

November 2010

Cyprus: Klitos Symeonides

## Dissemination conference in Latsia, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**The testing of the DYS 2.0 games took place in Cyprus at Latsia Lycium on Saturday the 18 of September.**

Twenty young Dyslexics took part at the 3 hours testing. Before the testing between 09.30 and 10.30 a dissemination activity took place where the DYS partners presented DYS project to 50 participants from various dyslexia organizations, from Ministries involved in Dyslexia, from the national association for Dyslexia, parents of Dyslexic persons etc.



Five trainers were guiding-assisting the 20 dyslexics to play the games. Written information were given to them how to play the games. The 5 trainers were Magdalena Ziemnicka, Simoni Symeonidou, Filippos Hadjimichael, Maria Saranti and Elena Tryfonos.



The participants were selected carefully to represent various organizations such as Universities, Collages, secondary schools, work places, etc. Parents of Dyslexics were very much involved and cooperating in the process of recruitment.

The participants completed a questionnaire which was analyzed. They were enthusiastic about the games and their comments were very positive. Most participants were able to play most of the games.

Next year will be a second testing of the games to include the new games.

UK: Dr. Ian Smythe

# European Dyslexia Conference in Bruges

The third international meeting of the European Dyslexia Association, an umbrella organisation for dyslexia associations across Europe, was held in Bruges, Belgium in April 2010. The conference hosted delegates from around the world, presenting research and practice from diverse language and cultural environments.

The dys2 and Edysgate projects were presented as part of a presentation about provision of online services for students by Professor Ian Smythe of Ibis

Created Consultants and the University of Wales, Newport.

Attendees were told in the presentation that online assessment outcomes need to be matched to appropriate learning, for which projects such as Dys2 could be a valuable part. Unlike conventional teaching which attempts to address deficits in phonics skills, Dys2 goes further by targeting key cognitive area that are necessary to develop prior to attempting to develop those phonics skills.

## Dys2 links to other EU project

As part of its ongoing international dissemination activities, the Dys2 project has formed strong links with two other EU project, **Embed** and **Dessdys**, while also being presented to partners of the **Dyslexia Veto** and **iSheds** projects. As a project that enhances skills that are not language dependent, it is easily adapted to other language environments.

**Embed** ([www.embeddyslexia.eu](http://www.embeddyslexia.eu)) bring together information from many previous EU related projects, providing information for dyslexic adults and children, as well as teachers and parents of dyslexic pupils. Languages of the project are Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Polish and Spanish.

**Dessdys** ([www.dessdys.eu](http://www.dessdys.eu)) provides study skills material in a dyslexia friendly way, aimed at those who are over 16. Languages of the partnership are Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Italian and Turkish.

**Dyslexia Veto** ([www.dyslexia-veto.eu](http://www.dyslexia-veto.eu)) is about spreading the dyslexia friendly school quality mark, and may access the activities as part of the support program. Languages of the partnership are Bulgarian, English, Hungarian, Italian and Romanian.

**iSheds** ([www.isheds.eu](http://www.isheds.eu)) is a project for dyslexic students and those supporting dyslexic students in the Balkan countries. The project provides e-books, course and assistive technology freely through the internet. Languages of the partnership are Bosnian, Croatian, English, Hungarian, Romanian, Serbian and Slovenian.

## Czech Republic: Kateřina Nevřalová

DYS 2.0 games are preparing for pilots in the Czech Republic. Based on experience from piloting organized by Cyprian project partner in September, Euroface Consulting in cooperation with the Czech Dyslexia Association and DYS-centre Prague are going to realize the pilot tests with at least 20 young dyslectic adults and 5 specialist trainers. We hope the feedback will allow us a high quality of localisation the games in the Czech Republic and growth of their using.

Lithuania: Julita Pigulevičienė

## Dissemination of DYS 2.0 project in Lithuania

**DYS 2.0 project was disseminated by E-Learning Technology Center at Kaunas University of Technology staff in three national events in Lithuania.**



28-30<sup>th</sup> of June, 2010 Assoc. Prof. D. Rutkauskienė participated in 2010 European Association for Education in Electrical and Information Engineering (EAEIE) Conference in Palanga, Lithuania and presented DYS 2.0 project and educational games for young people with dyslexia.



DYS 2.0 project and educational games were disseminated in International conference "Knowledge Society Challenges for E-Learning" in Kaunas, Lithuania on 16<sup>th</sup> of September, 2010 by Daina Gudonienė, KTU. The record of this presentation can be found in DYS 2.0 Lithuanian blog: <http://dys2.blogspot.com/>



2<sup>nd</sup> of October, 2010 Vilnius Computer Users' Academy has organized the opening celebration. During the event DYS2.0 website [www.dys2.org](http://www.dys2.org) and learning games for dyslexic people were presented by Julita Pigulevičienė.

