



The Gold Award for Languages

*The Personal
Challenge*

**Routes into Languages
Yorkshire and the Humber**

THE PERSONAL CHALLENGE

Participants need to work on their own to complete an achievement related to learning or using a foreign language.

This challenge has perhaps the widest scope for students to use their imagination in finding an interesting activity.

Examples could include:

- Producing diary or blog in the target language to document a holiday
- Successfully living with a host family on a foreign language exchange
- Learning a completely new language, to the point where they could have a basic conversation
- Following an event in another country through target language media and writing an article about this in the school magazine
- Communicating regularly with a pen-pal throughout the whole year

This challenge can lend itself to students working collaboratively. For example:

- A student could run Urdu Club at lunchtimes for their Community Challenge, while another student could attend the club in order to achieve a particular level of Urdu for their Personal Challenge.
- Students could challenge each other on learning vocabulary in a language they are already studying. Each could take a different topic and research a list of words for others to learn

SETTING A TARGET

It is important to have a target of what will be achieved through this challenge. As with all challenges, the target can be adapted to suit the level and the needs of the cohort taking part.

As always, the important thing is to see the challenge through to the end and to show evidence of reflection on what has been achieved and learned in the process.

So, buying a “Teach Yourself Arabic” pack will not suffice! On the other hand, using the pack and reaching a level where a conversation can be held would be an excellent example of a Personal Challenge.