

REFLEXIVE REPORT, 05.10.22-3.12.22 (October-November)
ENGLISH FOR MEDIA LITERACY

Atyrau, Alfiya Bissengaliyeva

Advancing English for Media Literacy in Kazakhstan PROJECT PERFORMANCE
Association of Teachers of English in Kazakhstan KazTEA

Facilitator's Name: Alfiya Bissengaliyeva

Cohort #:4

City: Atyrau

Period: October-December 2022

Number of Project Beneficiaries/Participants: 24 English teachers began training for the MOOC course "English for Media Literacy" on October 5 in Atyrau.

Participants comprised English language teachers from eleven city schools and an Inder district college. Sadly, only twenty teachers finished the training. During the middle of the course, numerous participants had to be replaced with new ones due to poor language level or workload.

It was decided that classes would be held every Wednesday from 17:00 to 18:30. Later, in the middle of the course, the date was changed to Saturday from 11:00 to 12:30.

The first session was an orientation session during which course objectives and financial aid applications were presented to the attendees. The subsequent two sessions were peculiar. John Orak and Asel Daniyarova, representatives of the US RELO, participated in the second session. The third session with a FIPRO representative, media literacy trainer has already occurred.

Teachers were granted access to Google Drive and a WhatsApp chat was built so they could communicate with each other and a facilitator, and share lesson materials.

The following timetable was followed for each and every class:

1	05.10.22	Orientation session
2	13.10.20	Session with the representatives of RELO
3	26.10.22	Session with the media trainer
4	5.11.22	Review of the 2 nd week
5	9.11.22	Review of the 3 rd week
6	19.11.22	Review of the 4 th week
7	26.11.22	Review of the 5 th week
8	3.12.22	Final session

Each Wednesday, course participants issued confirmation screenshots that they had completed the week's study material.

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In the classes, the following strategies were employed: video viewing, conversation, a quiz (Quiz.com) and the Bamboogle website for vocabulary and grammar review, work with the padlet application, work in pairs and groups, reading brief articles, and grammar exercises.

Photographic and video documentation of the sessions was uploaded to the group's Facebook page.

In addition, all technological concerns were fixed via Whatsapp chat and video chat, and participants were in constant contact with me.

At the conclusion of the session, participants presented their projects. Essentially, these were advertising campaigns:

- Course promotion
- Product advertising
- Car dealership advertisement
- reflected footage

I will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the courses.

Positive moments:

- Many participants significantly improved their English proficiency, as evidenced in informal talks.
- Activity of numerous participants in the course. Many registrants had already completed the online course by the halfway mark.
- A greater number of teachers from diverse schools in the city have enrolled in the course than in previous cohorts and similar project
- The participants enjoyed the sessions in which RELO representatives and the media trainer participated. In addition, there was an online meeting with the course organizers at the final session.

Challenges:

- Different levels of English competence amongst the participants. The group comprises teachers at levels A2 through C1.

-Different ICT proficiency levels. When working with a laptop and completing tasks on the Coursera platform, teachers of all ages most frequently experienced technical difficulties. I was required to provide online and in-person support to these teachers individually.

- Passivity of some participants in the course. In order for certain course participants to complete the programme, they had to be controlled and their every action supervised. In addition, six teachers had to be withdrawn from the course because they repeatedly complained about a lack of time and did not respond in a timely manner. After enrolling in the course, they

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literally rejected all appeals. In addition, they repeatedly stated that they were unable to attend offline sessions.

The course materials were published on the Kazakhstan page of the MOOC Facilitators Group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/834481146988513/permalink/1578048912631729/>

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<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=5840469629329857&set=pcb.156440544066274>

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MOOC facilitator,
NIS English Teacher, Head of English Department,
British Council Trainer,
Alfiya Bissengaliyeva.