

The West Germanic language



Category	Choices
Title	The West Germanic language - Het West-Germaans - It West-Germaansk
Objective	With this activity, pupils compare Frisian with other West Germanic languages (English, Dutch, German).
Target group	First grades of secondary school
Subject	English, Frisian, Dutch, German
Duration	25-50 minutes
Link to curriculum	Knowledge about multilingualism in general
Languages	Frisian, Dutch, English, German
Link to FREPA	Knowledge about languages in Fryslân, Europe and the world
Skills	Reading, writing
Theoretical support	Translanguaging, language awareness
Activity description	<p>Step 1: Introduction to subject (10 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of the subject: “The Frisian language is the instrument with which Frisia breathes. It is the most important and most distinguishing heirloom of it’s own culture and identity.” - Ed Hoornik • Name the objective of the lesson: I will learn about the West Germanic languages and I will be able to compare the Frisian language with other West Germanic languages. Are there students who already know some of these West Germanic languages? • Show the video (in Frisian) Ask the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can you name the four West Germanic languages? (English, Dutch, Frisian, German). - Can you give an example of a dialect from the Frisian language-area? (Wâldfrysk, Klaiifrysk, Eilannerfrysk, Bildtsk en Stellingwerfsk). - Why do schools pay so much attention to the Frisian language? (Because the Frisian language is the second official language of the Netherlands and this attention keeps the language alive.) - Why would the Frisian language sound differently a 100 years from now? (Because a language always changes because of words from other languages, for example Dutch of English.) <p>Step 2: Practice (5-15 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write different words on coloured post-its in the four West Germanic languages. Use a different colour for each language. Give one post-it to each student with a word written on it. Let them walk around and find another student with the same word, but in a different language. For example: History (en) - Geschiedenis (du) - Skiednis (fr) - Geschichte (ge) • Have all the groups been formed? Discuss with the entire class if all the combinations are correct. Next, let the students talk in their small groups (4 students) about the differences and similarities between the four languages/words. Stick the post-its on a wall or board in the shape of a table to compare all the languages as a whole.

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Activity description	<p>Stap 3: Applying (10-20)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let the students search for different translations of words from, for example the historybook. You could also let them think of words themselves that fit with the subject or a different subject from the book.• Assignment: Translate the word in the four West Germanic languages (English, Dutch, Frisian, German). Use an online translator or dictionary if needed. Check your spelling! Tips for good translate-websites and spellingcheckers:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- taalweb.frl/oersetter (Dutch>Frisian of Frisian>Dutch)- taalweb.frl/staveringshifker (Frisian)- www.mijnwoordenboek.nl (Dutch, English, German) (be aware! The abbreviation 'FR' stands for 'French' not 'Frisian').- https://www.spelling.nu/ (Dutch, English, German)• Write the words on new post-its. Pay attention to the colour of the post-its. Make sure it is the same colour per language like in step 2.• Discuss the words with the entire class. Stick the correct combinations on the wall of board with the words from step 2. What differences can you name between the four languages? Which language looks the most like the Frisian language? <p>Step 4: Evaluate (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Repeat the objective of the lesson: I will learn about the West Germanic languages and I will be able to compare the Frisian language with other West Germanic languages. Did you accomplish this goal? Why did you/did you not?
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- taalweb.frl/oersetter (Dutch>Frisian of Frisian>Dutch)- taalweb.frl/staveringshifker (Frisian)- www.mijnwoordenboek.nl (Dutch, English, German) (be aware! The abbreviation 'FR' stands for 'French' not 'Frisian').- https://www.spelling.nu/ (Dutch, English, German)• Post-its in four colours