cautious about sending your students to a site that you have not visited yourself AND avoid giving an assignment such as find an internet site about (topic) and read it. Sites that are above the language ability of your students may be disappointing or frustrating for them. *Note :* if you type in English words in the GOOGLE search box most of the sites you find will be in English – for English speakers to learn your HL. If you type in words in your own language the sites will be in the HL. Also, you may switch to GOOGLE searches in any language by adding the suffix of a country to the search. For

example, instead of http://www.google.com/ , I can access Japanese websites through http://www.google.co.jp/ or Pilipinas websites through http://www.google.com.ph/ or Ukrainian websites through http://www.google.com.ua/ .

1. **Songs:** The internet is a rich source of music and lyrics. If you go to youtube you can look for songs that fit the themes you are studying in class.
2. **Pronunciation:** A variety of pronunciation sites also exist. They typically offer students a visual depiction of a word, its spelling and pronunciation. To see what I mean check out this site in French. Then you will know what you are looking for in your own language : http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJ80vZpo8XY
3. **Games** : Many language games sites can be found by searching google using the following key words : *(your language) language games level (beginner,*

intermediate, advanced)

e.g. My search for *Spanish language games beginners* yielded the following sites:

Spanish language games beginners   ✕ | Search |

About 4,370,000 results (0.20 seconds)   Advanced search

Spanish language learning games
Materials on this site are aimed at learners with **beginner** to intermediate levels of **Spanish**. There are a couple of vocabulary building **activities** for ...
www.digitaldialects.com/**Spanish**.htm - Cached - Similar

Foreign language learning for kids - Gaelic, Spanish, Polish, and ASL
Learn English words and phrases by playing these **Spanish**/ English **language** learner **games**. Each category of words/phrases below has 3 different **games** - jig ...
www.apples4theteacher.com/foreignlang.html - Cached - Similar

Best Spanish Websites
Spanish lessons for **beginners** and kids, learn Spanish .... **Spanish Language Games** A super new link so I put it at the top here. ...
www.uni.edu/becker/**Spanish**3.html - Cached - Similar

Games and Puzzles for Boosting Your Spanish Vocabulary
Here are some **games** and puzzles designed to boost your word knowledge. ... Free **Spanish Language** Newsletter! Sign Up. Explore **Spanish Language**. Must Reads. Lessons for **Beginners** · Increasing Your Vocabulary · Verb Tenses ...
spanish.about.com/.../vocabulary**games**andpuzzle/**Games**_and_Puzzles_for_
Learning_Vocabulary.htm - Cached - Similar

BBC - Languages - Spanish
Complete **beginner**, **Spanish** expert or somewhere in between? Open/close ... A video introduction to the **language** in 10 short parts. **Spanish** news ...
www.bbc.co.uk/**languages**/**spanish**/ - Cached - Similar - Add to iGoogle

Spanish
Spanish language tests contains quizzes and essays on **Spanish langauge** literature .... Use our free information and **beginner** Spanish lessons to introduce ... Free online spanish **games** and tool with audio by native speakers to help you ...
www.shambles.net/pages/learning/mfl/**spanish**/ - Cached - Similar

Spanish Lessons - A to Z Home's Cool Homeschooling Foreign Languages
Spanish Course for Beginners The Embassy of Spain is pleased in introducing ... Language
Express Spanish Game Flash Spanish game for those who have a pretty ...
homeschooling.gomilpitas.com/explore/spanish.htm - Cached - Similar

Spanish Games
sparkle Spanish Games sparkle 300+ Education Sites! ... LANGUAGE ARTS | MATH MUSIC
| SCIENCE | SOCIAL STUDIES | SITE INFO | LINKS | STUDENT-CREATED GAMES| ...
www.gamequarium.com/spanish.htm - Cached - Similar

Free Spanish Lessons
learn spanish! Test Yourself. Beginner? Intermediate? Fluent? Alphabet. Alphabet &
Pronunciation ... Spanish and English. Memory Games. Dining Out. Phrases for eating out ...
Medical Spanish. Talk with your patients in their language! ...
www.123teachme.com/learn_spanish/beginner/ - Cached - Similar

It took me about 30 minutes to review the sites ; finally I liked this one best, and would be prepared to pay a nominal fee to access its contents: http://oye.languageskills.co.uk:80/index.html

starting point, try the British Broadcasting Channel (BBC) as they offer daily news and analysis in forty languages. See the site that pops up below.

