



Henri Matisse, *Teacher at the Yellow Table*, 1944

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**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

The Erasmus+ KA220 project "4 ELEMENTS IN ARTS" aims to support educators working with adults from disadvantaged backgrounds and people with (specific) learning difficulties and talents. 4 ELEMENTS IN ARTS explores the potential of the 4 elements - predominant images in European culture - with regard to arts, artistic socialisation, creativity and creative thinking, focusing on the stories represented in works of visual arts, paintings, drawings, sculptures, etc. The project aims to improve adult educators' competences in the field of arts, cultural heritage and English language learning. The project engages adult learners in adult education and learning throughout adult life. Moreover, it aims at enhancing the learner's language, digital and creative/artistic thinking skills, as well as their sense of inclusion.

The project is coordinated by CVO EduKempen (Belgium). The partnership also includes DomSpain Consulting (Spain), Zini Foundation (Latvia), Les Apprimeurs (France), Istituto dei Sordi di Torino (Italy), Slovenian Third Age University (Slovenia), MyArtist (Greece).



Stay up-to-date with project activities by joining our Facebook and Instagram communities to get all the latest developments from the project, learn more about arts, language learning, cultural heritage and accessibility for all.



[4elements](#)



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## From lesson plans to effective language teaching

In preparing the products, the partnership considered a number of questions, in particular: how can English be learned through works of art? And can art be taught? One of the most difficult parts of a teacher's job is moving from ideal plans to practical teaching and achieving goals.

### How to learn English in connection with works of art?

Art and languages are linked by their complementary qualities: one helps the other.

What is not understood in language is understood visually. And vice versa.

Art is very stimulating for language learning and for understanding emotions and feelings.

When we learn new words and new grammatical structures, we can also describe our thoughts. Visiting an art exhibition or a museum in a foreign language means enriching both language skills and creative thinking.



Pablo Picasso, Guernica, 1937

### Can Art be taught?

Each person has a different approach to Art, even different feelings when approaching a work of art. The partnership of the project experienced this statement in Ljubljana when talking about each one most memorable encounter with a work of art.

What can be taught about Art are its characteristics, like the colours used, the motivation of the artist to produce such a composition, the meaning.

The first sensation that a paint or a statue or a song awakes in us is something unique.