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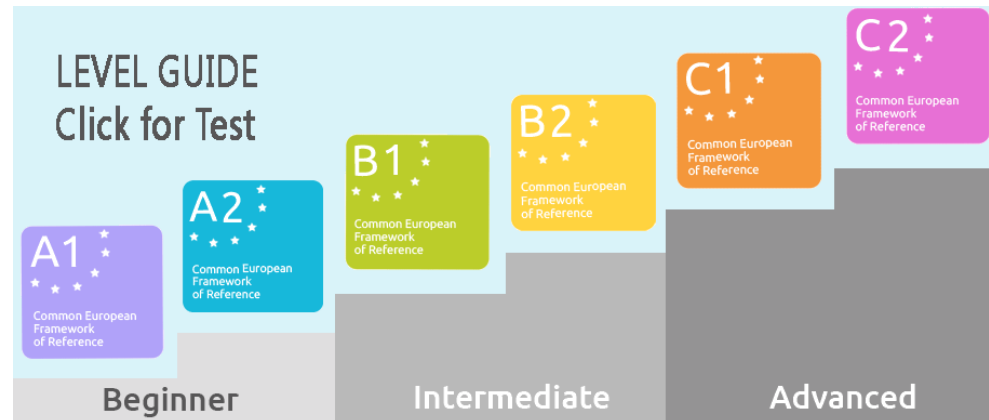
***Enhancing L2 skills through  
independent learning: the case  
study of Italian e-magazine***

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# The classroom



- Grammar base
- Vocabulary
- Speaking skills
- Confidence
- Interest in various topics
- Use of different tools (social media, web, news, etc)

# How to engage advanced and proficiency students of L2

Motivation

+ Interest

+ Active participation

= Emotional engagement  
and responsiveness



*“The important contribution of the students represents the strength of their engagement in the study of the target language and the involvement in writing as a tool for learning and development” (Ferris D., 2008).*

# *The idea*



*A tool able to inform, update and extend the topics of interest in the target language.*

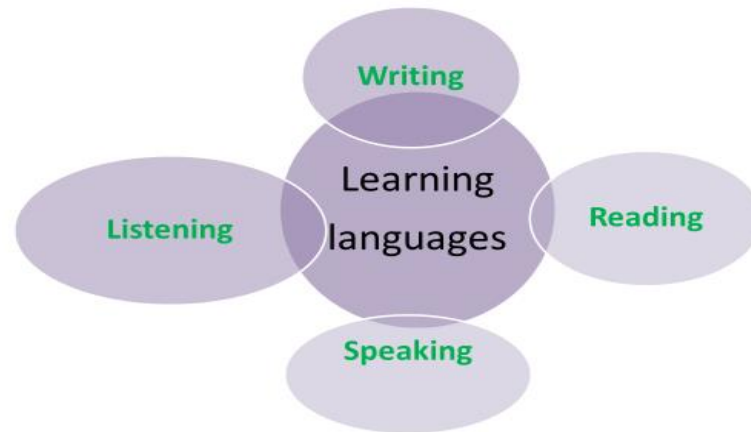
*A magazine written directly by the students (Advanced and Proficiency) to enhance the 4 skills in a more interesting, engaging and personal way.*

*The idea of the magazine wants to work in the perspective of “satisfying language learning outcomes” (Dörnyei, Z., 1990)*

# How the 4 skills are involved

The students will use their creative and writing skills along with a revision of grammar (error analysis)

Students will work in group, developing their listening skills and sometimes using videos/listenings to deepen their topics



The students will read articles and material and work on vocabulary.

The creation of an article will involve a group discussion/debate where the students will express their ideas and opinions.

