

# POPULLAR

# **STUDENT GUIDE**

# PART 1.

# **A STEP BY STEP GUIDE**

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# **INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDENT GUIDE**

The Student guide is designed to give you clear instructions to use the project. Teachers have a separate guide.

The student guide is broken in to 2 main sections:

- 1. A step by step guide (included below)
- 2. Supporting materials and resources (including additional activities) you will find this in the separate document supplied with this guide.

The project consists of a series of consecutive steps. Each is described in detail below with clear instructions on how you can complete this project. You can also see some videos that show how to complete the project.

#### **RESULT OF THE PROJECT**

By the end of this project you will have written, played and recorded a song in two languages (both native and target). You will also create videos and put them up on the web for other students in Europe to share. You will have a real result to show students across Europe, just how good you are.

But then you get to use the songs other students across Europe have made, to make another song to play, record and upload. You will be part of the PopuLLar European collaboration.

### **POPULLAR VIDEO GUIDES**

## http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edTmiB9i7JY&list=PL7gHPYidiss2EdyC4spfaBuwMLeVm9gwx&in dex=1

The PopuLLar partners want to share the video experience of the project and have made their own video guides that complement the text based Teacher / Student guides as an informal introduction to the different steps of the project. Each video introduces the different steps of the project.









# **1 STEPS INTO POPULLAR**

The PopuLLar project consists of a number of steps that will be completed by you. The project is planned that you work **autonomously, you the students, OWN the PopuLLar project, it is your project.** The teachers' job is to advise and help you, if and when you need some help. But do not hold back from asking the teacher for help, if you are stuck or don't understand something.

In addition to these steps there are a number of supportive and additional activities that you can complete if you wish. These include:

- Warm-up games
- Creating a choir

In this guide, **lyrics** mean the words to a song.

The steps you will follow are:

#### Phase 1 – Creating and recording a song

- Step 1 Select a song
- Step 2 Rewrite the lyrics in your native language
- Step 3 Translate the lyrics into the target language
- Step 4 Record singing audio & video (in the two languages)
- Step 5 Upload and share

#### Phase 2 – Sharing across Europe

- Step 1 Select songs created by other students
- Step 2 Translate into your native language
- Step 3 Record singing audio & video
- Step 4 Upload and share





## **1.1 POPULLAR BY STEPS**

#### Preparation

Before starting the project you will need to read through this guide. It will show you what you will need to do. You should also take a look at the 'Supporting materials' in Part 2 document as they will be very helpful. You will also need to complete a students' pre-project questionnaire and a postproject questionnaire before and after your participation available:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHRhWjVCa0E0ZTRQVndsd0twSFZJWmc6 MQ.

This is an important part of the project as it allows us to learn from you and how you use the project. At the end of the project you will also need to complete a post-project questionnaire.

#### **Student Groups**

Your class can decide to break into groups, the minimum number of members in a group should be 5 and the maximum could be the whole class. This is a team work, cooperation and collaboration are crucial for the success of this activity. The project requires many skills and you decide among yourselves who takes responsibility for each task, but every member of your team should contribute to every step of the project.

The individual task list includes:

- Writing a song
- Translating your song
- Playing musical instruments (any instrument will do, even if the original song did not use the particular instrument, try to be creative)
- Singing as many singers as you like one, two, several or everyone
- Recording and editing video
- Recording and editing audio

#### **Teacher involvement:**

Your teacher can help if you cannot reach the final decision.





## **1.2 PHASE 1 – CREATING AND RECORDING A SONG**

#### **STEP 1 – SELECT A SONG**

You should select a song. This can be anything you like; it could be pop, metal, dance, folk, classic, jazz etc. You will probably know the lyrics of the song that you will choose. You should completely ignore them, because you're going to write your own lyrics and will be using just the melody (music) of the song.

Instead you can:

- Write a complete song yourselves (music and the lyrics).
- Find songs on YouTube (http://www.youtube.com), or sites were copyright free music can be found like Soundcloud (http://soundcloud.com/) or The Free Music Archive (http://freemusicarchive.org/).



 Use one of the pieces of music supplied by the project members.

If you cannot agree on a single song you can either split the group (remember a minimum of five is needed in a single group), or everyone should write their suggestions down on paper, and then put them to a vote, maybe with more than one round of voting (only the top 2 songs go through to the final round). Agreement must be reached.





