

IN ENGLISH **Education**

AT POZNAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY



CHRISTMAS QUIZ

Many people are already counting days until Christmas. Some are already feeling festive and decorating their houses and homes, and some dove into Christmas shopping. Whichever group you belong to, please enjoy our Christmas quiz this year.

- 1. Every year the Trafalgar Square in London is decorated with a beautiful tree that was meticulously selected in:**
- a) France
 - b) Norway
 - c) the USA
 - d) Germany



- 2. Frankincense, one of the gifts brought by the Wise Men is:**
- a) an aromatic tree resin
 - b) a plant grown in the Middle East
 - c) a type of jewel
 - d) a type of grain



- 3. Long and narrow strands of shimmering materials imitating snow or ice, placed on a Christmas tree, are called:**
- a) icicles
 - b) angel hair
 - c) tinsel
 - d) foil

- 5. The main character of Dickensian A Christmas Carol is called:**
- a) Jacob Marley
 - b) Bob Cratchit
 - c) Ebenezer Scrooge
 - d) Tiny Tim

- 4. What year was the first commercial Christmas card made in:**
- a) 1764
 - b) 1843
 - c) 1856
 - d) 1902

- 6. The American ad writer Robert L. May invented a colourful Christmas character in 1939:**
- a) Skeleton Jack
 - b) Grinch
 - c) Charlie Brown
 - d) Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer

- 7. Which Christmas figure wore green in Victorian England?**
- a) Father Christmas
 - b) Elves
 - c) Angels



8. A type of wine that has been spiced and heated is called:

- a) mildewed
- b) mauled
- c) milled
- d) mulled

9. What is the English equivalent of a Norwegian 'Julekaka'?

- a) Christmas decoration
- b) Christmas lights
- c) Christmas cake
- d) Christmas present

10. The name for which traditional green festive season plant is derived from the Anglo Saxon words for "dung on a twig"?

- a) holly
- b) mistletoe
- c) poinsettia
- d) baubles

11. In the 1840s, London sweet shop owner Tom Smith got the inspiration to make a very British Christmas dinner accessory:

- a) a paper crown
- b) edible cutlery
- c) a cracker
- d) baubles

12. Which nickname for Hollywood sounds Christmassy?

- a) Tinseltown
- b) Glitterbomb
- c) Cracker
- d) Shiny City

13. The following all mean 'Merry Christmas', but in which language?

German, Irish, Hawaiian, Portuguese, Spanish, Greek, Norwegian, Korean, Finnish

- a) Hyvaa Joulua



- b) Sung tan chuk ha
- c) Fröhliche Weihnachten
- d) Nollaig Shona Dhuit
- e) Mele Kalikimaka
- f) God Jul
- g) Boas Festas
- h) Kala Christougenna
- i) Feliz Navidad

Key: see page eight

Interview with John Kolar

It has already been announced that The Centre of Languages and Communication will be holding The Discussion Club with Mr. John Kolar, who is a Fulbright scholar at Poznan University of Technology and an academic teacher at The Centre of Languages and Communication this year. Discussion Club will be held weekly, every Tuesday from 5 pm to 6 pm, starting on the 9th of November. Topics for the discussion will be published every week. Today we are interviewing Mr. Kolar, as we want to find out anything about his idea of The Discussion Club as well as his reasons of coming to Poland as a Fulbright scholar, his plans and goals at PUT.

Hanna Nowak: It is clear that you are busy during the preparation of the Discussion Club, so thank you very much for your time. I would like to start our conversation with information about the Discussion Club. Could you tell us something about the Club itself? How did it all start? What is the aim of the club and who it is aimed at?

John Kolar: The Discussion Club was established to give an opportunity for PUT students and faculty to discuss and learn more about various topics



related to United States culture. My colleagues in the Centre of Languages and Communication had the great idea to establish this club to help promote cultural exchange at PUT. The club also gives students and faculty the opportunity to practice their English skills by talking with a native speaker.

