



UNIVERSITY OF
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School of Humanities

University of Southampton's *Score in French* project: Football-related materials and pupil motivation

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Session Outline

- What is *Score in French*?
- *Score in French* resources
- Evaluation of the project

What is *Score in French*?

- Routes into Languages project  routes into LANGUAGES
- Piloted with Year 8 in 6 schools (approx 800 pupils)
- Aimed particularly at motivating boys
- Resources pack to teach French through football
- Football/French project of at least 10 hours
- End of project interschool tournament

Why Football?

- ‘connect L2 learning with activities that students already find interesting or hold in esteem’.
- *‘Find out what your students’ goals are and what topics they want to learn about, then build these into your curriculum as much as possible.’ (Dörnyei, 2001)*
- **“I wasn’t interested in football before doing the French football activities.”**

83% boys disagreed of which well over half strongly!

Why Football?

- Topic offers opportunities for cross-curricular work
 - Matches in French
 - Art/IT Work
 - Cheerleaders (Music/Dance)
 - Sketches/ post-match interviews (Drama)
 - Video Production (Media Studies)
 - Geography (World Cup Game, International Players)

Resource Pack

- Teacher Choice – at least 40 hours of materials
- Differentiation
- Adaptable materials (electronic format)
- Notes for teachers
- Minimal cost to schools

Resource Pack

- Activities to increase INTEGRATIVE MOTIVATION
- No transactional content/ journeys to “MFL land”
- Enjoyment! (For teachers and pupils.)
- Lots of games, puzzles, role plays, pair work, group work....

Resource Pack

- Local and International dimensions
- Presence of France:
 - Les Bleus and their supporters; Zidane
 - Two local French players



Resource Pack

- Positive Role Models for boys!
- Older boys in videos; male, non-native interviewer
- Inclusive (playing activities and “para-football” ones):
 - *Le corps de Beckham; Quel beau visage!; Les Femmes de footballeurs; food; glamour.....*

Project Evaluation

- Student Questionnaire

n = 642 (♀ n = 267 ♂ n = 370 unspecified n = 5)

- Teacher Questionnaire

n = 20 (100% response rate)

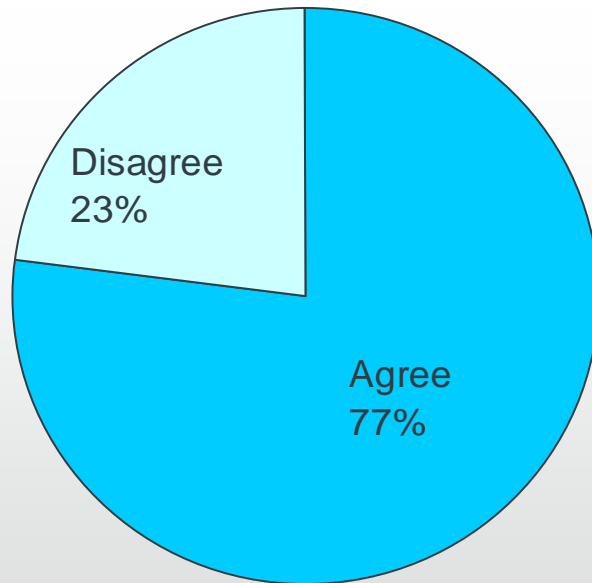
- Research Areas:

Enjoyment, motivation, gender differences

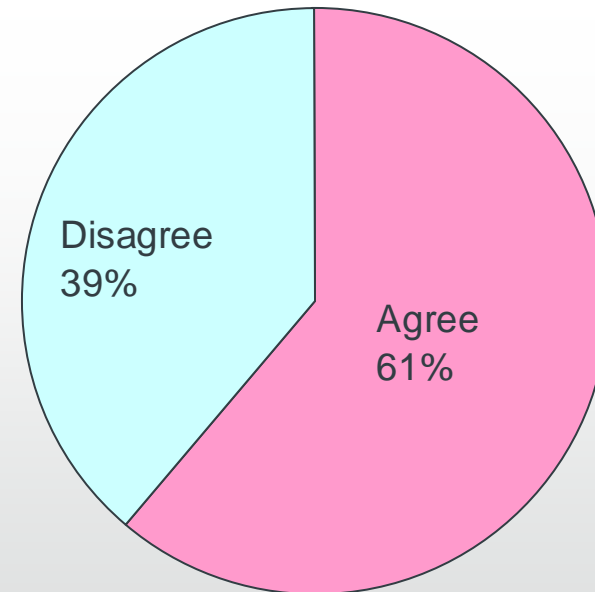
ENJOYMENT

“French has been more fun working with the French football activities”

