

## Hold a class (school) Language Summit

This may require some permissions from the administration in your school, so check with them first.

### How to do this activity

1. Begin by discussing with the students what a summit is, for example:

- It is an important meeting or conference between leaders.
- Summits can be held by organisations like the United Nations, to bring together important thinkers to discuss issues that are important to the group.

2. Ask students what kinds of issues they might want to discuss if they were invited to a World Languages Summit. Ask them to consider relevant educational concern, for example:

- Why study/learn a language?
- Where and how can you use it in Australia/Overseas?
- How long should students study a language for?
- What connections can be made to local <<target language>> businesses?
- How can we help to generate enthusiasm and positive feelings towards learning <<target language>> in our school?

3. Write a question per sheet on a large sheets of paper. Allocate students to groups and give each group one question to discuss. Ask them to brainstorm and write their ideas/arguments/comments on the paper. *Depending on the language level of the students and the context of the summit (see pt 4 below) this could be done in language or in English.*

4. Explain to students that during Languages Week, at lunchtime or another suitable time, they will be the leaders in charge of running an informal Language Summit that will increase their classmates' awareness of <<target language>> and culture. This can be done as an individual class or across a group of classes, and can focus on a particular language, or Languages in general.

5. Allocate students (or ask for volunteers) to take on different roles:

- Panel members - each panel member will be allocated one question sheet to use as a stimulus for their discussion as part of the panel.
- A compere (or comperes)- to MC the summit, ask questions etc
- Entertainment coordinators – responsible for choosing/providing a language-inspired, music playlists, easy food items to share, promotional posters.

NB: This may also be an appropriate time for students to work on creating a video clip for the **MLTAWA Side by Side competition**. Clips could be showcased as part of the summit event.

### On the day of the summit

Showcase Side by side competition clips. Play music.

The compere(s):

- Introduces the summit leaders and reminds the audience that they are there to listen to the ideas/information the panel will discuss.
- Ask each panel member, in turn, the question they are going to elaborate on.
- Invites the audience to if they have any interesting observations or anything to add to the summit panel.

Afterwards enjoy the music and food.