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ZPRÁVA O MOBILITĚ VRÁMCI PROGRAMU ERASMUS

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| Name of participant: | Bc. Kerry Susan Faráriková |
| Course title: | Empowerment in ICT Skills Making Use of Technology Tools 1 week |
| Course duration: | 30.5.22–3.6.22 |
| School address: | ESE Building, Paceville Ave, St. Julian's STJ 3103, Malta |
| Website: | etimalta.com |

Overview

What surprised me at first was the size of the school and the number of participants, who were starting either English language courses, or the ICT course which I attended. It was an international crowd of mostly, women of all ages. In my group there were seven ladies: Two from Poland, two from Portugal, a lady from Croatia, a lady from Germany and myself. Our teacher was a lovely Maltese lady called Jo, who had grown up in the UK and spoke English like a native. On the first day we learnt how to create our own website using WIX. To our website we inserted several types of media. For example, photos, links, and videos.

The next day, we learnt how to create a blog using Google Blog. Creating blogs and websites are a fantastic way for students to get the attention of future employers. They can show skills that are not otherwise apparent on CVs. We also had to decide if we would work on the project using the website or blog, we had created. I have decided to continue with the website. The blog application was not user friendly enough for me. I like to edit and improve my work after I create it and it is not an option with a blog. My favourite part of the course today was editing videos using Edpuzzle and adding questions (multiple choice, open ended) to the video for students to answer. This is something I will incorporate into my classes in future, and it is a great tool for learning.

On Wednesday at ETI we got familiar with an app called Thinglink. It is a great app for adding labels to an image to add extra information. For example, you can create an interactive map, where you can add tags of places and add some information about them, such as a link to a website or video. Another fantastic website we looked at was

learningapps.org. Where you can create and use cloze questions and listening. I want to incorporate both into my lessons too.

On Thursday we looked at an app called Loom. It is a free screen and video recording app. Once downloaded and used properly (today was my first attempt and I need to get my head around it more) you can record a video for a lesson or give instructions. We also looked at creating Storyboards and storey videos using ADOBE Express.

On the last day of my course. We had a different instructor today, Josie. A genuinely nice lady who told us a lot about the school system in Malta. She told us that some schools have a Track Suit as a uniform because it is more comfortable. Children wear a uniform until they are sixteen. Today we looked at creating Avatars and comic strips. This is something that would be good for younger learners. However, I do not think I could use them with my older students. The rest of the day we spent either working on our website or blog. Please see mine: <https://kfararikova.wixsite.com/maltaexperience>

Acquired knowledge and overall benefits

Since my return from the course, I have already created an interactive map of the USA using the Thinglink app. The USA is a Maturita topic, and I have used this in class to help the students understand the locations of famous places. I also plan to use edpuzzle using videos about the USA to create cloze questions. And I will certainly use the Learningapps website to create listening exercises using video and word matching exercises. Students will be able to do the exercises on their computers or even mobile phones as an assignment too. Technology is the way forward and I am delighted I have these new skills and tools to use in my lessons in future.

Malta

It was my first time in Malta, and I really enjoyed the experience. I visited the historical cities of Valletta and Mdina during my stay. Both are beautiful. I loved the old limestone buildings there. It was extremely hot and unfortunately the air conditioning was broken in our classroom too. Since it is so hot during the day, in the evenings many people are out, doing sports, walking their dogs. There is a very lively atmosphere. Malta is a very rocky island and there are no forests. I noticed many gigantic, stunning cacti and many large, colourful, Oleander hedges. I would like to visit Malta again, but I would not like to stay in St Julian's. It is a party town for young people, which is not for me. I would like to see Gozo and more places of nature.

Jihlava June 2022

Kerry Faráriková

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