

Malta Feedback

Agent usage among students going to Malta appears to be on the up. Meanwhile, a shift in the top nationalities has made way for a new market leader.

Malta Feedback at a glance

Total number of students: (female 56, male 38, unknown 3)	97
Average age in years:	25
Average length of programme in weeks:	7.1
Average number of students in class:	9
Average number of hours of language tuition per week:	20
% of students who found out about their course through an agent:	26
% of students who booked through an agent or adviser:	67
% of students who had been on another language programme:	30
% of students who would recommend their school:	93

Student nationality

There was a slump in the number of Asian students studying English in Malta this year, down 13 percentage points to just nine per cent. Only two Asian nationalities were represented in this year's poll – seven per cent of whom were Korean in origin (down two percentage points on last year) and two per cent were Japanese (9.5 percentage points fewer than previously). Chinese students, meanwhile, were noticeably absent from this year's survey. However, when we compare the number of Asian respondents with previous surveys – 23 per cent in 2005, 10 per cent in 2006 and 22

per cent in 2007 – it is apparent that this trend fluctuates year on year. Western Europeans, however, were more numerous, with a 50 per cent share of the nationality spectrum (up two percentage points on last year), but it was the Central and Eastern European contingent that made the biggest splash, now accounting for a 30 per cent of the student body. Russian students (11 per cent) knocked the Germans (seven per cent) off the top spot – a position they have held for the past two years.

Student motivation

Business and service professionals were far less likely to be taking

an English language course in Malta this year – just 20 per cent of respondents fell into this category compared with 47 per cent in 2007 (see LTM, September 2007, pages 18-19). Instead, a majority (60 per cent) were university students; a finding that is also reflected in the average age of Feedback respondents – down from 31.6 years in 2007 to 25 years in this year's survey. However, learning a language for future work purposes appears to be the biggest driving force, with 45 per cent saying that they were learning English with work in mind.

Student enrolment

In terms of how students

EEC / ITIS Malta

Student's CHOICE

EEC Language Centre offers a variety of English language courses suitable to any student, whether a child, teen, adult or even an executive professional. We have over 20 carefully designed courses being taught by highly qualified tutors. We also provide tailor-made short courses for special purposes groups or individuals.

*I feel how significantly I have improved my English. I am so impressed with the quality of your service. **Olga***

*I would like to give a special thanks to the director of studies who established the perfect school. **John***

*I was very satisfied with all arrangements, the school and with my host family. I would be happy to come again to your school. **Maria***

Some of the programmes we offer:

- General and Intensive English Courses.
- English for Specific Purposes that include Business English, English for Tourism, English for Lawyers, English for Medical studies, etc
- Children and Teen Summer Camp package.
- Intensive English package for Executives.
- English and Practice Placement programme in different fields of studies including Tourism, Finance, Travel, Real Estate, Advertising, etc.
- Examination courses that include IELTS, TOEFL, Cambridge, FCE, CAE, CPE, etc.
- Private lessons (one to one), Semi-Individual lessons, Mini Groups lessons.

Courses are available all year

www.educationmalta.com

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109/2 Ursuline Street, Pieta PTA1226 Malta
School Location: Kappara/San Gwann
Tel +356 21226090 Fax +356 21226091

Malta and Gozo

The Mediterranean Islands for English



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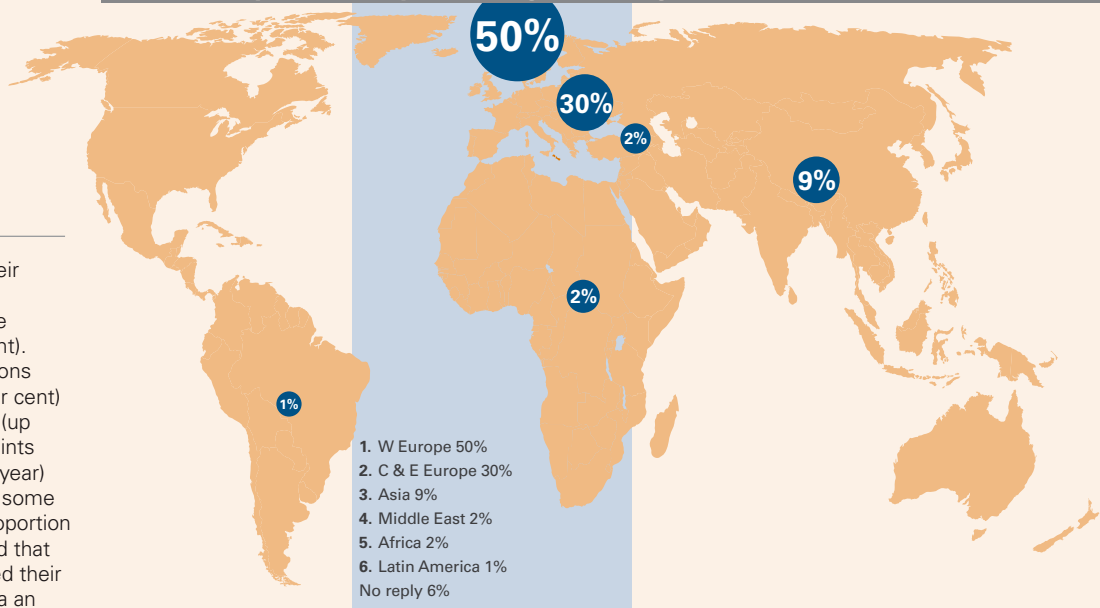
- am Language Studio
- B.E.L.S.
- Clubclass Residential School
- English Communication School
- English Language Academy
- EC Malta
- GEOS Language Centre (Malta)
- Global Village English Centre (Malta)