We are discussing the idea of developing English language speaking skills at the Discussion Club, but let us now talk about your reasons of choosing Poland as a destination place for Fulbright scholarship. We are really glad you have chosen Poland, but tell us what made you do it.

I'm studying in Poland as a Fulbright Scholar. Fulbright is a United States program that promotes global education and research. As a US citizen, I could apply to research and teaching Fulbright grants in many different countries (you can also apply to Fulbright as a Polish citizen to receive a grant to study in the US). I chose Poland because I knew it was a beautiful place with well-established and renowned technical universities. Poland's Fulbright program was also prioritizing applicants with a background in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math). As an undergraduate university student, I studied electrical engineering with minors in music technology and physics, so teaching technical English to Polish STEM students was a perfect fit.

So now everything is clear. But tell us, is it the first time you have visited Poland? Tell us what your first impressions, as well as likes

and dislikes were. Is there anything that surprises you here?

This is my first time visiting Poland. I have been here since the middle of September. My first impression of Poland had to do with Polish people. In my first few days here, when I was having conversations with my colleagues or new Polish friends, I was impressed by how much everyone knew about global current events. Not only did these Polish people know a lot about European current events, but they also were very knowledgeable about US current events and politics. I felt like I could easily have a conversation with them about numerous topics. It was reassuring that the Polish people take the time to stay up to date on global topics and issues.

My other first impression had to do with the architecture and infrastructure here. Polish cities are beautiful and the public transportation systems are reliable and efficient. This is very different than the majority of places in the states. There are also so many bike lanes which is lovely!

**Thank you very much for having positive opinions about Poland ;-)
But let us move on to the next question. You are a scholar working at The Centre of Languages and Communication, teaching English to PUT students. Apart from your vocational duties, what other plans do you have as a scholar? What else are you going to be responsible for at CLC PUT?**

At CLC PUT, I will be teaching English language courses. I am teaching a first-year technical language course



and a fifth-year scientific and technical writing course. The Polish Fulbright Commission has also planned numerous educational and cultural exchange events across Poland that I will be participating in throughout my grant.

How long are you going to stay in Poland and what is the duration of the Fulbright scholarship? Are you planning to visit some interesting sights in Poland, apart from your job?

The Fulbright scholarship will last for nine months, until the end of June 2022. I plan to see many of the Polish cities and villages during my time here. The Polish intercity train system makes it so easy to do this too. I also have other Fulbright colleagues all throughout Poland, so I plan to travel to visit them when I have free time.

So, I hope you will enjoy visiting our Polish tourist attractions. However, as it was stated earlier,

you are a Fulbright scholar. It is the Polish – American Commission, which is an educational foundation, which administers the Fulbright Program in Poland. It is a non-profit organization based on bilateral agreement between Polish and American governments, focused on international exchange of scholars. As Senator Fulbright once put it: "We must try to expand the boundaries of human wisdom, empathy and perception, and there is no way of doing that except through education". Please, give us more details on what Fulbright Commission is and what your other duties as a scholar are. Tell us how you are going to benefit from the exchange.

James William Fulbright was a US senator from the state of Arkansas. He served from 1945-1974. The program was established in 1946 to promote intercultural relations and cultural diplomacy worldwide. The Polish-U.S. Fulbright Commission is an organi-

zation that diligently works to organize and coordinate the Polish-U.S. Fulbright program. As a scholar, I will not only be teaching, but I will also be working as an ambassador to the United States, working to promote cultural exchange between the U.S. and Poland.

When I return to the states, I plan to attend graduate school to study music technology. After completing graduate school, I plan to become a professor of music technology in an international university. My Fulbright

grant is greatly preparing me to become a professor.

The last question would concern Christmas. It is coming soon, and you are far away from home. Can I ask you how you are going to spend it. Are you going to celebrate in Poland with American Christmas customs? Tell us about tradition and customs of your family.

Christmas is a very special time back home with my family. We exchange gifts and spend quality time toge-

ther. This December, some of my loved ones will be coming to visit me, so we will be celebrating Christmas for the whole month of December! I also plan to visit the Tatra Mountains in December to see the beautiful snow.

