

The period covered in this report is July 2006 to June 2007.

Language training and related programmes in Slovenia:

A . Language courses provided for the Officer Candidate School

1. Military English / Basic Military English

Trainees: 2 generations of officer candidates (January-March 07 and April – June 07)

In both generations, students were divided into 2 groups at 2 different levels: SLP 2+/3, SLP 1+/2. This 60- hour non-intensive language training programme focused on developing language skills through military oriented topics and tasks.

Students were provided training in the English language skills essential to successful professional performance in an international military environment. Students were exposed to authentic texts on general military topics to improve their military vocabulary and develop reading and listening skills. They also practised writing a patrol report and giving a military Briefing. The course was based on in-house materials, Military English of Defence School of Languages (DSL) materials and British Defence Film Library materials.

60 participants

B. Specialised and General Language Courses

1. Basic English Course A

The aim of this 300- hour non-intensive general English language course is to provide training in elementary L, S, and R skills. This course is based on Language in Use (*beginner and pre-intermediate*) course books. The course is taught by externally-contracted language teachers at three different locations in Slovenia. At the end students take SVN STANAG 6001 (SLP 1110) exam.

40 participants

2. Basic English Course B

The aim of this 200- hour non-intensive general English course is to provide training in elementary L, S and R skills for false- beginners. The course is a compressed form of the above described STANAG course SLP 1110 A with less emphasis on beginner functions and vocabulary.

20 participants

3. Basic Refresher English Course

2 courses

The aim of this 120-hour non-intensive course is to provide a link between the Basic English Course and the Intermediate English Course for those candidates

who have a gap in their language training and need to refresh their knowledge in order to be successful in an Intermediate English Course.

The course is based on Language in Use Pre-intermediate course book and supplementary material to enhance students' L, S and R skills.

24 participants

4. English Writing Level 2

The aim of the course is to develop level 2 writing skills. Students will be able to write straightforward connected texts on a range of familiar subjects. Students will be able to describe persons and processes and write accounts of events and experiences expressing their feelings and opinions. Students will achieve the above mentioned objectives by writing memos, reports and letters.

9 participants

5. English STANAG 6001 PREP Course

2 courses

A non-intensive 30-hour course aimed at students who wish to take a SVN STANAG 6001 exam at level 3. The aim of the course is to familiarize students who already are reasonably proficient in English with exam tasks and testing strategies as well as to provide them with an opportunity for practice.

16 participants

6. German STANAG course SLP 1110

A 300-hour non-intensive German course based on the course book Berliner Platz 1 & 2 and supplementary materials that include STANAG 6001 Level 1 requirements, except for writing skills.

10 participants

7. French language programme

Four 300-hour non-intensive French courses :

a) two beginner courses, based on CHAMPION I, Grammaire Progressive du Français (niveau débutant) and teacher designed supplementary materials

b) an intermediate course based on CHAMPION I and II, Grammaire Progressive du Français (niveau intermédiaire) and teacher designed supplementary materials

c) an advanced course for students who already have a good knowledge of French, based on CHAMPION II, Grammaire Progressive du Français (niveau intermédiaire) and authentic materials (press and media). At the end of the course students take a final exam (5-paragraph essay and different tests in Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking skills).

28 participants

C. Language Courses in SVN PfP Language Training Centre

1. Intensive Advanced English Language Proficiency Course

2 courses

Intensive 480-hour English training. The purpose of this course is to provide advanced intensive language training in accordance with SLP 3332. Topics covered included: General and military vocabulary, Grammar review, Listening,

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Reading, Speaking, and Writing skills practice, Professional skills (telephoning, conducting and participating in meetings, working with the media, delivering military briefings; and learner training); and independent learning in SAC and Textbook. At the end of the courses, STANAG exams were administered and students were assigned STANAG scores in all four skills.

35 participants

2. Non Intensive Advanced English Language Proficiency Course

Non - Intensive 480-hour English training (one or two weeks of intensive training per month, 12 weeks). The purpose of this course is to provide advanced language training in accordance with SLP 3332. Topics covered included: General and military vocabulary, Grammar review, Listening, Reading, Speaking, and Writing skills practice, Professional skills (telephoning, conducting and participating in meetings, working with the media, delivering military briefings; and learner training); and independent learning in SAC and Textbook. At the end of the courses, STANAG exams were administered and students were assigned STANAG scores in all four skills.

7 participants

3. Intermediate English Language Course

4 groups

300-hour combined English training (one week of intensive training per month, 10 months); based on Inside Out Pre-intermediate and Campaign 2 materials and supplementary materials that include STANAG 6001 Level 2 requirements, except for writing skills (Stanag 1)

47 participants

4. English for Peace Support Operations (PSO)

90-hour intensive English training was conducted to provide commissioned and non-commissioned officers assigned to PSOs training with the English language skills required in the carrying out of their tasks. Topics included basic PSO principles, PSO SOPs and officer duties, PSO security intelligence and checkpoints, etc. The course was based on in-house designed materials.

9 participants

5. General Teacher Training

68-hour intensive teacher training course for beginner English teachers with no more than two years' experience in the classroom.

Aim: To provide an introduction to the practical elements of effective EFL instruction for professional adults, both military and civilian.

Topics: Classroom management, Learning & teaching styles, Lesson planning & classroom interaction, Teaching the macro skills, Teaching vocabulary and grammar.

Tasks: peer teaching, giving and receiving feedback.

12 participants

6. Test Familiarisation Course

68-hour intensive teacher training course for candidates who are responsible for test design and implementation in their own educational institutions.

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Aim: To provide participants with hands-on experience in designing assessment procedures and tasks that are appropriate to their context.

Topics: Language testing overview, Interpretation and application of international language testing standards, Designing appropriate tests of reading, listening, speaking and writing, Designing and revising test tasks and items,

Elementary item analysis, Test administration process.

Tasks: 2 projects Reading-Listening, Speaking-Writing.

13 participants

D. STANAG 6001 Testing Project

The Testing Team continued working on the STANAG 6001 Testing Project.

Three testing cycles were conducted (two scheduled in December 06 and June 07 and one special case administered in September 06);

- New versions of reading and listening tests were designed and piloted to be administered in June 07;
- Listening tests were recorded in the army's recording studio;
- New Level 2 and Level 3 Speaking tasks were designed and piloted to be used in December 06 and June 07;
- New Level 2 and Level 3 writing tasks were designed and piloted to be used in June 07;
- New testing documentation was prepared (Comparison of CEF and STANAG descriptors for Writing, a draft of Writing test specifications);
- Internal tester training workshops were organised (for new and experienced raters: standardisation workshops for marking writing tests, for writing reading items and listening items);
- SPSS package was used for statistical analysis of piloted items and test results.

The Project involved the participation of Slovenian language and testing experts and one Canadian expert.

268 test takers

E. Number of course participants: 328

Number of SLP STANAG 6001 test takers: 268

F. Contact info

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