TEACHING TOOLS

4. **Videoclips:** Storytelling is an engaging way of learning and using a language. Some languages offer video-stories that students (and their families) might enjoy. E.g. **http://www.learner.org/resources/series75.html?pop=yes&pid=395**

5. **News**: You may also explore news stations or newspapers. As a

Internet Homework assignments for Heritage Language Speakers and Learners
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Of course, if you know the name of newspapers from other countries you may check them out, too. Here is what I found when I entered « newspapers India ». Note the languages that can access international, national and local évents.

India Local News
English | Bengali | Gujarati | Hindi | Kannada | Malayalam | Marathi | Telugu | Tamil | Punjabi

Regional English Newspapers
- PTI News
- India Daily
- Tehelka

New Delhi News
- India Today Delhi
- Pioneer New Delhi

Kolkata News (Calcutta)
The Telegraph Calcutta Post
- GanaShakti

Goa News
- Gomantak Times
- India Express
- Navhind Times

Orissa News
- Sambad
- Dharitri Oriya
- The Sentinel English

Jammu & Kashmir News
- Kashmir Observer
- Daily Excelsior
- Greater Kashmir
- Kashmir Times

Others
- Deccan Herald
- The Asian Age
- The Assam Tribune
- Bharat Samachar
- Daily Thanthi
- Patna Daily
- Ranchi Express
- Bihar Times Bihar

Malayalam News (Kerala)
- Malayalam Manorama Daily Malayalam
- Mathrubhumi
- Mangalam
- Kerala Express
- Deshabhimani Daily
- Deepika
- Kerala Kaumudi
- Malayala Vartha

Punjabi Newspapers Punjab
- The Tribune Chandigarh, Punjab
- Ajit Weekly
- Ajit Jalandhar
- Weekly newspaper in Gurmukhi

Regional Language Newspapers

Bengali Newspapers West Bengal
- Dainik Suprovat
- Aaj Kaal
- Sambad
- AnandaBazar Patrika

Gujarati Newspapers (Gujarat)
- Gujarat Samachar
- Sambhaav
- Sandesh
- Divya Bhaskar
- Bombay Samachar
- Akila News

Hindi Newspapers (North India)
- Dainik Jagran Hindi
- Nai Dunia Indore
- Dainik Bhaskar
- NavBharat Times
- Amar Ujala
- Rashtriya Sahara
- Rajastan Patrika

Kannada Newspapers Karnataka
- Sanjevani
- Udayavani
- Kannada Prabha
- Prajavani

Marathi Newspapers Maharastra
- Kesari
- Lokmat
- Loksatta
- Maharastra Times
- Dainik Aikya
- Pudhari
- Sakal
- Tarun Bharat Daily

Telugu Newspapers (Andhra Pradesh)
- Eenadu
- Vaartha
- Andhra Prabha
- Andhra Bhoomi
- Andhra Jyothy

Tamil Newspapers (Tamil Nadu)
- Ananda Vikatan
- Dinakaran
- Dinamalar
- Kumudam
- Viduthalai
- Thinaboomi

6. **Advertisements:** Do some comparative shopping by finding the prices of common items through on line flyers. For example, IKEA provides catalogues on line at their site in each country. Here are a few to examine:
   a. http://www.ikea.com/it/
   b. http://www.ikea.com/ms/en_CA/FSI/index.html
   c. http://www.ikea.com/de/de/
   d. http://www.ethosksa.com/ikea.com.sa/index.php?lang=ar
   e. http://www.ikea.com/ru/