John, it was a pleasure talking to you. Thank you very much for your time and conversation. We wish you a good stay in Poland and good luck with all your plans ;-)

Hanna Nowak, MA

From the very beginning of EUNICE, our Centre of Languages and Communication has been fully engaged in the project and, currently, our groups work among WP3 teams. The main mission of WP3 teams is to diligently prepare and carry out the network concerning learning languages.

Since September 2021 WP3 teams have worked on their first task including:

- the proposal of 3 deliverables: composition of the teams in charge of each course, the provisional calendar for implementing the courses to be created and, finally, the

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at Centre of Languages and Communication

- content description of the courses itself, including module, timing, targeted academic group, learning outcomes, evaluative methods and assessment criteria;
- the proposal of IT solutions and IT facilities used during the project.

Course type:

Responsible team members:

7 local languages courses for students: CLC team focuses on Polish language course only

Agata Jankiewicz M.A.
Małgorzata Konopko M.A.

English For Specific Purposes For Students

Małgorzata Bączyńska M.A.
Joanna Liskowska-Sikora M.A.

English For Academic Purposes For Students

Barbara Sawicka PhD
Dorota Żarnowska M.A.

English For General Communication For Students

Karol Matysiak M.A.
Kinga Komorowska M.A.

Tandem Conversation Exercise in English For Students

Karol Matysiak M.A.
Kinga Komorowska M.A.

English As a Medium of Instruction For Academics

Liliana Szczuka-Dorna PhD
Nuala Maderski M.A.
Katarzyna Matuszak PhD

EUNICE WEEKS

The first edition of the EUNICE weeks event took place from 11th to 22nd October 2021. EUNICE weeks is an annual event held in all partner universities, aimed at promoting European values, languages and culture, encouraging mobility included in Erasmus+ program and disseminating information about the EUNICE project among students and employees of the partner universities. Partner universities were cooperating and contributing to prepare and deliver the extremely fascinating proposals to the participants. Two October Mondays 11th and 18th were the days of Poznan University of Technology (PUT). Eunice Weeks were formally inaugurated by fascinating plenary lecture on Polish culture

delivered by the Centre of Languages and Communication (CLC) authorities - Liliana Szczuka-Dorna, prof. PUT and Małgorzata Bączyńska, M.A. Moreover, PUT conducted an interesting and well-attended webinar on artificial intelligence entitled "Machine Learning: Algorithms that Write, Paint and Dream" by Prof. Mikołaj Morzy. The successful and high-level conference "Digital Europe Opportunities and Threats" delivered by prof. Jerzy Nawrocki concluded with the Oxford debate on digitization in Europe. The ambitious program included daily webinars, lectures, sessions, conferences and debriefings. They were not, however, the only attractions. EUNICE weeks participants were also offered evening music events or fantastic

Alliance Games, such as online sports tournaments in the e-chess and football category with the participation of PUT students. The successful concert performed by Poligrodzianie was another occasion to promote Polish culture and folk music. The other bullet points of the event were the industrial workshops for students, language course "Polish for beginners", Intercultural Cafe for PUT employees, students and European Mobility Forum. With the Covid-19 pandemic continuing to have a huge impact on on-site events at most of European Universities, EUNICE weeks were held in a hybrid form, but the engagement of students and teachers brought an enormous success.

Orientation Week September 2021

Every semester, a week before the beginning of the term, the Centre of Languages and Communication runs Orientation Week for Erasmus students who come to Poznań to study at Poznan University of Technology. Due to the coronavirus restrictions, Orientation Week was run on-line in September 2020 and February 2021.

Unfortunately, the restrictions were not lifted in September 2021 and Orientation Week for international students was run on-line again. It was conducted for 3 days only.

On Monday, September 27 the students participated in 'Welcome to PUT' presentation delivered by International Relations Office.

