

Summary of the seminar

„TELL through music“, Erasmus+ Programme, KA2 Strategic Partnership Project,
project number: 2015-1-LT01-KA204-013448

Date: May 13, 2016
Venue: Faculty of Theatre JAMU Brno (studio of Drama Education for the Deaf)
Number of participants: 14

Professional background of the participants:

Course instructors for people with hearing impairments and special education teachers and students – teachers and instructors of people with hearing impairments.

The seminar:

During the seminar, 8 + 2 AE (artistic exercise) from all partner countries were presented and tried on the participants. Individual AE were creatively modified by the participants, or extended to include other related activities. The AE chosen for the seminar were expected to be applied for a target group of individuals with hearing impairments.

The list of AE carried out at the seminar:

Czech Republic: AE2 Meter, AE4 Rondo

Greece: AE4 Rhythm, AE2 Rhythmic Pattern I, AE5 Rhythmic Pattern II, AE8 Percussion ensemble

Lithuania: AE6 Communication with the help of rhythm, AE9 Man and Nature's Rhythms

Cyprus: AE4 Reciprocity, AE5 Emotions and the English language

Evaluation:

Czech Republic:

AE2 Meter, AE4 Rondo – very good, inspiring exercise – visualization of rhythm – the perception of rhythm is important not only for deaf people, but for everyone – the exercise was modified on the spot to include other interesting features.

Conclusion: usability for the hearing-impaired target group is without exceptions

Greece:

AE4 Rhythm – after modification, a good exercise for the deaf – need to replace the verbal naming of various times (DUM, TETE) with signs – in the course of the seminar the AE was modified for a group of deaf people as a collective exercise involving all the participants

AE2, AE5, AE8 – these exercises were combined into one activity, because they are based on the same principle – very good visualization of rhythm – the deaf must choose more complex rhythms to stay intrigued by the exercise

Conclusion: usability for the hearing-impaired target group is good because the visual cues are good, but with the proviso that the selected AE are too simple for the hearing-impaired

Lithuania:

AE6 Communication with the help of rhythm – useful exercise with some limitations for the deaf – an iPad cannot be used, only percussion instruments or other vibrations must be used – notes not to be used (the deaf do not know how to work with them)

AE9 Man and Nature's Rhythms – after modification the exercise is usable for the deaf – words not to be put in rhythm (names of the seasons), but use rhythm to express the atmosphere of the seasons

and the personal relationship of the participant to various natural phenomena and life situations – use percussions or just “banging” the palms on the table or clapping and adding nonverbal communication (facial expressions, body movement, etc.)

Conclusion: usability for the hearing-impaired target group is good with the proviso that the AE not be tied to the spoken word, but to the vibrations

Cyprus:

AE4 Reciprocity – some of the participants of the seminar are currently using this exercise for the deaf – music is necessary for visualization (translation into sign language or nonverbal communication – e.g. dance, etc.) – then the deaf can be left to draw their impressions and mutual exchange of emotions through sign language,

AE5 Emotions and the English language – can also be used for teaching a foreign language to the deaf – not just English, but e.g. Czech (Czech for the deaf who communicate in sign language, a foreign language).

Conclusion: Usability for the hearing-impaired target group is primarily as an inspiration under the condition that the specific EA includes music visualized by movement or by translating it into sign language

For other AE not demonstrated or tested at the seminar, the general rule is that wherever it is about the perception of music or written or verbally spoken communication (e.g. expressing emotions verbally), deaf people have problems not only with spoken, but also written expression.