

Time to unmute: Posting a voice message on *Youth Voices*

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Teacher Sheet

Task

Your students will be given the following task.

You are going to post a 60 second (max) voice message on the Youth Voices platform. To do so, you will prepare your contribution and record your message using the platform voice recorder.

Website

<https://voices.youth.europa.eu/> is a voice recording platform of the European Commission available for the European Year of Youth 2022. It is aimed at young people. Several categories are available: European Values, Arts and Culture, Digital Technology, Education and Learning Mobility, Employment, Green (climate actions and policies), Health, Wellbeing and Sport, Inclusion, Youth and the World.

Website available in the languages spoken in Europe and beyond (29 languages)

CEFR level - For A2 level and above

Objectives

Digital citizenship and literacy

	Dimensions covered in task	(Potential) specific objectives
Digital citizenship	Ethical and responsible	Realising the importance of positive online engagement. Knowing what information is appropriate to share online.

		Being aware of the choice of topic you select and what you contribute to that topic.
	Safe	Being aware that you should not share confidential information about yourself or people around you.
Technological literacy		Creating and publishing an audio file and filling in an online form.

Main language activity

- Oral production: creating an audio message.
- Written production: filling in an online form.

Plurilingual aspects

- Learners can be encouraged to post their message in more than one language.

Possible steps

- Discover the site.
- Read the community guidelines to be aware of the site requirements and restrictions.
- Select a topic of interest amongst the list of possible categories.
- Think of a 'message' related to the topic that they wish to share with others on the site.
- Listen to other contributions (learners can be encouraged to post their reaction to an existing message: like, applause, dislike, etc. and to reflect on what made them react the way they did).
- Take notes to prepare their own contribution and drafting their message.
- If need be, their draft can be reviewed by peers or teachers. The message can then be edited.
- Practise saying the message (they can record themselves and listen back) until they feel the message is ready to be shared.
- Once they are happy with their recording, they can press the record button on the homepage of the site to publish it. They then have to fill out a form with their first name, country of residence, age group, email address and accept the terms of use.
- After the message has been reviewed, they will be notified when it is published on the site.

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Student Sheet

Task

You are going to post a 60 second (max) voice message on the Youth Voices platform. To do so, you are going to prepare your contribution and record your message using the platform voice recorder.

Website

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Website available in the languages spoken in Europe and beyond (29 languages)

CEFR level - For level A2 and above

Objectives

Digital citizenship and literacy

While completing this task, you can:

- learn the importance of contributing positively online;
- learn how to post an audio message on a site;
- become aware of the personal information you share online;
- reflect on the type of contributions you make online.

Plurilingual aspects

You can post your message in more than one language.

Hints

Keep in mind who you are addressing

To discover the rules of the site, you can read the “Community Guidelines” available underneath the site recorder. These are available in the language you selected at the start of the process. You can change the language of the interface at the top of the screen.

Note the importance placed on being careful when sharing your personal information and on respecting others: *“Please do not provide any personally identifiable information. No profanity, please”*.

Think of your audience and what elements make messages interesting and easy to listen to.

Work on the language-related aspects

- You can create a draft of your message.
- Listen to other messages in your chosen category to hear how others have formulated their message. Think about your favourite messages. What elements stood out and made these messages interesting to listen to?
- If necessary, use online tools such as online dictionaries or spell checkers to help you write your message. You can also ask your peers or your teacher to review your message.
- Once you have the script of your text, you can practise reading it. If you are unsure about the pronunciation of a word, you can use Forvo, the multilingual pronunciation dictionary: <https://forvo.com/>.
- If you want to hear a couple of sentences, you can use text to speech technology. You can copy and paste an excerpt from your text and hear it. Here are a few suggestions of text-to-speech technology sites: TTS Reader: <https://ttsreader.com/>; Natural readers: <https://www.naturalreaders.com/online/>; From text to speech; <http://www.fromtexttospeech.com/>; Acapela: <http://www.acapela-group.com/voices/demo/>.

For you to think about

While completing this task, you can reflect on the following:

- What do you think of this initiative? Did you enjoy listening to other messages on the platform?
- What constitutes a good message on this platform?
- What type of messages do you usually post online? Is this contribution different? In what ways?