- Inlingua School of Languages
- LAL Malta
- International English Language Centre
- Linguatime
- Magister Academy
- NSTS English Language Institute
- Sprachcafe Languages Plus
- The Voice School of English



www.feltom.com

Student respondents by world region of origin



found out about their school this year, a majority utilised the Internet (43 per cent). But recommendations from agents (26 per cent) or friends/relatives (up four percentage points to 21 per cent this year) still appear to pack some punch. A higher proportion of respondents said that they actually booked their language course via an agency this year (67 per cent compared with 57 per cent in 2007).

Standard of the schools

Average class size topped nine students this year, compared with 7.4 previously. However, 13 per cent of respondents reasoned that there were too many students per class with a further 19 per cent agreeing that there were too many students from one other country. Those that shared either of these views were Turkish, French, Spanish or German. However, respondents were clearly satisfied with the standard of teaching – 86 per cent agreed that it was either excellent or good, slightly less than the 89 per cent recorded in 2007. The academic content of courses also scored highly with students – 71 per cent said that the programme was either excellent or good compared with 63 per cent previously.

Living in Malta

Forty-five per cent of survey respondents said that the cost of living was on a par with living expenditure at home. A further 31 per cent agreed that costs were in fact lower, proving that Malta is cheaper than many other English-speaking destinations. The nightlife, language and local people all scored highly in terms of things that students liked the most about their study abroad experience.

Top nationalities

11%

1. Russian

10%

2. Swiss

- Czech 9%
- Spanish 8%
- Italian 8%
- German 7%
- Korean 7%
- French 6%
- Turkish 5%
- Austrian 4%

How did you find your programme?

43%

1. I found it on the internet

26%

2. Recommended by an agent

- Recommended by a friend/relative 21%
- I saw it advertised 6%
- No reply 2%

In my class there are...

51%

1. The right amount of students

19%

2. Too many students from one other country

- Too many students 13%
- Too many students who speak my language 10%
- No reply 7%

How easy is it to practise English with native speakers?

51%

1. Quite easy

24%

2. Very easy

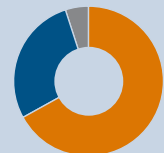
- Quite hard 21%
- Very hard 2%
- No reply 2%

Student reasons for school selection included:

- "It is cheap and convenient"
- "Because it seemed a good school where every student is important"
- "Location, price and weather"
- "I have read many positive reports from other students"
- "Because of the possibility of one-to-one lessons"
- "Because the school is brand new!"

Did you book your course through an agent or an educational advisor?

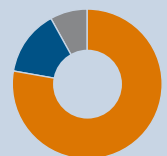
- Yes 67%
- No 28%
- Unknown 5%



Before looking for your course, did you know where you wanted to study?

Country

- Yes 78%
- No 14%
- Unknown 8%



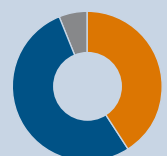
City/town

- Yes 39%
- No 53%
- Unknown 8%



School

- Yes 41%
- No 53%
- Unknown 6%



Thank you to the following schools for participating in our survey: Alpha School of English, St Paul's Bay; Chamber College, Gzira; Clubclass Residential Language School, Swieqi; EC Language Centres, Ta 'Xbiex; EF, St Julians; European School of English, St Julians; IH Gozo, Gharb; inlingua Malta, Sliema; Linguatime, Sliema; NSTS, Valletta.