On Tuesday, September 28 and Wednesday, September 29 the students took part in presentations prepared

and delivered by the team of teachers of Polish as a foreign language from the Centre of Languages and Communication (Małgorzata Konopko, M.A., Justyna Połomka, M.A. and Barbara Tarko M.A.). The students were introduced to the Polish language, its grammar and pronunciation, and had a lot of fun trying to read some difficult Polish words.

While listening to 'Welcome to Poland' presentation the students had a splendid opportunity to learn a lot about Polish culture and history, and to discover how beautiful and geographically diverse Poland is.

About 80 students of Erasmus+ and Erasmus Exchange Programmes from

Spain, Portugal, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, Greece, Romania, Turkey and South Korea participated in Orientation Week on-line.

The English Language Olympiad for Students of Technical Universities

The English Language Olympiad for Students of Technical Universities is an annual event that gathers students who want to challenge their language skills and are ready to compete against the best in Poland. The Olympiad was first organized in 1995. Originally, it only took place at Poznań University of Technology but it has expanded. This year, apart from PUT, as many as 14 Polish technical universities have declared their readiness to participate in the Olympiad, which shows students' growing interest in this event. The organizing committee of the Olympiad include: Edyta Olejarczuk, PhD, Elżbieta Jeziorek, MA, Hanna Nowak, MA and Agnieszka Łukasik, MA.

The first stage of the 23rd English Language Olympiad for Students of Technical Universities will be held on 14th January 2022. It will be held online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students will take a written test, the main objective of which is to check the participants' command of technical and general English as well as their knowledge of the culture of English-speaking countries. The best candidates for the second stage of the competition will then be selected.

In the next stage of the Olympiad, traditionally hosted by Poznań University of Technology, the 40 top-scoring par-

ticipants will take a high-level written test on 13th May 2022. After that, they will be asked to deliver a multimedia presentation inspired by one of the following statements:

The great myth of our times is that technology is communication.

– Libby Larsen (Composer)

"The basic tool for the manipulation of reality is the manipulation of words. If you can control the meaning of words, you can control the people who must use them."

– Philip K. Dick

"Artificial intelligence is growing up fast, as are robots whose facial expressions can elicit empathy and make your mirror neurons quiver."

– Diane Ackerman

Participants will then be further shortlisted for the last stage of the Olympiad and on 14th May, 10 finalists will take part in an Oxford debate.

We are all looking forward to this event held under the honorary auspices of the Rector of Poznań University of Technology, prof. Teofil Jesionowski, Poznań Town Hall, the Mayor of Poznań Jacek Jaśkowiak, the Consulate of

OGÓLNOPOLSKA OLIMPIADA JĘZYKA ANGIELSKIEGO WYŻSZYCH UCZELNI TECHNICZNYCH

the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Honorary Consul Włodzimierz Walkowiak, the Consulate of the Ireland, Honorary Consul Artur Sikora, Polish-American Fulbright Commission, executive director Justyna Ja-

niszewska and the media patronage of Radio Afera.

Edyta Olejarczuk, PhD
Head of the organizing committee

Train the Trainers - event 2



As planned, another series of the project training for academic teachers was held on 22nd and 23rd of September 2021. It was organised by the EntreSTEAM team for our colleagues from University of Oulu, University of Zaragoza and Poznan University of Technology. Also, as previously, our colleagues from Ja-

giellonian University joined us at this event. The online training, originally planned to take place in Finland, was a virtual tour around the city of Oulu and Finland and brought us closer to Finnish culture and customs..

Moreover, the trainees had a chance to practise the entrepreneurial aspect of the course, that is, the de-

sign sprint. The process aims to help teams to ideate solutions, define goals, validate their assumptions and prototype their ideas or inventions. During this training session, our mini design sprint task helped our trainee teachers understand what students are supposed to do during the course and how the utilisation of the design sprint could help them communicate more effectively in their future working environment.

In addition, the second pilot course is now up and running giving eight groups of students a chance to learn English while working in an international environment and joining forces with their peers representing different fields of studies.

Katarzyna Sobańska MA