7. **Youtube:** If you find some youtube videoclips you will be a real hit with your students. Music, dance, cooking shows, fashion shows, TV newscasts – everything is accessible. Some even feature students who are Learning your HL and may inspire your own students to create something for youtube. For example, check this one out : http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9SNdugDM47Q

8. **Background knowledge:** It is always beneficial to learn more about a HL, its cultural roots and its speakers around the world. The following websites offer interesting information in English and may also be useful to parents in an inter-ethnic marriage.
   a. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/
   b. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/
   c. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/quickfix/swedish.shtml
   d. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/chinese/quickfix/
   e. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/portuguese/quickfix/
   f. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/quickfix/russian.shtml
   g. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/quickfix/ukrainian.shtml
   h. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/quickfix/
   i. http://www.bbc.co.uk/polish/
   j. http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/european_languages/languages/polish.shtml

9. **Translation :** Translation sites are multiplying in and between many languages. Students may enjoy inputting words and phrases and finding out their equivalents in the HL. These sites may also be useful to HL

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Dr. Olenka Bilash

instructors to help expand their own vocabulary! An online dictionary is also useful when reading some websites.

10. **Surprises:** Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of searching the internet is the surprises you find. When you are looking for one thing, something else may show up and although it may not be what you were looking for, it may be a real treasure for future use. For example, when I was looking for German songs, I found this site : http://german.about.com/popular.htm The hour that it took to click on each link went by like a few minutes!

11.

Internet Homework assignments for Heritage Language Speakers and Learners

Dr. Olenka Bilash

10 Ways to Say 'Thank You'
Expanding your German vocabulary - 10 ways to say 'thank you' (and 'you're welcome') in German.

German for Beginners: Contents - Free online German course - German lessons
German for Beginners - A free online German course with lessons and references designed for beginners and intermediate learners.

German Numbers - Counting in German - Mathematics
An English-German guide to German dates, the calendar, numbers, telling time and counting - Part 1.

German Preposition Quiz 1
A self-scoring quiz on German prepositions.: preposition quiz german prepositions german verbs german games document url

German Surnames with English Meanings A-K - German Last Names
A glossary of Germanic last names and their English meanings. Part One A-K.

Hundekommandos - Dog Commands in German
A guide to training your dog to obey German dog commands.

German Language Lab - Audio - Listen to German
German audio for listening practice. An online language lab with exercises and more. Part of German for Beginners.

German Words of Love and Romance - I love you
A special German-English phrasebook for the vocabulary of love and romance in German. How to say 'I love you' in German.

Special Character Chart for German (1)
Part One of a keyboard-code chart for typing special German characters and symbols on a PC or Mac computer.

- Learn German Grammar
- Learn Speak Language
- German

Making appropriate tasks

Now that you have found some sites that you find interesting, it is time to plan the tasks you will offer students. It may be a good idea to start with short tasks to offer encouragement and intrigue and then expand into more time-consuming and open ended tasks. Ten sample assignments follow :

1. Ask students to go to a site and listen –watch it for 2-5 minutes. (e.g. a short song or youtube clip)
2. You could provide students with a list of words in your HL and ask them to find their English translations.
3. Students may also enjoying translating words and phrases from English into the HL. They could even report back on the words they explored.
4. Use introductory guiding questions to help students explore some of the keys links on a website and learn how to navigate it in the HL. E.g. – - *Near the bottom right hand side of the article, you should see a speaker icon with the title "Ecoutez avec ReadSpeaker" beside it. Click on the icon:* Do you hear the article being read aloud?

   OR, beside the title of the article, you should see an envelope icon with the title "Envoyez par mail". Click on that icon and email the article to yourself: Did you receive the article in your inbox?
5. Go to a specified website. Are there any photos? If so, what do they

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show? (e.g. *http://www.metrofrance.com* or http://www.publimetro.com.mx/ or http://www.metronews.it/ or http://www.metro.se/ or http://www.publimetro.cl/ or http://www.metronieuws.nl/.