For sure, everyone has a favourite song, but this part is about reaching a compromise and working together.

#### **Teacher involvement:**

Teachers can help only if you cannot reach agreement on a single song, just ask for help.



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#### **STEP 2 – REWRITE THE LYRICS IN YOUR NATIVE LANGUAGE**



This is the creative stage of the project and should be undertaken in steps. It is quite a difficult challenge, but we have seen many groups of students, just like you, do this very well indeed. If you do get stuck, try the Warm-up games, (Supporting materials document) they will make it easier to be creative. In this section there are a couple of commonsense rules you must be aware of, see the end of this section. You will find additional ideas and techniques in Steps to Help Students Succeed in Writing Lyrics below.

Here are some ideas which will help you in the process:

- Firstly try to find a Karaoke version of the song you have chosen (on YouTube) so that you can focus on the instrumental music only. If you cannot find a Karaoke version, then you could record your own, simple music either by playing the song or humming the melody (see Audio recording - Supporting materials document).
- The music is played (without written or sung lyrics) and you write down what the music inspires you, it could be a word, a sentence, an imaginary landscape, an image, a feeling.... You can then read out what you have written to your teams. It is best if you listen in silence with your eyes closed.
- You use what you have written down to start the subject or theme of your song. You can
  do this individually or in pairs or with the whole group. You will present your ideas to
  the entire group and they must agree on the subject or theme.
- It is best to start with a single line that sets the theme and then build on the first line.
   The words should be constantly matched to the music to see if they fit, in a trial and error system.

You do not have to write the whole song if you do not wish but just some verses. These can be repeated - as well, just like in real songs. Again this is your decision. You will need to write down your lyrics (transcript) as this will be uploaded on the Internet together with your video.



Common sense rules:

- You should be aware that you cannot write lyrics that contain swearing or are about sex, drugs, drinking, violence, racist, sexist or non-tolerant etc. you cannot use them.
- Street slang CAN be used as this is real language use. But you may find that when they reach Step 3, translating your lyrics into the target language, slang will be difficult to translate.
- In every case the final song must be shown to the teacher before Step 3 of the project for verification and suitability.

#### **Teacher involvement:**

If you get stuck and cannot manage the writing alone, the teacher can suggest ideas to help you.





#### STEP 3 – TRANSLATE THE LYRICS INTO THE TARGET LANGUAGE

Translating the lyrics to the melody is quite a difficult part but you can revise your initial lyrics, if you wish to make it easier.

You do not have to make an exact translation, but you should adapt your song in the target language to the framework of the song. Accuracy is not necessary; success is in making a song in your target language that works.

Also, just like in real songs, perfect grammar is not critical but you should try your best so that you can be proud of your song.

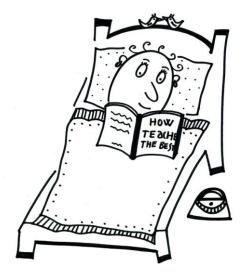
There are 2 guides below to help you, if you need:

- Lost In Translation: Tricks And Suggestions (Supporting materials document)
- Useful Translation Tools to Help Students in the Process (Supporting materials document)

You will need to write down your lyrics (transcript) as this will be uploaded on the Internet with your video.

#### **Teacher involvement:**

In every case the final translation must be shown to the teacher before Step 4 of the project for verification and suitability. The teacher can also help you with the translation if you need help.





#### STEP 4 – RECORD SINGING (BOTH) AUDIO & VIDEO

Now you will need to record the 2 versions of your song, in your native language and your target language. We want to be really impressed with your ideas.

There are, 'Step by step' guides on:

- How to Make an Audio Recording (Supporting materials document)
- How to Make Your Own Class
   Video (Supporting materials document)



You can also decide to sing as a choir and a guide is included in the supporting materials document. This is an optional activity. The recording and upload of your songs and lyrics are a crucial part of the project and where you can show the European PopuLLar community your creative talents and start collaborating across Europe. This part cannot be skipped.

You should work through a process:

- Rehearsing the music with the lyrics you will need to decide who sings, who plays and build an arrangement
- Rehearsing the audio and/or video recording this will need to be done during the song rehearsals so camera angles and timings can be decided on. The audio could be recorded at the same time as the video or completed separately and the audio track added later (all these aspects are examined in detail in the Supporting materials document).
- Final recordings
- Editing and finalization (you can add captions etc.)

