

ITI MALIGNANI, UDINE, ITALY - HARAM VIDERGAANDE SCHOOL, NORWAY  
2009 EXCHANGE PROJECT EDUCARE 26th September- 10th October 2009  
Two-week project work in ITALY: 4Cst, 3Dst, 20 Norwegian students

NEW HORIZONS IN YOUTH CAREERS: GENERAL EVALUATION RESULTS

All Italian students (40)                      Classes: 3Dst and 4Cst                      School: ITI MALIGNANI

Your opinion about:    **VG** very good      **G** good      **A** Average      **B** bad      **VB** very bad  
Instructions: **Write your choice** (VG G A B VB) and **add a comment**

◆ **The contacts with your partner**

Language: effectiveness of communication

**Between good and very good. The Norwegians speak English better but the Italians tried hard to overcome their difficulties.**

Getting to know each other

**Good experience: music and computers, different lifestyles, sport and food were the hot topics.**

Motivation towards language learning (English, Italian, Norwegian)

**Very high: to master English is essential in today's world, so they want to study it more at school and to do more conversation. Norwegian is a strange language:" I am glad I learnt some words thanks to my partner", some of the students said.**

**Family life with a guest**

Food and lodging problems

**In general, the Norwegian friends loved Italian food and ate everything.**

Guest behaviour and misunderstanding

**Except for rare exceptions, the Norwegian guests were polite and well behaved. Some problems with transport for the students living far away.**

The Sunday spent with the special guest

**Most students took their guests to Lignano: a fantastic day on the beach sunbathing and playing volleyball.**

◆ **The official visits**

Scientific faculties of Udine University

**The visit to the genetic labs was more absorbing than the talk about the engineering faculty.**

Ham factory

**It was interesting to see how the famous S Daniele ham is produced but the place was a bit smelly. Lunch at the nearby restaurant was delicious.**

Mosaic school

**It was fascinating to discover the different techniques in mosaic art and to admire the artistic works created by the most talented students and the best masters.**

◆ **The social and cultural activities**

Trip to TRIESTE ( Miramare, Duino..)

**Successful trip for the warm and sunny day, the Rilke path, the sunbathing in the small bay of Duino, the spectacular castle of Miramare and the excellent guided tour, the visit to the natural marine reserve of Miramare, the coffee in Piazza Unità in Trieste.**

Trip to Venice

**Very good trip. The visit to the cathedral and the explanations given by the guide were very interesting.**

Trip to Palmanova, Aquileia and Grado

**Successful trip even if most students had already been there. Some of them enjoyed the sunbathing and the swim.**

Going out together

**Good opportunity to speak English in relaxation, to have fun playing sports or going shopping, to enjoy Udine's nightlife. Some of the students complained not being able to take part in the social activities because they live too far from Udine.**

Football match

**The students spontaneously organised a football match under the rain with boys and girls and they had a great time.**

◆ **The group work at the project**

Cooperation between the partners

Everybody tried to work seriously. Only few were passive listeners.

Motivation towards the education project

Generally high because their future is at stake. Some of the students were astonished at finding out how much the Norwegian government does for young people's education. They realised that the Norwegian school system allows for more freedom and is less academic than ours.

Interest in spotting similarities and differences in lifestyle

YES, curiosity to know what teenagers in Europe have in common and what makes them different. Most of them feel that there aren't many differences between teenagers in Norway and teenagers in Italy. Their lifestyles are almost the same.

Satisfaction of the work done

The Italians were satisfied by their power points on different aspects of Italian Education and by the power points illustrating similarities and differences in school life between Italy and Norway.

**What have you learnt from this exchange experience? (COMMENTS)**

I have learnt to interact in English more fluently

I can pronounce a few words in Norwegian

I am aware that my English is poor and I need to practise it more

I had great fun with my Norwegian partners and the 2 weeks were too short.

I have found a brother and I would have preferred to spend one more week with him.

I have discovered a more relaxed pace of life. In Norway people are calmer because their school system is not so demanding and they have more job opportunities. In Italy people are more nervous because life is harder both at school and at work.

I have found out that in spite of the differences we can live together.

A new culture has opened up to me: Norway, a far off country, is now closer to my thoughts and dreams.