Boys



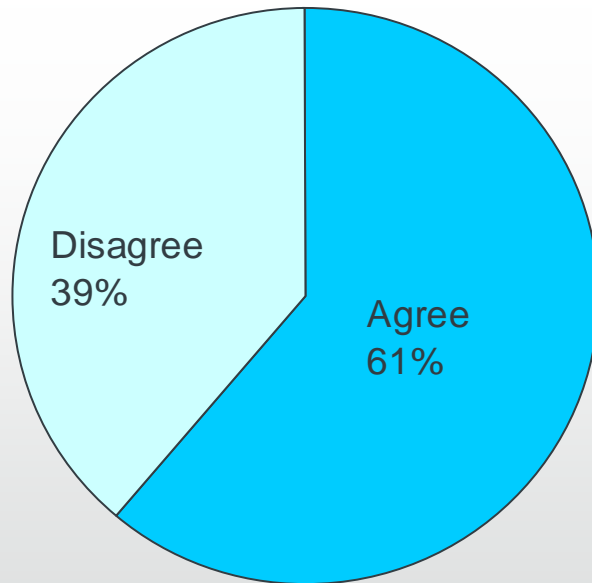
Girls



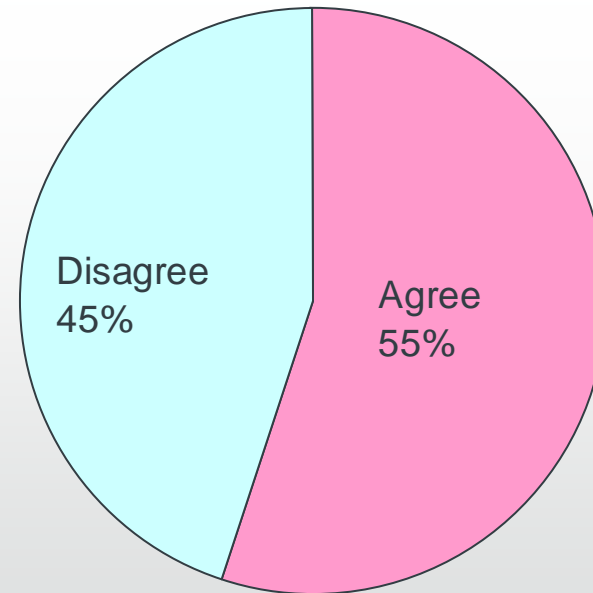
ENJOYMENT

“I have found French less boring with the French football activities”

Boys



Girls



Teachers' Views: Enjoyment

“My students enjoyed working on *Score in French*”

All 20 teachers agreed

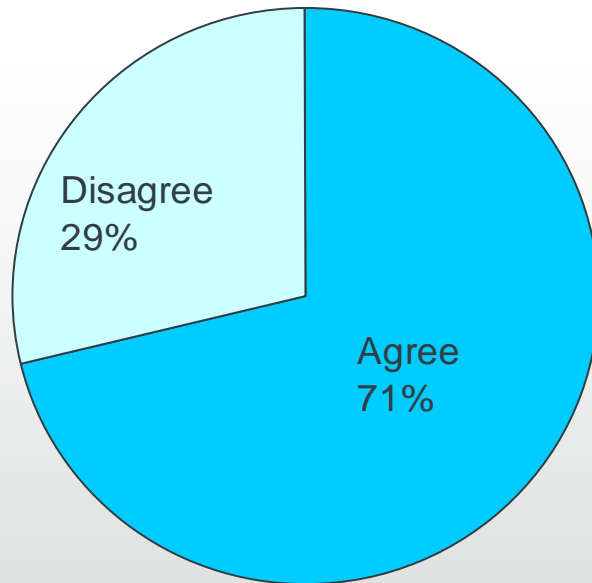
“Students seemed to enjoy working on *Score in French* less than the normal curriculum materials I use with Year 8”

18 teachers disagreed, 1 agreed

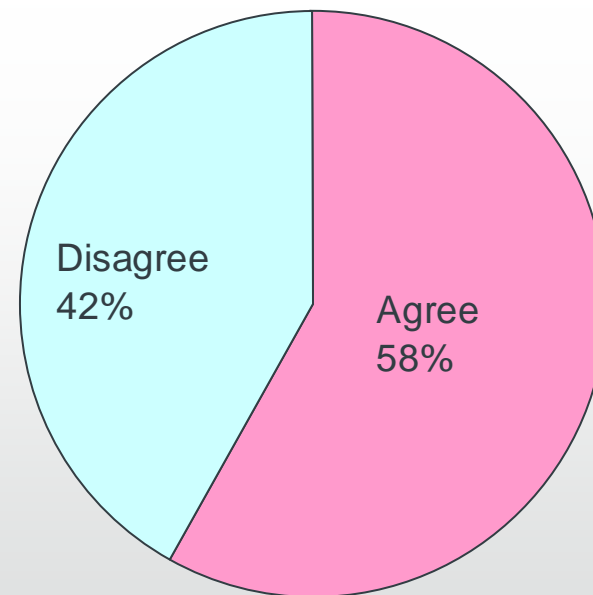
EFFORT

“I feel I have made more effort in French doing the football activities”

Boys



Girls



Teachers' Views: Motivation

**“My students seemed more motivated in French
whilst working on *Score in French*”**

All 20 teachers agreed

Teachers' Views: Attitude

- **“*Score in French* has improved the attitude to learning French of many students”**
- **15 teachers agreed, 4 disagreed**
- **“*Score in French* has had a negative effect on the attitude of many students to learning French”**
- **All 20 teachers disagreed**

Teachers' Views:

“What differences did you notice in the way boys and girls responded to Score in French?”

- “Generally there was a positive response from both, although boys tended to get more excited by the football type activities”
- “The boys were more interested than the girls. The girls really enjoyed the clothes, food and the wags topics. Most of the girls were pretty excited by the ideas of seeing Romain and Morgan.”
- “The boys were much more interested but this was not to the detriment of the girls as they found other aspects of it interesting.”
- “Generally there was a positive response from both, although boys tended to get more excited by the football type activities”

Further Information!

- www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/south
- See news report and video diary in “News” section
- Download the resources from “Resources” section.