# *Topics*

- Cultural events
- Lifestyle
- Current affairs
- Curiosities
- Direct experience



# Steps

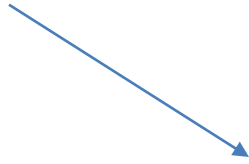
1. The topics are chosen and agreed by the class
2. Groups (or individual students) start building up the content of their article
3. The draft of the article is given to the tutor for approval
4. The draft (if needed) is given back to the students for final correction (error analysis)
5. The magazine is ready to be edited and can be used as a tool for learning
6. 2 editions during the academic year (February and April editions) to be given to all classes and students

*“Magazines are a particularly practical source of material to study”* (Gethin, A. and Gunnemark, 1996).

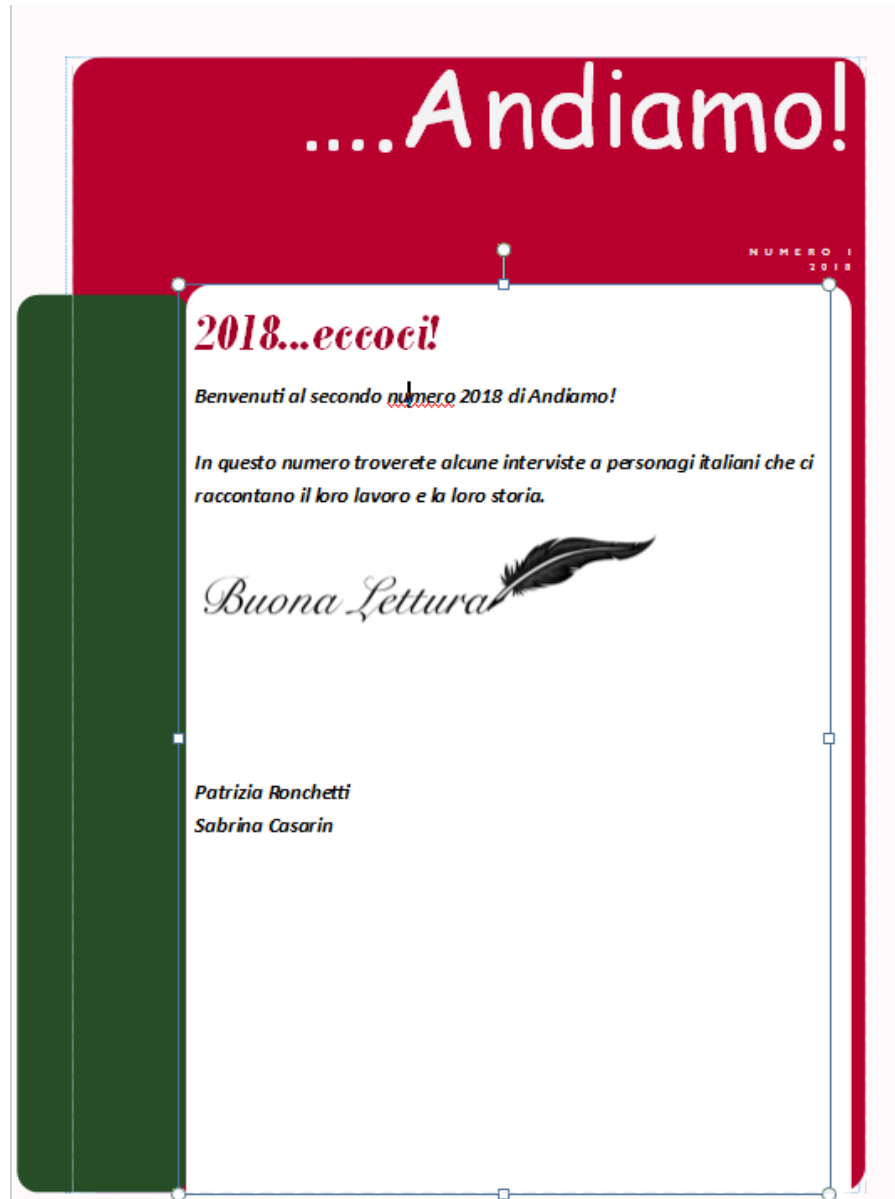


# Sources

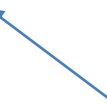
Personal  
experience



Books, magazines,  
newspapers,  
social media



Web sites



Videos, interviews

## LA TERAPIA GENETICA OGGI

Stiamo per varcare la soglia di un nuovo mondo medico, quello della terapia genetica per quasi tutte le nostre malattie, o stiamo entrando in un incubo di errori fino a oggi non previsti? Oggi gli scienziati e i medici hanno gli attrezzi per cambiare sia la struttura che le funzioni dei nostri geni alla ricerca delle nuove cure per le malattie intrattabili o poco trattabili, fra cui il cancro, la fibrosi cistica, l'emofilia e perfino la sindrome di Alzheimer.



## COME SI AIUTA LA NATURA IN ITALIA

Ti piace la natura? Andresti in Italia a vederla? Il Paese è un luogo meraviglioso per la biodiversità grazie alla sua situazione e al numero degli habitat diversi.

Purtroppo ha una cattiva reputazione per l'atteggiamento verso la natura, in particolare gli uccelli, tra quelli che la stimano, e non senza motivo. Sebbene la caccia sia legale (come nel Regno Unito) c'è molta attività fuori legge che è fondata sulle Direttive dell'Unione Europea.



