My Language Portfolio

Virginia Evans - Jenny Dooley

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A Letter for you

Dear student,

This Language Portfolio is your property. It has been designed to help you improve your language learning. It will accompany you throughout your school life and will help you document your learning both inside and outside the classroom.

The Language Portfolio contains material which you can use and then keep as a record of your learning. In this portfolio you can also include any extra material given by your teacher, throughout the course. However, the final decision of what to include in the Language Portfolio is completely up to you.

In practice, Language Portfolios may include a project or other examples of written work, computer diskettes (with some work or drawings completed inside or outside the class), video cassettes/DVDs (of your favourite story or of performances of songs, school plays, etc), certificates, reports from your teachers, or even a collection of objects or pictures.

Here is a short explanation of each section in your Language Portfolio:

I  Language Passport
This is an updated report of your progress in English language learning. In this section you will include any evidence of your formal qualifications (certificates, diplomas, tests, progress report cards, self-assessment cards, etc).

II  Language Biography
This is an updated record of your personal language learning history which helps you evaluate your learning aims, and reflect on your language learning and inter-cultural experiences.

III  Dossier
This is a collection of the work which you have chosen to illustrate your language skills, experiences and achievements in the English language. In this section of your Language Portfolio there is some material you can use. You can also file any work you do inside or outside the classroom that you would like to keep as evidence of your progress.

We hope you really enjoy doing these activities.

Virginia Evans - Jenny Dooley
How to organise your Language Portfolio

In your Language Portfolio you can include almost anything you have produced or collected that shows your progress in English. We suggest you keep your work in plastic envelopes so that it remains in good condition.

In practice, your Language Portfolio can be any shape or size according to the material you choose to store.

Your Language Portfolio can include any of the following:
I. Language passport

Here you can record all your achievements in the English language. You can include certificates, diplomas, progress report cards, self-assessment forms, tests, etc. In general, you can include anything that is proof of your competence in English.

Every time you add something new, record it on your Language Passport Chart.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type of Material</th>
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</table>
II. Language Biography

All About Me!

Name: ____________________________  Date of birth: ____________

Age: ____________________________  Place of birth: ____________

I am in my ______ year of English.

My English Teacher’s name: ________________________________

Read and put a tick (✓) or a cross (✗).

Some members of my family speak English.  □

Some members of my family are from an English-speaking country.  □

I often read English books, magazines, etc.  □

I often watch English TV programmes.  □

I often listen to English songs.  □

I have extra English lessons.  □

There is someone at home who speaks English to me.  □

I have contact with people from English-speaking countries.  □

I have visited/lived in the following English-speaking countries:

Country (ies): ........................................................................................................

........................................................................................................

........................................................................................................

........................................................................................................

........................................................................................................

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II. Language Biography

How I Learn!

Think about the easiest ways for you to learn something new. Read the sentences below and choose. You can choose more than one.

1 I understand words/sentences better if I
   A listen to them on cassette/CD.  
   B listen to my teacher saying them.  
   C see them written.  
   D see, listen and do something with them.  
   E other

2 I learn words/phrases better if I
   A listen to them on cassette/CD.  
   B listen to my classmates saying them.  
   C read them.  
   D write them.  
   E repeat them.  
   F act them out, sing them, etc.  
   G they are part of a video/DVD, etc.  
   H other

3 I can express myself best if I
   A already know all the words I need to use.  
   B know some of the words I need to use.  
   C use mime, objects and pictures to help me.  
   D have some life experience on the subject.  
   E other

4 I learn best if I work
   A on my own.  
   B in pairs.  
   C in a group/team.  
   D other
II. Language Biography

5 I am more eager to learn if
   A I know why I’m doing an activity. □
   B I know an activity will help me. □
   C I am rewarded. □
   D an activity will help me to find out more about the things I like. □
   E other □

6 I understand grammar rules better if
   A they are explained to me in my mother tongue. □
   B I compare them with my mother tongue. □
   C I find them through exploring a text. □
   D other □
II. Language Biography

My World of English!

Make a note of what you do in English.

The stories/poems I know in English

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

The songs I can sing in English

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

The videos/DVDs/cartoons I’ve watched in English

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................

.................................................. ..................................................
II. Language Biography

Now I Can ...!

Here is what you will be able to do in English at this level. Every now and then, for instance once a month, you will need to check your progress. For this reason you should use a pencil so that you can change and/or add things as you go along. You can use the following code:

| Very Well:  ✓✓✓ | OK:  ✓✓ | Not Very Well: ✓ |

---

Listening

I can ...

- understand and follow orders and instructions. ............
- connect what I hear to a picture, object, etc. ............
- understand a simple dialogue about a topic I know. ............
- understand songs and chants and accompany them with mime and gestures. ............
- understand simple descriptions of people, places or activities. ............
- understand simple questions about me and my experiences. ............
- understand simple illustrated stories, fairy tales, etc. ............
- understand other people when they speak slowly and clearly. ............
- understand a simple video about a topic I know. ............

---

Reading

I can ...

- connect words to pictures. ............
- choose words from a list to complete dialogues, texts, etc. ............
- understand simple illustrated stories, fairy tales, etc. ............
II. Language Biography

- understand and follow simple instructions.
- understand simple texts about other cultures.
- understand simple words and sentences to play a game.
- find information from a simple text about a topic I know.
- understand simple sentences, short paragraphs, etc.
- understand simple written messages, notices, posters, etc.

