



The Long Eaton School

WORLD TRADE GAME

Thursday 8th July 2010



The Long Eaton School aims to make all its students into global citizens, and with this in mind it has started a programme of internationally focused initiatives. Business Language Champions was asked to run their Year 9 Enterprise Day with an international theme. After discussing various options, Long Eaton decided that a World Trade Game would be the most suitable.

The 240 Year 9 students were divided into their houses, with two houses working in the hall and two houses working in the gym. They were further divided in each venue into two zones, each with ten 'countries', represented by 6 students per country. The countries chosen represented a cross section of developed and developing nations: Cameroon, India, Thailand, Chile, Romania, Russia, Dubai, Canada, the Netherlands, and Japan. The game was divided into 5 phases covering the whole of the day.

During Phase 1, the students had to research their country and find out about its geography, resources, people and industry. It also had to research the language spoken as well as how to be polite in the languages of all the other countries. During Phase 2, each country had to buy resources, design and make an innovative product suitable for its country, that it might also be able to export to the other countries. A promotional leaflet also had to be produced. Each country was allocated a certain amount of money to spend on resources that was proportional to the GDP of their country. During Phase 3, each country had to make a presentation about their research and present their product and their leaflet. Things started to get frenetic during Phase 4, which was the trading phase. Each country had the opportunity to trade with every other country in their zone and again was allocated a sum of money to spend that was proportionate with their country's wealth. The students were encouraged to use all the polite phrases of the relevant languages as they traded with the other countries. The two best performing countries in each zone were then put through to the final phase, where they presented to everyone in their venue and an overall winner was found.



During the morning, each student also had the opportunity to do a 30 minute language taster. These were in Japanese (given in two groups run by Becca, Stuart, James and Thomas from South Wolds Community College), Russian (given by Joe Innes from Sheffield University) or Arabic (given by Flt. Sergeant Paul Hughes from the RAF).

Some of the innovative products made included a device for collecting and distilling rainwater (India), decorative fashion flip flops (Romania), wine products (Chile), special boxes for preserving spices (India again), a doll's house (Netherlands), a colourful dress (Dubai) and mechanical chopsticks (Thailand.)

Some comments from our Business Language Champions on what they enjoyed from the day:
'Interacting with school pupils and trying to excite their curiosity in other countries and languages and the role that languages plays in helping you understand other cultures.' *Rita Green*

'I enjoy studying Japanese and therefore liked seeing the pupils, who also enjoyed learning Japanese in the taster session, have a good time and become interested in the language.' *Becca Burrell*

'I thoroughly enjoyed delivering the Introduction to Arabic taster sessions; seeing the Year-9 pupils realize that they can comprehend the basics of a language that they deemed to be a nigh on impossible task at the start of the 30 minute lesson was a delight to behold.' *Flt. Sgt. Paul Hughes*

'Seeing all the students varied and innovative ideas for products, because of their comprehensive and straightforward approach to the task. Also seeing their logical approach to getting the resources they needed, as well as their ability to work together well in teams.' *James Forsythe*

Contacts

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The Business Language Champions taking part in the World Trade Game as mentors were:-

VENUE LEADER: Mark Wingfield – MW Sigma – an expert in self-defence

Joe Innes – final year Russian and French student from Sheffield.

Robin Eyre – Consultant. Robin has lived and worked in Thailand, Laos and Malaysia.

Laura Lucas – Reservations Co-ordinator for Halsbury Travel

Helen Fagan – second year student at Brighton University studying Viticulture and Oenology.

Maria Veselova – Maria runs LinguaRu, specialising in all things Russian!

Paul Hughes – Flight Sergeant with the RAF

Rita Green – RGI Consulting, consultant in management training

Andrew Schlich – Managing Director of AST Translations in Nottingham

Suzannah Hutton - Language and Cultural Adviser for UK Trade and

Ian Sasse –Agents of Change, which offers training all around Europe.

Yulia Ravenhill, who is a Russian interpreter.

Becca, Stuart, James and Thomas who are students at South Wolds Community Language College and who are studying Japanese.