**This contact has enriched my personal world and I am looking forward to flying to Norway next September.**

**Norway is a cold land but young people keep their hearts warm through drinking and friendly talk.**

**I want to travel more, I want to explore new countries and meet new friends.**

**I've made new friends and I have new contacts to chat with on the Internet**

**I've learnt to speak English more naturally (at school everything sounds so artificial!)**

**I've learnt that you have to be completely alone in a group of foreign people who speak only English if you want to improve it.**

**I've realized that speaking English is very important if you want to socialize with people who don't live in Italy.**

**◆ Suggestions for the continuation of the project**

**To study English more intensively at school and at home**

**To organise exchange projects on a regular basis, maybe in the summer to have more free time**

**To avoid taking the Norwegian partners to our scientific labs because they are not interested**

**To increase the number of sports activities: football, basketball, volleyball matches...**

**To take our guests not only to cities but also to natural places (e.g. our beautiful mountains)**

**To do more conversation also at school**

**To do more varied things with the exchange students**

**To reduce the length of the stay (too many days)**

**To organise an exchange project with English students to have the possibility of speaking English all the time, of talking about everything in English.**

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2009 EXCHANGE PROJECT EDUCARE **26th September- 10th October 2009**  
Two-week project work in ITALY: 4Cst, 3Dst, 20 Norwegian students

NEW HORIZONS IN YOUTH CAREERS: NORWEGIAN EVALUATION RESULTS

20 Norwegian students from HVS school

Your opinion about: **VG** very good    **G** good    **A** Average    **B** bad    **VB** very bad  
Instructions: **Write your choice** (VG G A B VB) and **add a comment**

◆ The contacts with your partner

Language: effectiveness of communication

**The Italians were good enough to make themselves understood. Some Italians were quite fluent, some others spoke broken English but the Norwegians helped with their higher English competence.**

Getting to know each other

**Fully satisfactory. Living together for 2 weeks we learnt a lot about each other.**

Motivation towards language learning (English, Italian, Norwegian)

**Surely increased. Some Norwegians would like to learn Italian to come back to Italy and feel more at ease. Other Norwegians are willing to improve their English to be better speakers in an international context. All Norwegians are proud of their language and would like to teach it to their Italian friends.**

◆ School life

Arrival at school and welcome

**All students felt they were given a very warm welcome on arrival.**

Tour of the school

**It is a huge school and it needs time to explore. The tour was interesting but incomplete.**

School canteen and other facilities

**Some students found the food good, others just edible. As to the toilets, the Norwegian girls were shocked by the Turkish ones.**

School organisation and regulations

**It is a bit difficult to find classrooms at ITI Malignani. School life seems stricter in Italy: no chewing gum or eating or drinking or sitting on the floor in Italian schools.**

Scientific labs and experiments

**Students do not have them in Norway. They could not understand much because they do not study those scientific subjects. The lab teachers did not speak English.**

English classes

**Italian students do not speak English very well. Italian teachers do not have a good English accent. Italian classes are too noisy but the general atmosphere is pleasant.**

Italian classes

**Italian teachers tried to speak English but most of the time they spoke Italian and the Norwegians picked up some words. Yet they felt that the language is difficult and not all of them were interested in learning.**

#### ◆ **The life in the host family**

Food and lodging

**Excellent, delicious, tasty food and warm hospitality. Everybody loved his/her family.**

Contact with the family

**Very nice families but most parents could not speak English so they communicated through gestures and their partners as interpreters.**

The Sunday spent with the host family

**Some students spent the Sunday together on the beach in Lignano and had fun. Other students spent the Sunday with their families at home or on excursions and were happy. All families did their best for their guests.**

#### ◆ **The official visits**

Scientific faculties of Udine University

**Most Norwegian students found these presentations boring maybe because they are not interested in these academic studies. A few of them love Biology and expressed satisfaction for this university visit.**

Ham factory

**The smell was awful, appalling but the ham was good, appetizing.**

Mosaic school

**Amazing place, fascinating art. Some students are seriously thinking of attending this school to become mosaic artists. The visit seemed too short.**

◆ **The social and cultural activities**

Sightseeing in UDINE

**They liked Udine mainly for shopping and nightlife. Yet they appreciated the guided tour of the town and the short visit of the Cathedral and the Tiepolo paintings.**

Trip to CIVIDALE

**Small but nice town on the river Natisone. Impressive Tempietto Longobardo and Orsoline Convent. You can breathe so much art and history everywhere!**

Trip to TRIESTE ( Miramare, Duino..)

