

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

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Cohort #: 4
City: Almaty
Period: 8.10.2022-3.12.2022

Number of Project Beneficiaries/Participants: 29 schoolteachers:

I would like to express my gratitude for giving an opportunity to have such an amazing experience, I worked on my emotional intelligence as well and I challenged my leadership skills. Facilitating every session was a great contribution for my professional as well personal development, I always dreamt to be a part of project. I feel blessed to learn from an amazing and role model project leader Tatyana Letyaikina, my mentor Larissa Petrova and other facilitators.

1. Provide a detailed description of the progress made to-date toward the project’s objectives and outcomes.

It was interesting, involving as well challenging to work with this cohort since inexperienced and experienced teachers collaborated and they all were schoolteachers, which led into deep, unique, interesting sometimes controversial discussions. Both participants learnt from each other, as well me a lot, as we focused on topics from different perspectives and experience. We created warm atmosphere where everyone could add without embarrassment ideas and share first-hand experience both positive and negative. Topics like Bias and Advertisement were especially immersing since new information were introduced such as types of Bias and Advertisement as a manipulation tool.

Participants liked a Coursera course on “Media Literacy”, they as well discussed how they would share some materials with their colleagues and learners. Most of them finished course on time with excellent results.

Summarizing completed work by participants and me as a facilitator in face-to-face sessions each session, a final project work, and self-checking list participants found the topic “Advertisement” interesting, they shared with their positive and negative experiences and life-hakes. They summed up that after this they will be more aware of effects of advertisements and paid enough attention to tricks of advertisers.

To sum up, it can be said that following projects objectives have been completed:

- During the sessions participants’ awareness of media literacy competences increased through provided information, in and out of class activities and tasks.
- Participants gained strategies and techniques of effective participation in MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) and learnt to increase quality of their self-learning
- Participants used opportunities to enhance English language level through the use learning techniques and training materials to access diverse media sources.
- Sessions were supported with applying MIRO, Padlet, Answer Garden, Kahoot, Poll everywhere, Fact/Fake checker tools to facilitate, promote and welcome for discussions, tasks and activities completion.

- Socratic Circle, Walkie-Talkie, Gold Fish, Poster Gallery, Think-Pair-Share, KWL and other methods were practiced to make lead in, main part and conclusion parts go smoothly and reach the audience and scaffold the processes of the sessions.

2. Describe your target audience. Who is the average person being served and how will your program assist them?

This time I worked with schoolteachers. It was mix of young, middle aged and experienced teachers, and the beauty of that was connection, contradiction and discussion on topics were vivid and alive. We tried to establish friendly atmosphere where everyone is special and each of their opinion was welcomed.

After the end of each session, I always asked what their takeaway was. To make them think about areas of implementation session materials, what I've learnt is that

All of them were involved into sessions. What I liked most that they did not just complete tasks or activities but always tried to reflect, to find connection session topics with real life, to discuss how they could apply session materials and ideas.

As a result:

Participants will study further discussed topics in their lessons

will conduct educative lessons for their learners

will conduct sessions for their colleagues

will use or develop further obtained soft skills

will use some APPs and teaching methods that we practiced during sessions

The main stuff is teachers' understanding that they are enlighteners who spread the novelty and prosperity to society. Their belief in their capacity and influence to society.

3. Is the program on track/schedule to be completed within the estimated period of performance? If not, how do you plan to get the program back on schedule? Will you require additional time to complete any of the activities?

I think the allocated time is right, all topics can be covered fully in given time slot. I think that program is developed well, enough time is provided for face-to-face sessions, to study and complete MOOC, watch and reflect webinars, and leave comments on FB and Coursera course.

I would like to express my gratitude to Dana Zhaksylykova and other workers of American Corner for helping and organizing our sessions.

4. Describe any challenges to implementing the program and how you have addressed or plan to address the issues faced. What lessons have you learned implementing the project that may be beneficial for KazTEA?

Actually, I didn't have any essential problems. KazTEA helped to arrange a venue, all session materials were provided. 29 participants completed the course successfully.

5. Provide success stories, photographs, or other documentation and multi-media to share with KazTEA and RELO to show the program's progress and impact.

I firmly believe that each participant can be called a successful story hero. Participants and leaders of their schools Tanayeva Dinara, Torekhanova Alfiya, Satylganova Natalya, Doshodjayeva Nurgul will make contribution to share the ML ideas.

6. What activities are planned to embed learning outcomes in the teaching process as short-term impact?

Tanayeva Dinara and I are planning to conduct sessions in her school in March 2023.

I am planning to prepare an article on “Developing Media Literacy Competences on the basis of f Profession Oriented FL discipline” I work at Kazakh Ablai Khan UIRandWL with the idea of spreading and promoting ML through English, we are going to try out adding some components of session materials into the curriculum of the POIYia (Profession-Oriented Foreign Language in the Context of Intercultural Communication) in 6th semester (spring semester). We do believe to promote this material into the curriculum on an ongoing basis.

I and participants of previous cohort are planning to write an article for a conference approximately in April 2023, to share our experience and discussing perspectives of media literacy as a skill.

The sessions are posted on the Facebook group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/834481146988513/permalink/1557587394677881/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/834481146988513/permalink/1569806113456009/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/834481146988513/permalink/1555837738186180/>
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