## PROBLEMA CON L'IMMIGRAZIONE A GORIZIA

250 immigrati sono arrivati in 20 giorni nell'agosto 2017 a Gorizia e hanno continuato ad arrivare dal Nord ogni giorno. Loro sono tutti uomini. Chi arriva a Gorizia non fugge da territori di guerra ma da altri Paesi Europei dove non gli è stato riconosciuto lo status di rifugiato politico.

## *Benefit for students....*

Practice the four skills

Enrichment of the vocabulary/accuracy

Organizational skills in the target language

Group work and exchange

## *...and tips for tutors*

Error analysis

Discover new topics

Give students ideas

# *Feedback*

- Developing motivation
- Stimulating interest and curiosity
- Starting research
- Enhancing development
- Memorizing words and expression in the use of independent learning (Sanaoui, R., 1995)

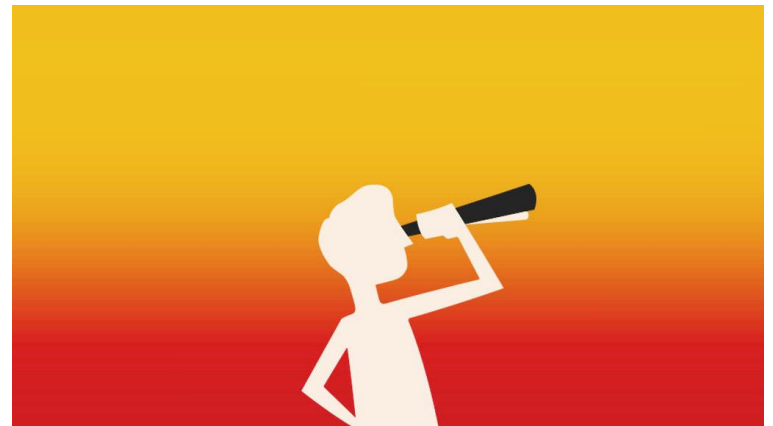
*“Engagement with the real, through work based learning can help students to nurture their own creativity” (Mulligan, 2010)*

# The students' voice

- As a student at beginner and intermediate level I was given copies of “Andiamo” to read; the articles had largely been written by the tutors. Now that I am at higher level I enjoy taking part in this project (A.L., C2)
- As the class was asked to work in groups to produce articles that would be of interest to students of these levels, I felt a progress in our learning; although obviously the grammar and vocabulary would be checked it was very pleasing to think that we could write at a sufficiently high level for our work to be published in this magazine (L. Tompkins, C1)

# *Looking ahead...*

- *More variety of learning contents and more pages*
- *More suggestions (help from constant feedback)*
- *Improving the graphic*
- *E-magazine*



Grazie!

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