6. After students have had a chance to explore a website and know where to find information, homework assignments could consist of written summaries or reviews of articles.

7. Students may be asked read anything on a given site for 10 minutes. After this type of free reading they might be asked to report on what they chose. E.g. . I liked _____ because…………

8. Students could be asked to read information on a website for a class discussion on current events.

9. Go to a newspaper site and ask students to report on sports scores, team names or sport interests. Remember that the news changes daily so they will have to report the date of their search. And the HL instructor may have to check for news daily to confirm the accuracy of the homework.

10. Send students to a website link to listen to a song in the HL (perhaps on youtube). At the same time you can send the lyrics to the song with some words missing, a type of close activity. The students' task is to listen to the song and fill in the blanks. It is just as important that they do the task (which may take listening to the song several times and thereby developing a liking for the song) as it is to fill in the blanks with the correct spelling. Some students may even wish to replicate this activity on their own or transcribe the lyrics of one of their favorite songs in the HL and send it to peers to listen to and/or complete.

Following up on the assigned tasks within the classroom

Students should always have an opportunity to report on homework assigned, or else they may not do it in the future. The best time to do so is at the beginning of the class. Provide a structure and time limit for reporting.

Final words

HL programs can offer students both growth in their HL as well as increased intercultural compétence and human understanding.

One final reason

More and more people are empowered by rapid and diverse perspectives on everything from natural disasters to political upheaval, as the control of media evaporates. HL programs can offer students both growth in their HL as well as increased world knowledge and intercultural competence and human understanding. Some research (Pollman, 2009) argues that wealthy children have more access to intercultural capital through travel, language lessons and discussions with well travelled parents and suggests that much of the responsibility for developing this compétence lies with the teacher. Multilingual globally astute HL instructors can provide such intercultural cometence through internet homework assignments.

The internet provides a wide range of 'information' – from entertainment to news to recipes. How you use it is limited only by your own creativity. Young people are on the internet daily; why not have them doing so in

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the HL! Since new websites are regularly added to the internet, you may even spark more communication between students and/or generations in the HL than you had anticipated.

NOTE: Youtube and other websites are not always permanent, so you may find that some of the sites recommended in this article are not accessible. Apologies in advance.

References

Murdoch, Rupert. "Speech to the American Society of Newspaper Editors." American Society of Newspaper Editors. 13 Apr. 2005. Speech.

Pollmann, A. (2009). Formal education and intercultural capital: Towards attachment beyond narrow ethno-national boundaries? *Educational Studies, 35*(5), 537-545

Appendix A
Sample Letter to parents

Dear Parents,

Since few homes are without internet these days, we at _____school would like to include internet homework for your child. Each week we shall ask your child to check out a website and answer questions or find some information. In our next class each child will report on what they found. WE hope that this will increase the use of the HL between classes and maybe even spark more communication with parents or grandparents.

In order to make this assignment as eco-friendly as possible we propose sending the task to a child's email address and copying you. In this way you will know precisely what your child should be reviewing and can even check out the site on your own in advance.

We appreciate your cooperation in this innovative project and would happily answer any questions that you might have. Please send your permission by signing this form or by sending me an email to: (email address).

Sincerely,

Instructor
Name of School

TEACHING TOOLS

LISTENING-SPEAKING COMPREHENSION SAMPLE PRACTICE AND EVALUATION TOOLS

As we were completing our pedagogical conversation on unit and lesson planning with our colleagues at the Edmonton Korean Language School, we came to focus on ideas around listening and speaking comprehension activities. Here some simple tips we shared in our meeting that you can use for your own classes. Feel free to duplicate and use.

AUDIO PAL

I use this very friendly and easy website to create simple audio files that I send to my students or post on my blogs or wikis.

