

Curriculum framework research

Developing research skills for English for specific purposes

Cross-curricular optional course for grade 10 (Language and Communication and Technologies)

Rationale

It has become increasingly important for students in vocational school students to find a job as quickly as possible immediately after their graduation.

Knowledge of the vocational domain and of the specialised English needed for operating efficiently in the field are two of the key factors that influence students' chances of employability. Direct contact with possible employer companies, the structured interviews on the topic with the companies' employees, who are graduates of the same highschool as the interviewer, and with future possible employers help vocational school students develop efficient communication strategies and collect data and information that can be useful for their professional future.

Specific competencies	Topics
1. To select the sources of information in order to obtain the necessary data	Written and oral presentation of the structure of small and medium sized companies
2. To identify the necessary information and the questions in order to design a questionnaire.	Debates and texts related to the world of work: features. Authentic texts and dialogues related to the labour market The labour market: features Essential qualities for employees Designing a questionnaire: open/ closed questions
3. To collect and analyse data by deciding on the communication needs for a specific job.	Administration of pilot questionnaires Methods of processing data Quantitative and qualitative analysis
4. To present the data in oral/ written/ graphical form	Presentation skills
5. To identify on the linguistic needs characteristic of the investigated job with a view to analysing them according to communication competencies and skills	Oral presentation English for Specific Purposes

Values and attitudes

- To encourage an analytical attitude towards the future working place.
- To stimulate the interest for analysing the collected data, by means of communication and presentations.

Methodology topics

The learning activities will be designed and carried out within the following topics:

- Personal area (human/ interpersonal relationships, teamwork)
- Public area (written and oral presentations)
- Occupational area (issued related to future employment ad the labour market)

- Educational area: quantitative and qualitative research.

Communicative language aspects

Nouns, modal verbs, connectors, intonation.

Communicative functions

- asking for and giving professional information
- asking for and giving information to fill in questionnaires
- comparing
- asking for and giving opinions
- refusing and accepting an offer
- drawing conclusions
- expressing obligation
- greeting people
- introducing people
- interrupting
- expressing conditions

Types of activities: reading and commenting on texts, debates, active listening, designing questionnaires, interviews, producing graphical representations, giving oral presentations.

Evaluation methods: oral tests, project work, presentation of results.