



Margaret Russell



The Languages Café is one of the cultural flagships of the University of Plymouth.

It began in 2008.

Once a week university students, staff, and people from the wider **community** of Plymouth come together for an hour to **converse** in a language of their choice over a cup of coffee, tea and biscuits.

Friendships are formed, a variety of languages are practised, and interesting **conversations** are had.



Languages Café

Join us every Wednesday
13.00 – 14.00



Languages Café

Promoting communication across languages and cultures



<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/services/languages-cafe>



UNIVERSITY OF
PLYMOUTH



Languages Café

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The Languages Café is every Wednesday 13:00–14:00

The Languages Café promotes communication across languages and across cultures. It provides an opportunity for home students, international students, university staff, and the wider community of Plymouth to make contact in the relaxed environment of the Café.

Conversations can be joined in French, Spanish, Italian, English and other languages. All levels of language ability are welcome, and there is free coffee, tea, and biscuits available.



The art of communication <https://blogs.plymouth.ac.uk/theelcblog/2024/09/19/the-languages-cafe/>

Conversations are often so much about people's stories.

I sat on the English-speaking table one Wednesday. There were the 2 students from Sudan who recounted their story of leaving civil war-ridden Sudan, the student from Taiwan who learnt all about Sudan, the Engineering student from Korea who had travelled on ships to oil rigs all through Africa and also in the North Sea, and Shirley who is 83, who was born in Kenya and talked to the Sudanese students about the course of the Blue Nile and the White Nile and told them how to count to 10 in Swahili. Myriad of accents all over the world. There was also the lovely Marine student from Yorkshire who had wanted to be a zookeeper and told us that flamingos are pink because of the pink algae they eat.

All the while I could hear similarly interesting conversations on other tables in other languages - French, Spanish, German, Portuguese, Italian. What a vibrant cultural mix. What a pleasant hour sharing stories with such varied and interesting people! What a pleasant hour spent

'where the world worlds' (Manning, 2019),

and as Haraway (2016) rightly comments 'It matters what stories make worlds, what worlds make stories'.

At the Languages Café you can immerse yourself in different worlds.





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This is an amazing arrangement. People are helping each other and having fun. It really improves your understanding and language speaking skills!



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The café provides a great way to practise languages, meet new people and learn about foreign cultures!



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We are lucky to have the Languages Café. It's very friendly and allows us to improve our languages while having fun. It's also wonderful to meet people from different walks of life and different levels of ability.



Thank you 😊



Any questions?

