

Erasmus+ 2023 - REPORT: EXPERIENCE IN AMSTERDAM
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Mobility activity type: Courses and training

Planned dates of mobility activity: 17/07/2023 - 28/07/2023

Country of mobility activity: Italy

Sending organisation:

Name: Liceo Peano-Pellico

City: Cuneo

Country: Italy

Receiving organisation:

Name: British Language Training Centre BV

City: Amsterdam

Country: Netherlands



We are very satisfied with our experience in Amsterdam, everything was fine.

During our mobility period, we attended a 40 hours Upper-intermediate English course at British English Language Training Centre in Amsterdam of British Council. This is an Authorised Centre for Cambridge General English Exams (B2 first, C1 Advanced, C2 Proficiency), Cambridge Business Exams, IELTS and many other professional international tests, on paper and computer.



We visited Rijksmuseum, Van Gogh Museum and Street Art Museum in Amsterdam; we also had a very interesting pedestrian guided tour in Amsterdam about Anne Frank and World War II, from the Jewish district to Anne Frank's house.





After the visits to a Cinema of Belle Époque and a more modern one, we also went to an English movie on social contemporary and gender issues.



We had a boat tour in Amsterdam canals and walked a lot in Amsterdam to see the beautiful fronts of the houses and to appreciate the history of the city starting from the building different ages and the progressive expansion of the canal rings.



We had an excursion to the countryside by bus and boat to visit Giethoorn picturesque village made of several little islands and the Afslutdijk, a dike built in 1932 to obtain an artificial lake and to protect lands from sea floods. The boat tour

was in the Weerribben- Wieden Nationa Park, and we had a look at the marvellous landscape. This tour also allowed us to know more about the impressive Dutch technology to build dikes and to obtain polders for farming and agriculture.



We visited very well supplied bookshops to know the European new editions in our field, Philosophy, Economy and also on what there is greater discussion in contemporary History. We have appreciate to see precious editions of classic

international literature. We bought some English books useful for our work or culturally interesting for us.



At school we have improved concrete skills and gained knowledge.

Language focus - The most valuable linguistic achievement, which we have improved in our Upper-Intermediate English, is the better understanding of English verbs tense system and their correct use in the phrases in speaking and writing. The second important focus has been the use of formal or informal language in the specific situation and moreover a refreshment, improvement and enlargement of the knowledge of a wide range of words and their use in the appropriate contexts.

Reading - Strengthening of the comprehension skills and correct intonation.

Listening - Improving of the comprehension skills also from different accents and geographical provenience.

Speaking - Improvement of the fluency and the rhythm of language on the stressed words in according to the meaning of the communication, improving of the grammatical correctness.

Writing – Refreshment of the orthographical and grammatical aspects. Exercitations on different typologies and methodology of writing.

Cultural skills: This mobility period has been a chance to get more open minded and to acquire more awareness of our European citizenship. Through the deeper knowledge of the Netherland history, art, architecture and technology, we have understand better the way of life and thinking of Dutch individuals, because this is a comprehension that comes from experience and direct contact.

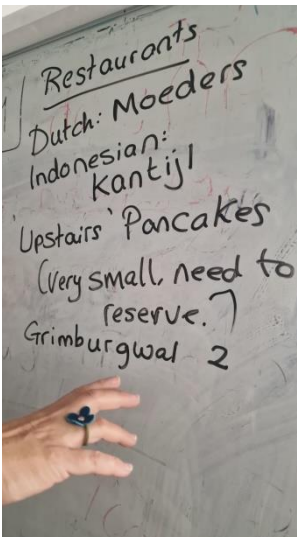
Teaching skills: Observing the English teachers at lesson and the way of involved students, as a teacher it was possible to learn new methods of approach to students, various kind of interesting group-workings, which it could be applied in classes also teaching other subjects like History and Philosophy. In general, the group activities at school such as role playing and the way the teachers run them gave us some advice useful in our jobs to improve relationship and leadership skills.



In respect with the logistical issues, Amsterdam accommodation is expensive and so we had to choose a hotel with a kitchen corner near Sloterdijk Station to North West of Amsterdam; it was good choice because it takes just 20 minutes to reach the centre by bus and here the public transport are very efficient.



However, this economic constraint kept us from tasting Dutch cuisine, an essential part of culture, especially in Holland, for example, as regards the ingredients and the Asiatic traditions that the Dutch people had imported from all around the world.



In conclusion, the Erasmus mobility experience gave us the opportunity to improve English language, fundamental element for positive and enriching international relationships, that is what Europe ask us to strengthen our political and social union.

