



LEARN IT



Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme
Leonardo da Vinci

LearnIT project PL/08/LLP-LdV/TOI/140001

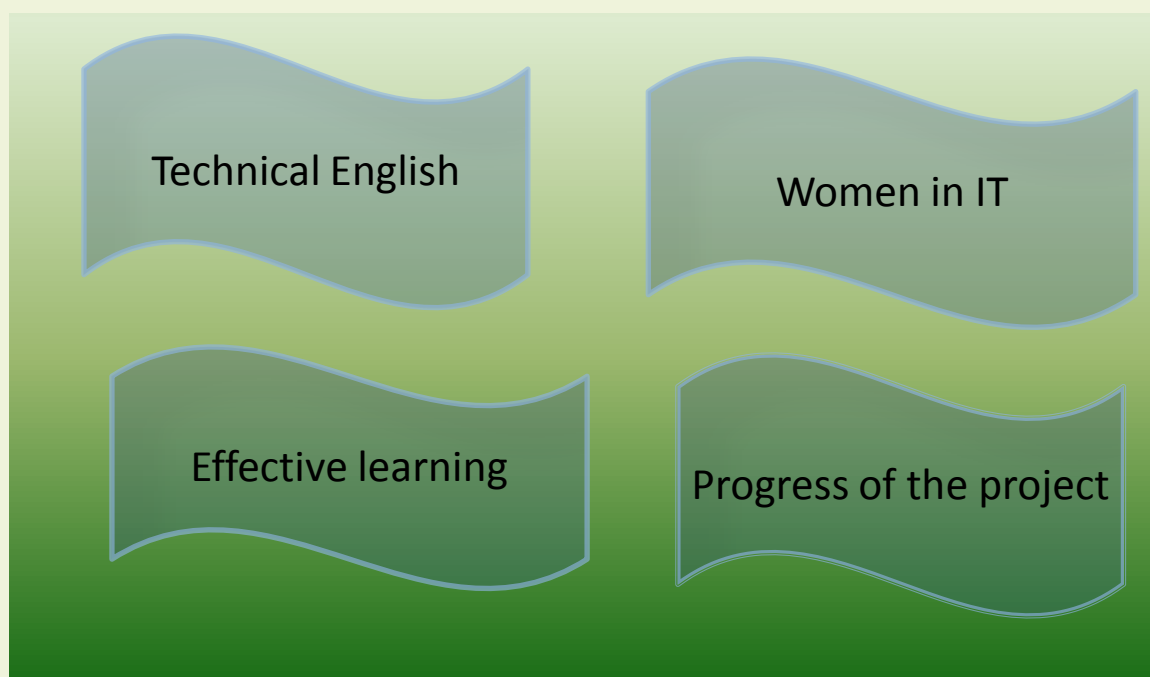


Dear Reader,

We present to you the fifth issue of the LearnIT newsletter. Today we want to tell you about our Technical English and Women in IT course. Also we want to present you techniques and methods of effective learning including designing goals and the SMART concept. We will continue to update you on ongoing activities and we hope that you will find our newsletter interesting.

The LearnIT project consortium

In this issue:



Technical English course

Technical English is a specified part of English language, which refers to vocabulary and sentences related to technical aspects – for example ICT. In most of the European Union countries English language becomes more and more popular in educational pathway, starting from basic school.



English language is important part of education also on high school and university level, but the problem is that more often this is general English or business English. Technical English is not so spreaded.

In framework of the LearnIT project, there will be implemented technical English course. It will be helpful for the project's target group in fighting the lack in knowledge of this language.



Women in IT



The situation of women in IT is far away from the ideal.

According to Gartner report, the percentage of women in IT was always lower than men, but it is worrying that this percentage is decreasing.

In 1996, women were 42% of workers in IT branch and in 2004 this level decreased to 32%.

Research shows that though women have usually good start-up in their job (as they have better grades on studies and probably bigger general knowledge than male workers), but after several years many problems appear. The critical moment is between 35-45 years old. It is called “fight or flight” and women workers are often less resistant on competence in the work place and moreover pressure of the family.



There is one more factor – working in IT often means being an individual and working on an isolated place. Researches show that women prefer work in a group and they like to communicate with other people. At the same time men are directed on personal, individual success and they prefer working for themselves and on their own.

All these factors caused disproportions between women and men in the IT sector.



Another important problem is the disproportion between women and men regarding the position in IT enterprise. Though women are about 30-40% of IT workers, this percentage is much lower on managing positions.

In framework of LearnIT project we have shown some good examples of women who have successes in IT field from Poland, Czech Republic, Italy, Spain, Bulgaria and United Kingdom.

The course “Women in IT” will be a further part of the project, which aims to show women workers that they can succeed in IT sector.

The course will consist for example of questionnaires filled in by women working in IT, movies containing interviews with these women, and also other learning materials, exercises with multiple choice etc.

Effective learning

When you're attending the course – e-learning course, m-learning course or face-to-face training it is good to plan your time with aim to make your learning process effective.



Time management is very important ability as most of the people waste a lot of time during the process of work or learning.

One of the good techniques is to begin from the most important objectives and then achieve further, less important.



The second is to start from the most difficult things and then make easier.

In range of designing goals, there is very good concept called **SMART**, which tells that the aim should be Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timely-Defined.

If you have aims and objectives in your educational pathway, it is good to use this concept.

Moreover teachers should convey this concept to the learners – it makes the process of achieving knowledge easier and more pleasant.

Progress of the project

The meeting in Madrid will be the next meeting of the partners in framework of the LearnIT project.

The meeting was predicted on 24-25th March in Madrid (Spain)

The hosting organization will be Femxa (Spanish partner from Vigo).

Partners decided to meet in Madrid as it is more easy and comfortable to meet in the capital of Spain.

The meeting will be sacrificed for discussion about the e-learning courses prepared. Moreover the subjects of the meeting will be also dissemination and evaluation of the project.

Next issue

The next issue of the newsletter will be available in April 2010.