



An Roinn Oideachais
agus Óige
Department of Education
and Youth

Communicating and Literacy

Junior Cycle Level 2

Priority Learning Unit (PLU)

Prepared by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA)

PLU 1: Communicating and Literacy

Communication underpins all learning and is fundamental to the capacity to transfer learning. Learning in this unit covers both verbal and non-verbal ways of receiving and giving information. Communication may take the form of listening and responding using augmentative or alternative communication systems.

Literacy is fundamental to learning, as it unlocks access to the wider curriculum and is underpinned by the idea of students developing competence in reading and writing as a goal in itself and as a means through which new learning is acquired and communicated. The unit looks at developing reading and writing skills and includes reference to how digital technologies can be used in communication. The term communication is used in a broad way in this unit, which also considers how students can communicate through the expressive arts such as music and dance.

This PLU consists of six elements:

- Speaking appropriately for a variety of purposes and demonstrating attentiveness as a listener
- Using non-verbal behaviour to get the message across
- Reading to obtain basic information
- Using a range of writing forms to express opinions
- Using expressive arts to communicate
- Using suitable technologies for a range of purposes

Element	Students should be able to...
Speaking appropriately for a variety of purposes and demonstrating attentiveness as a listener	1.1 listen to obtain information relating to more than one option
	1.2 ask questions to obtain information
	1.3 follow a series of spoken instructions under supervision
	1.4 express personal opinions, facts and feelings appropriately
	1.5 participate in practical, formal and informal communications
	1.6 listen to and respond to a range of stories.
Using non-verbal behaviour to get the message across	1.7 identify a range of non-verbal communications methods
	1.8 use appropriate non-verbal behaviour in communicating a simple idea
	1.9 relay a response or request non-verbally
	1.10 respond to non-verbal signals and signs encountered in daily life
	1.11 follow the sequence of non-verbal instructions or directions for a frequent activity
Reading to obtain basic information	1.12 read familiar words that are commonly used and personally relevant
	1.13 use simple rules and text conventions that support meaning
	1.14 interpret different forms of writing and text, including social signs and symbols
	1.15 find key information from different forms of writing
	1.16 use a range of reading strategies

Element	Students should be able to...
Using a range of writing forms to express opinions	<p>1.17 write/type notes and messages needed for simple tasks</p> <p>1.18 write/type at least five sentences so that they convey meaning or information</p> <p>1.19 use the main rules of writing appropriately</p> <p>1.20 use a range of spelling patterns</p> <p>1.21 use a range of different forms of writing to suit purpose and audience</p>
Using expressive arts to communicate	<p>1.22 participate in a performance or a presentation</p> <p>1.23 create a range of images using a variety of materials.</p> <p>1.24 produce a piece of work for display</p> <p>1.25 listen to a range of music and respond by discussing thoughts and feelings</p> <p>1.26 use drama or dance to explore real and imaginary situations</p>
Using suitable technologies for a range of purposes	<p>1.27 identify three everyday uses of technology</p> <p>1.28 use technology requiring not more than three functions, for personal, home and educational/workplace use</p> <p>1.29 use technology to communicate in an activity with others</p> <p>1.30 use a new piece of digital technology equipment</p> <p>1.31 turn a personal computer on and off safely</p> <p>1.32 identify the information symbols on a desktop</p> <p>1.33 use frequently used keys appropriately</p> <p>1.34 use a software package, involving opening a package, entering and manipulating text/image/data, save to file, print and exit safely</p> <p>1.35 access a range of websites on the internet</p> <p>1.36 find information for a project on the web</p> <p>1.37 send and open an email</p>



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