



Our Erasmus+ poetry workshop

For the third and final year of our Erasmus+ Project we were asked to start a workshop in which our initial goal was to search on the Internet and then analyse the content of different poems written by online authors. During our first meeting we read about 10 of them and discussed about their general meaning. We soon remarked that they had lots of terms or lines in common being the poems about the topic of Education. Key words like *life, future, freedom, dreams, success, motivation, respect and culture* were among the most used ones. Then our teachers Antonio de Michele and Rachele Totaro gave us two quotations regarding Education which are the following: “*Education is not the feeling of a pail but the lighting of fire*” by the Irish poet W. B. Yeats and “*Education is the key to unlock the doors of freedom*” by the American president G. Washington. After a short debate, we were asked to write our own definitions and here are just two of the main ones we were able to make up at that moment: “*Education is the personal diary each person should read out*” and “*Education is an underrated gift that everyone should have*”. The meeting that day ended up with a sort of homework we were asked to do at home before our next meeting. The assignment was to write a group poem after Mr de Michele started the beginning of it with these lines - *Education / a stairway to the library of life / where books are paper teachers / and pages are dear friends* - It was then our turn to write the follow up of the poem by adding some verses “under inspiration”. The experiment was so interesting that when our Belgian partners asked us to bring our own poem to be recited during a great dance lesson in Leuven for our LTTA mobility last October 2019, the poem was there ready to be considered completed. And this was its final version: - *Education / a stairway to the library of life / where books are paper teachers / and pages are dear friends / It's the perfect combination for the locker of our dreams / and may become the art of being free / Education / a personal path that gives strength to overcome the obstacles of experience / It is not just a road you are passing by but the high street / that leads to a shining future* - The next step now until our upcoming mobility to Carrick-on-Shannon in Ireland and afterwards is to write several poems on the theme of Education, which we will collect and print in a booklet we intend to publish by June 2020 as our final product.

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