**Spectacular castle and gardens. Beautiful rocky coastline. Gorgeous day and excellent company. Imposing palaces in Trieste, the heart of the Austrian-Hungarian empire.**

Trip to VENICE

**A dream come true. A gondola trip in the canals, a visit to the breathtaking S Mark's basilica, the sight of the Rialto bridge..... happy memories even if too crowded and too much walking.**

Trip to SPILIMBERGO and S DANIELE

**It was worth a visit. Friuli is a region full of small characteristic villages rich in history and traditions.**

Trip to PALMANOVA, AQUILEIA, GRADO

**A relaxing day. Maybe too many churches and old buildings but the swim in Grado was energizing.**

Going out together

**Absolutely great! They got to know each other in a relaxed and natural way. The Norwegians loved the pub BIRE! And they enjoyed playing football together! Italians and Norwegians spontaneously organised evenings out and socialised a lot.**

◆ **The group work at the project**

Cooperation between the partners

**Good enough even if the Italians spoke too much Italian. It was easy to communicate.**

Motivation towards the education project

**The Norwegians did not feel great motivation for this project.**

Interest in spotting similarities and differences in lifestyle

**The Norwegians think it is quite interesting to compare different lifestyles and cultures**

Satisfaction of the work done

**Good enough.**

◆ **Unexpected aspects of the exchange**

**To find such a nice Italian family and so many friends**

**To feel at home in Italy thanks to the unforgettable Italian friends**

**To taste such top quality food**

**To see how Italian teenagers go out and drink during the week**

**A memorable trip to Italy thanks to the perfect planning of the nice teachers (Donatella and Antonella)**

**The teacher/student relationship**

**Too much walking**

◆ **Suggestions for the continuation of the project**

**Italians and Norwegians should mix more**

**More information from Teachers about timetable, activities**

**Writing the timetable in English so that everybody understands**

**More organised activities in the evening for the youth**

**Fewer churches to visit**

**What have you learnt from this exchange experience? (comments)**

**English is extremely important for international contacts**

**The Italians have a good sense of humour and they are happy people**

**Italy is a great place and coffee is superb.**

**Lots of information about Italian culture, traditions and lifestyle**

**I know the meaning of some Italian words and I am proud of it**

**I could make myself understood even without words**

**It has been a significant experience in my life**

**I have learnt to be more sociable and open to the others**



**I have discovered new geographical places**

**I am aware that the Italian and the Norwegian systems of education are similar**

**I think school in Norway is better: building, facilities, curriculum, respect in class.**

**Teachers love walking and wrongly presume everybody else does**

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NEW HORIZONS IN YOUTH CAREERS: Comparing education systems

**Self- Assessment QUESTIONNAIRE: MIXED GROUP RESULTS**

Answer the questions individually in English. Then discuss your answers and prepare a group sheet.

**Topic Evaluation**

1) Did you like the content of the project? (school in both countries) **YES**

**School is our daily bread and we were eager to know about other school realities.**

2) Did you appreciate the activities suggested to develop the topics? **YES**

**Yes, indeed. They stimulated discussion but took too long**

3) Would you have proposed different activities for them? **NO**

**Our teachers did their best and we are grateful to them.**

4) Would you have preferred more autonomy? (Was the Tutor too imposing?) **NO**

**The Norwegians would because they are used to working on their own with loads of time at school. We Italians felt more under pressure, we were the ones who had to work more because our teachers were more demanding.**

5) Do you think you can handle more freedom in organizing your project? **NO**

**We had enough freedom: without the tutors' guidance we would have needed more time to carry out our tasks.**

**Group Effectiveness**

1) Did you enjoy working in your group? **YES**

**The groups were well balanced. Everybody worked in a cooperative spirit. It was an enjoyable and useful experience.**

2) Was it difficult to cooperate with the others? **NO**

**Not at all. Everybody was friendly, kind, open-minded. English was a powerful means of communication.**

3) Did you feel useful in your team? **YES**

**We could help each other with language and content.**

4) Did you use English in your group? **YES**

**Of course, English was our international language. Now and then we mixed up words from Friulan, Italian, Portuguese and Norwegian.**

5) Did you use time effectively? **YES**

**Most groups said YES: they worked efficiently. Some groups said NO: too much talking and not enough action.**

6) Were you able to complete your tasks? **YES**

**We divided the tasks, so we could manage to complete all of them**

7) Has your sense of responsibility increased after this experience? **YES**

**Some students thought the question was awkward. They did not see a connection between this kind of experience and a greater sense of individual and collective responsibility.**

8) Do you consider school project work a valuable experience? **YES**

**Definitely so, such projects strengthen relationships and unite groups**

9) Would you like to keep working with the same people? **YES**

**Most students would like to work with the same mates. A few would like to change partners.**

10) Why is self-assessment important after a project?

**We can improve by doing and reflecting upon experiences.**