



Newsletter Spotlight

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

17 years after the publication of the CEFR the Council of Europe have launched a [Companion Volume](#) designed to complement the original CEFR; the two documents should now be read together.

Revisions include a number of alterations to the wording of descriptors, a stronger emphasis on mediation, plurilingualism and the plus levels, together with the creation of a new scale of descriptors described as pre-A1, and a set of collated representative samples of descriptors of language competences developed for young learners has been prepared.

Find out more from Janet Enever's [CEFR page on RiPL](#) which will keep us informed of progress and updates.

You're never too old to become fluent in another language
Article by
Monika Schmid
in [The Conversation](#)

Why teachers shouldn't be afraid of other languages being spoken in the classroom
Article by
Clare Cunningham
in [The Conversation](#)

3rd July 2018 at 4.15pm
[Free event on primary languages, resources and CPD at Essex Uni.](#)



[IRIS](#) is a repository of data collection materials. It holds over 3,900 materials (including data) and has had over 24,800 downloads from students, teachers and researchers since it began. IRIS aims to improve the openness and replicability of research and the data collection instruments can be used or adapted to undertake research within different contexts, including classrooms.

These include teaching tasks, questionnaires, interview protocols, observation schedules, software scripts for studies etc. For instance, you can search for materials for young learners and find [picture description tasks](#), [reading tests](#), and [vocabulary tests](#) as well as many [more materials](#). All of the materials hosted on IRIS are tried and tested, having been used to collect data for peer-reviewed publications. Something you want to upload? [FAQs](#) [Facebook](#).

Spotlight on [RiPL](#) research summaries: [the role of age](#)

- ♥ [A long-term study of early foreign language learning in school](#)
Jaekel, N., Schurig, M., Florian, M. and Ritter, M. (2017)
- ♥ [Learning French from ages 5, 7 & 11](#) Myles, F, & Mitchell, R (2012)
- ♥ [How internal and external factors influence the development of children's second language](#)
Hopp, H. (2011)

[Essex Language Conference for Teachers](#) (ELCT)

A day of engaging lectures, workshops and networking designed to leave you inspired about language teaching! The overall theme of this 9th conference is *Building Confidence in Language Teachers and Learners*. Whether you teach languages in a primary school, secondary school or college, whether you're a subject leader or just starting out as a newly qualified teacher, the ELCT offers the chance to hear the latest updates from our Languages and Linguistics academics. Come and meet and work alongside teaching professionals from across the region in a relaxed and informal setting, and end the day feeling even more excited to get back into the classroom! Free event, with refreshments and buffet lunch. [More information](#)

A vibrant network of researchers and teacher practitioners engaging through RiPL