Speaking

I can …

- give simple information.
  (e.g. the time, the position of an object etc).
- give simple information about myself
  (e.g. name, age, nationality, job, etc).
- give simple descriptions
  (e.g. directions, daily routine, free-time activities etc).
- talk about what I can see in a picture.
- sing a song or a chant.
- ask and answer simple questions in English.
- take part in a conversation about a topic I know.
- buy things.
- express my tastes and preferences.
- socialise
- introduce myself/others

Writing

I can …

- copy words, sentences without making mistakes.
- write basic words, sentences said by my teacher or classmates.
- organise information into sentences or simple paragraphs.
- write short, simple sentences and paragraphs about topics I know.
II. Language Biography

Future Plans!

What would you like to do in the future to improve your English? How can you learn more about other people and other countries? Choose and write. You can also use your own ideas.

I WOULD LIKE TO ...

- read English stories, magazines, etc
- watch English films, TV programmes, etc
- listen to English songs
- talk to English people

- use the Internet
- write to people from other countries
- visit other countries
- find information about other countries and cultures

Date

Date

Date

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III. Dossier

In your Language Portfolio, you can include anything of your choosing to keep and show as evidence of your progress in the English language. Here are some activities you can do that can be included in your Language Portfolio, if you wish. Every time you do one of these activities, tick (✓) the relevant box.

| Page | Title of the activity                                         | It can be done at the end of Module ...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>MY WEEKLY TIMETABLE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>COUNTRIES</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>A PERFECT LIVING ROOM</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>MY FAMILY TREE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>ANIMALS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>CLOTHES AND THE WEATHER</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>FAMOUS PEOPLE IN YOUR COUNTRY</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>MY FAVOURITE PIZZA</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>MY NEIGHBOURHOOD</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>MY COUNTRY!</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
My Dossier

Name: ............................................

School: ............................................

Class: ............................................

Stick a photo of yourself here
My Weekly Timetable

Name: .........................  Date: ..........................  Class: ..........................

✓ Write your weekly timetable.

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SCIENCE

HISTORY

MATHS

MUSIC

ENGLISH

ART

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

GEOGRAPHY

SPANISH

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)

How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓)  □ □ □ □
Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Class:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

✓ Do you know what the capital city of the UK is?
What is the capital city of your country?

✓ Find information about a country you would like to visit in an encyclopaedia or on the Internet.
Fill in the fact file as shown in the example and draw its flag.

**Country: United Kingdom**  
Capital: London  
Language: English  
Famous Sites: Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and London Bridge  
Souvenirs: mugs, hats, scarves, toy buses, pins

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country:</th>
<th>Capital:</th>
<th>Language:</th>
<th>Famous Sites:</th>
<th>Souvenirs:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and London Bridge</td>
<td>mugs, hats, scarves, toy buses, pins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓) [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]
A perfect living room

Draw the perfect living room for your family. What is there in it? Write about:

- the colour of the walls
- the furniture
- things that are in it (sofa, TV, armchairs etc.)

In my perfect living room, there is a large sofa. There

How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓) ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
Draw your family tree. You can stick pictures of your family members or draw them. Under each picture write the name of the person and his/her age.

Present your family to the class.

How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓) □ □ □ □
Animals

Name: ............................  Date: ............................  Class: .............................

✓ What animals live in your country?
Think of as many animals as you can and write them in the spaces below.

............................................................................................................................
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✓ Find a picture of an animal you like and stick it here:

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✓ Write about where it lives and what it eats.

............................................................................................................................
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How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓)  □ □ □ □
Clothes and the weather

Name: ..................................  Date: ..........................  Class: ..........................

✓ Draw or stick pictures of people wearing clothes suitable for the following weather conditions. Then write what they are wearing.

When it's sunny, people usually wear ............
........................................................................
........................................................................
........................................................................

When it's raining, people usually wear ..........
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........................................................................

When it's cold, people usually wear ............
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........................................................................

When it's snowing, people usually wear ........
........................................................................
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........................................................................

How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓)  □ □ □ □

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Famous people in your country

Think of a famous person in your country. Find information about him/her and write a short biography. Stick a picture with him/her in the space below.

Name: ..........................................................  Job: ..........................................................
Date of birth: ..................................................  Place: ..................................................

..................................................... is a famous .....................................................
born ......................... in ......................... . When he/she was young, ..........................................
.................................................................
.........................................................  Later, ..............................................................
.................................................................
.........................................................  Now, ..............................................................
My favourite pizza

✓ Lots of children serve pizza at their birthday party. How do you like your pizza? Stick a picture or draw your favourite pizza.

Ingredients

- pizza base
- cheese
- peppers
- tomato sauce

How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓) □ □ □ □
My Neighbourhood

Name: ..........................  Date: ..........................  Class: ..........................

✓ Draw a map of your neighbourhood. Label the shops and some of the houses you know. Then, write a short paragraph about it.

This is my neighbourhood. There are ............................................................................
The .................... is next to ...................................................................................
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How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓)  □ □ □ □
My country!

Find pictures and make a leaflet presenting some of your favourite places in your country. Write what visitors can do there.

1 This is a picture of ................................................
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2 This is a picture of ................................................
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3 This is a picture of ................................................
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How much did you like the activity?

Tick (✓) ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
IV. Extra Activities

In this section you can include anything you do inside and outside the classroom which shows your work with the English language. You can also write some comments (why you like it, if you found it difficult/easy, etc) on the activity pages. It will be useful if you write the date you did this activity. Remember: the choice of activities is yours. Every time you include something new, record it in the table on the next page.
# My selection!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type of Material</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Individual Work</th>
<th>Group Work</th>
<th>With Corrections (from the teacher)</th>
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✓ You can use this page to write the titles of the activities you choose to file in your Language Portfolio.