#### **Teacher involvement:**

You can ask your teacher to provide rehearsal space, recording equipment, musical instruments. Alternatively you may want to do this autonomously, as well. You should also be helped to record wherever you wish (subject to the normal restrictions on health and safety) outside of the school. ensure appropriateness.



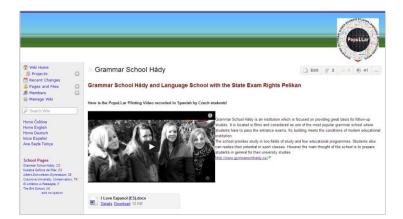
#### **STEP 5 – UPLOAD AND SHARE**

- 1. Uploading to YouTube
- 2. Embedding a video or audio on the PopuLLar wiki

There will be a page for your school on the Wiki were you can share your videos and transcripts. Here are 'How to videos' showing you the process of uploading on YouTube:

- Uploading on YouTube http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jwv6j0v6iQ8
- Embedding a video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgeE65X22ww
- Embedding an audio http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7oU2ZdOtZ0

There is also a guide below in chapter 5 to help you and the teacher.



http://popullar.wikispaces.com/

#### **Teacher involvement:**

Teachers will need to login and be involved in this part of the project as they will have the passwords to upload your video and lyrics to the PopuLLar YouTube channel and Wiki so that the videos can be uploaded and embedded.



## **1.3 PHASE 2 – SHARE ACROSS EUROPE**

This phase of the project is just as important as Phase 1 as it allows you to share and collaborate across Europe with your peers. In this Phase you will choose a video made by students from another school, involved in the project.



The following rules about the video you choose must be respected:

- 1. The school that made the video, must be in a country other than your own
- 2. The native language of the school cannot be the same as your native language, even if they are in another country. For example, a school in Germany, cannot use a video from a school in Austria

You can also view and write comments on other school's videos, there is a space on each schools page on the Wiki. But don't forget to be respectful and kind about their work, so please, avoid inappropriate comments.

#### **STEP 1 – SELECT SONGS MADE BY OTHER STUDENTS**

You should go to the PopuLLar wiki available at http://popullar.wikispaces.com and view other schools videos. You can write comments. Everyone in your group should make their individual choice of which video they would like to use. Everyone should then bring their choices to the whole team, where together you decide which song you want to use.

**Teacher involvement:** Teachers can help you decide, if you need.



#### **STEP 2 – TRANSLATE INTO YOUR NATIVE LANGUAGE**

This is a very similar process to Step 3 in Phase 1 of the project. You will need to translate into your native language the lyrics of the song that you chose from the work of the other students. This direct translation will be easier as your proficiency level in your native language is high. You should try to stick as closely as possible to the original text. The translation guides and resources can be used if you need.

#### **Teacher involvement:**

Teachers needs to see your lyrics before you progress to stage 3.

#### **STEP 3 – RECORD SINGING AUDIO & VIDEO**

You use the same steps as in Step 4 in Phase 1 and the same teacher involvement.

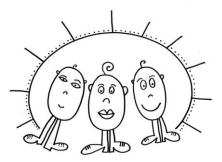
#### **STEP 4 – UPLOAD AND SHARE**

You use the same steps as in Step 4 in Phase 1 and the same teacher involvement; you will upload the song on your schools wiki page. You should also attribute (include the name and place of the originating school that made the song that you will be using).

An additional step will be to inform the originating school (from which the song was copied), that your school has made a version of their song and ask them to view and comment. They will be very pleased to see that you used their song. You may want to take your cooperation with the school further and extend communications. This could be arranged by the teachers in both schools to set up a joint Wiki were both schools can write and comment. Just ask your teacher.

Now you will need to complete a post-project questionnaire to see how much you have enjoyed this project:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dEhldEJta18yWjNtZGRLdlloRW14Vnc6MQ





## **1.4 CONCLUSION**

The PopuLLar team hope you have enjoyed the project as much as we did in designing it. You can carry on and create more songs, share with other schools, try their videos - as often as you like.

Best of all, you have had an opportunity to use foreign languages and creative writing in a way that you may never have used before. In a way that is really fun and has resulted in something that you can be really proud of. You can show your work to other friends, family in fact, everywhere across Europe.

You can even tell friends in other schools about the project and see if they can get their teachers to help them do the project. They will need to read this student guide though.

Part 2 of this guide, 'Supporting materials' contains all the additional guides and materials you can use to help you complete the project.



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