Dr. Petra Rietsch, project manager of DYS 2.0

**From now you can tailor “your” memory games without any programming knowledge.**

# How to do this?

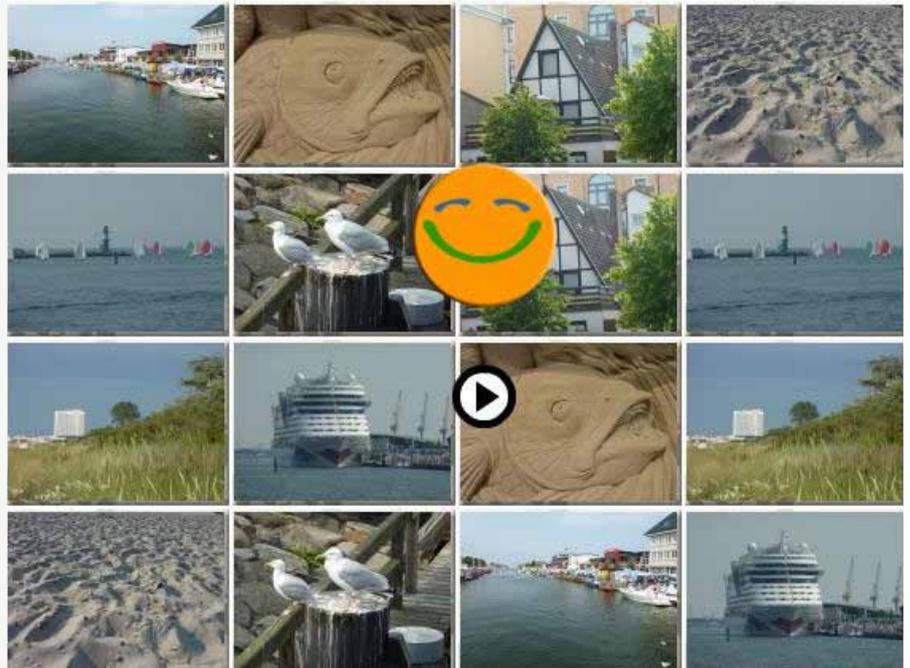
This is to inform you about the two configurators “Unlimited Same Picture” and “Unlimited Same Word - Picture”.

You will find both in the area Visual Memory.

### Unlimited Same Picture

(1) send your pictures to the DYS 2.0 contact person in your country. We will upload your resources. Please, send min 8 pictures for creating of one game set. We do not need “big” pictures - the optimal size is max 800x600. You must be the owner of the property rights of the picturers. Photos of persons will not be accepted.

(2) get a special login and upload your pictures yourself at any time.



Anklage	Anliegen	Anlage	anlehnen
anlegen	anlügen	reise	anlügen
anlegen	Anklage	anlachen	anlehnen
anlachen	Anreise	Anlage	Anliegen

### Unlimited Same Word - Picture

(1) send your examples of words simple in a WORD document to the DYS 2.0 contact person in your country. We will upload them. Again, please, send min 8 words for creating of one game set.

(2) get a special login and upload your game sets yourself at any time.

Do not hesitate to contact us for any questions. You are invited to participate at our pilots which will take place online and offline from the beginning of December 2010 up to the end of February next year.

**Your feedback is highly welcome! Become a support partner of DYS 2.0!**

UK: Dr. Ian Smythe

# Embed Identifies Inequalities in Europe – Why should help be language-dependent?

There are many inequalities that have been identified across Europe with respect to the dyslexic individual. This includes the lack of resources, no trained teachers, and a shortage of assistive technology to help those who are trying to access the printed word.

Embed has helped to identify a series of resources that can now be effectively accessed, and, as important, are available for others to translate into their own language. However, there is still one key area that is significantly under-served, that of assistive technology.

The most important problem for the dyslexic individual is being able to access the printed word. But if you have technology that reads the printed word, that would allow the curriculum (as well as the internet!) to be accessed, “read” and understood.

However, a survey carried out within the Embed project showed that the situation is different across Europe. To put this into perspective, let us consider that text-to-speech consists of two parts – the interface (the controlling part) and the voice (the part that says the words out loud).

Fortunately there is an excellent piece of software that is an interface for all the partner countries – Balabolka. However, as the table below reveals, few countries (and therefore few dyslexic students), have access to free voices, and where they are available, the cost can be prohibitive.

Country	Free voice	Commercial Voice	Price Guide (€)	% of a day's pay
EN	Yes	Yes	40	10
IT	Yes	Yes	40	12
AU	Yes	Yes	40	12
DE	Yes	Yes	40	13
CY	No	Yes	40	14
ES	No	Yes	40	16
CZ	No	Yes	40	29
PL	No	Yes	40	38
BG	No	Yes	73	97
LI	No	n/a	-	-

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Technical University of Varna/Bulgaria, [disted.tu-varna.acad.bg](http://disted.tu-varna.acad.bg)  
Euroface consulting s.r.o/Czech Republic, [www.euro-face.cz](http://www.euro-face.cz)  
Cyprus Adult Education Association/Cyprus, [www.cyaea.org.cy](http://www.cyaea.org.cy)  
LiNK MV/ Germany, [www.linkmv.de](http://www.linkmv.de)  
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Lifelong Learning Programme

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