- The website is: www.audiopal.com
- You can create simple and quick audio files up to one-minute in length. You can say a lot in one minute.
- Send the file to your preferred e-mail.
- Receive the link and play it or post the code on your blogs or website (you can come to IHLA's session on technology to learn how to do that!)
- Ask your students to record their own files and send them to you. The process is very simple. I add below a visual explanation on how it looks and works. Very simple and nice tool - no downloading, no sign-up and no heavy audio files!

Click on the microphone icon and record.

Preview your recording. If you do not like it - do it again.

Type your email address and receive the link to your file.

Things I can say in one minute:

- A brief introduction about myself
- A simple weather report
- A phone message to a friend
- A phone message about school
- An invitation to a party
- Request a meeting
- Give a brief direction to a place
- Read a 100-word text.

LISTENING-SPEAKING COMPREHENSION SAMPLE PRACTICE AND EVALUATION TOOLS

Speaking Practice Rubrics

One of our key goals in a language classroom is to get our students to speak as much as possible. Speaking fluency is a main goal especially in beginning levels of language learning. To encourage your students to improve their fluency skills, use these sample rubrics for practice and brief but regular evaluations. Show the rubrics to your students in advance and make sure they have examples of what you will be looking for in each task. Ask students to use the rubric on their own for audio files they created in Audio Pal (see previous page). Then compare notes. These are only ideas. You can use more specific elements of the speaking practice task you are working on. You can use the following tips to create your own or modify the one below.

- Decide on three key elements you will be looking for during the speaking practice activity (we have five examples below)
- List them in the rubric and give students examples. You can use AudioPal files for good and bad examples to refer to.
- Give the complete rubric to students in advance and ensure they will know exactly what you will want to focus on each time.
- Use the rubric (invite students to use it as well on their own recorded files and then compare)
- If you really want your students to improve, use different rubrics for the same spoken practice and then combine one final task where you ask students to do their best on all elements of the rubrics.
- Keep the rubrics for gathered evidence of learning and progress. Use them to celebrate successes!

SAMPLE ITEMS FOR YOUR RUBRIC

	1	2	3	4	5
Oral Fluency (you sound natural as you speak)	○	○	○	○	○
Intonation (your intonation supports the meaning of what you say)	○	○	○	○	○
Pronunciation (your pronunciation is clear)	○	○	○	○	○
Pace (you use a consistent pace in your speaking)	○	○	○	○	○
Expression (you support your speaking with appropriate tone)	○	○	○	○	○

Your total score this time: ▭

Download this and other materials for free at:

http://ihlaactivities.wikispaces.com

INTERNATIONAL AND HERITAGE LANGUAGES ASSOCIATION - IHLA

Established in 1978 and formerly known as NAHLA, IHLA is a non for profit umbrella organization that actively promotes cross-cultural understanding through heritage/ international language instruction and education, through its many member schools. IHLA serves more that 35 schools who teach heritage and international languages at the community level, in Central and Northern Alberta, Canada.

The Association represents all levels of language and culture instruction and education for over 12,000 students each year, outside of the public school system in Alberta. IHLA's primary objectives include:

- supporting and promoting international and heritage language education
- assisting in the development of international and heritage language curriculum, teaching and learning resources and materials
- supporting international and heritage language teacher training and skills development

IHLA SUPPORTS THE VIEW THAT international language education increases the level of respect and appreciation for multiculturalism and the diversity of Canada's people.

EASY TIPS

1. GREET YOUR STUDENTS AT THE DOOR AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH CLASS. IT WILL SET A POSITIVE MOOD FOR YOUR LESSON.

2. USE SIMPLE ORAL ROUTINES IN THE HERITAGE LANGUAGE. PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT!

3. USE VISUALS WHENEVER YOU CAN – WE ARE ALL VISUAL LEARNERS, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER!

4. CELEBRATE SUCCESS: ALWAYS!

IHLA

3RD FLOOR 10010 105 STREET

T5J 1C4

EDMONTON CANADA

PHONE: 780-428-5510

FAX: 780 - 428-5549

Website: www.ihla.ca

Email: edmontonihla@gmail.com