


## Exploring target language country/ies: Becoming a Language Detective

### Task description

Students work as language detectives by analysing and decoding authentic materials.

Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Decode vocabulary in the target language when analysing authentic materials</li> <li>- Identify, share and explain any language-learning strategies they used to decode the language</li> <li>- Have first hand exposure to authentic materials from the target country/ies</li> </ul>	
Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Authentic materials: menus, receipts, brochures from the tourist office, Ikea/supermarket booklets, estate agent brochures, train tickets, food labels, postcards etc.</li> <li>2. Placemat Activity template</li> <li>3. Reflection template</li> </ol>	The list of authentic materials which can be used is endless. Encourage your students and other staff members to bring these types of items to school after their holidays so you can create a bank of authentic resources for use in the classroom
Expected time taken	<p>40 minutes</p> 	

<p>Task Outline</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In small groups, students are given a selection of authentic items</li> <li>2. Using the 'Think, Pair, Share' technique, students fill in a placemat template under the following headings: (1) words that look like English words, (2) words that look like other languages I know, and (3) words I already know in the TL</li> <li>3. In each group, students reflect on and discuss strategies they used to decode the target language using the reflection template</li> <li>4. Each group shares their findings in a class discussion</li> </ol>	<p>The teacher can choose if they wish to use authentic materials which are all from the same town or they can be a random selection of items</p> <p>Language learning strategies can be placed on the classroom wall to be referred to at other times during the module</p>
<p>Self-assessment: Can-do descriptors</p>	<p>I can figure out what words mean in the target language with a limited amount of knowledge of the language</p> <p>I can reflect on and become aware of the language-learning strategies I use to understand how the target language works</p>	
<p>Key skills</p>	<p>Managing Information &amp; Thinking Working with Others Communicating</p>	