



**Phase One**

**TABLE 1**

QUESTIONS		ANSWERS
How many learners participated in the discussion ?		12 (2 man)
To answer the following please consult the explanatory e-mail dated 23/10/2013		
a.	Did participants know their national anthem ?	<p>Yes, everybody knows the first verse of the national anthem “Himnusz” and could put together the rest together. BUT in Hungary we have another anthem-like “national song” too. Everybody knows that too. The national anthem is sung at the beginning, while the other song at the end of all national celebrations.</p> <p>The public radio station plays “Himnusz” at the close of transmissions in the AM band, as do the state TV channels at the end of the day's broadcasts. “Himnusz” is also traditionally played on Hungarian television at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve. Even in private homes, people will stand and sing along at that time.</p>
a. 1	If not, which were the main reasons they have mentioned ?	The poem has eight verses but it is almost always just the first verse that is performed. It was compulsory to learn the whole poem by heart in the primary school.
b.	How many participants knew the	All the 8 verses? Nobody alone

	<b>entire national anthem ?</b>	<b>but together we could remember the whole.</b>
<b>b. 1</b>	<b>Which verses the majority of the participants remembered ? (those at the beginning, those that are repeated, the refrain ones ?) – Why ?</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> verse</b>
<b>b. 2</b>	<b>Where did the participants learned the anthem ? (e.g. school, home, ....)</b>	<b>primary school</b>
<b>c.</b>	<b>What else did participants know about the anthem ? ( e.g. poet, composer, time and historical period this piece of work was established as the official national anthem, ....)</b>	<b>Everybody knows: poet, composer, time/period when it was written/composed. They could also mention some paintings that are based on the national anthem.</b>
<b>d.</b>	<b>Do the participants believe that the national anthem can be seen as a piece of Art and discussed as such ?</b>	<b>yes</b>
<b>d. 1</b>	<b>Which were the most important arguments they presented a) in favour of or b) against this ?</b>	<b>The poem was written by a well-known Hungarian poet (Ferenc Kölcsey) and the music was composed by one of the greatest romantic Hungarian composers, Ferenc Erkel.</b>
<p><b>Please write here any comments related or not to the above, that you have found interesting and surprising, e.g. High or low emotional involvement, particular references, etc.</b></p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>		

**Phase Two**

**TABLE 2**

<b>QUESTIONS</b>	<b>ANSWERS</b>
<p><b>e. Did learners discover something they did not know about the anthem till then ?</b>  <b>If yes, like what ?</b></p>	<p>The words of the Hungarian anthem are unusual in expressing a direct plea to God rather than proclaiming national pride. This reference to God meant that during the period of strongest communist rule in Hungary (1949–1956), the anthem was played but the words were never sung. Party Secretary Mátyás Rákosi even asked two of the nation's most acclaimed</p>

	<p>artists at the time (Gyula Illyés and Zoltán Kodály) to write a new, communist-themed national anthem. Both, however, refused.</p> <p>In February 1844, the Hungarian National Theatre launched a contest to put the words “Himnusz” to music. Ferenc Erkel (1810-1893), noted Hungarian musician and composer of operas, was inspired to write the music to the <i>Himnusz</i>, which won first prize and was first performed on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1844 in the National Theatre in Budapest.</p> <p>22 January is the day of Hungarian culture. (It’s been celebrated since 1989.) That is the day when Kölcsey finished the poem, according to documents.</p>
<p><b>f. Did they discover something that surprised or impressed them ? If yes, like what ?</b></p>	<p>On May 7, 2006, a sculpture was inaugurated for “Himnusz” in a small town close to Budapest. It was created by Mária V. Majzik, an artist with the Hungarian Heritage Award, depicting the full text of the poem in a circle, centered around a two metres high bronze figure of God, with 21 bronze bells in seven arches between eight pieces of stone, each four and a half metres high. The musical form of the poem can be played on the bells.</p> <p>“Himnusz” got into the Constitution as the national anthem of Hungary only in 1989.</p> <p>In the 18th century Hungary two religious songs became popular as hymns. Both of them can be found in old songbooks; one of them is entitled ‘Oh, where are thou, bright star of Hungarians,’ and the other one bears the title ‘ Our Virgin Mother’. The songs were sung together by community members as breathed prayers.</p> <p>Although widely sung and played in the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the new</p>

	hymn failed to be adopted as the official national anthem of Hungary. In Hungary, due to its proximity to and association with Austria, the “Gott erhalte” was used to praise the Kaiser.
<i>Please give a short account of the most common and of the most interesting answers, including reasons for NO answers, if there are any.</i>	

**During the second meeting with your learners, please ask them to fill the below questionnaire, which you will send, anonymously, to the Greek partner :**

### **QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Please share with us some of your memories related to the National Anthem, which are connected with e.g. age ( childhood, youth, adulthood, later life ), places ( maybe periods of life abroad ), events ( the visit of an official, an athletic event, a historical event, celebration of any kind ), other occasions ( being a soldier, a national representative, etc.), ...**

**It is optional to write your name.**

**Fill in your answers in about 15’ minutes**

<b>Column A. What is my memory (description)</b>	<b>Column B. How I felt when listening/ singing the national anthem, at that occasion</b>
<b>1.childhood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I didn’t know why I had to stand up but did what others were doing</li> <li>• 1972 – Olympics in Munich: Imre Földi won in wrestling and my whole family was happy. Even the neighbours visited us.</li> <li>• National Choir Festival: 500 children sang together the national anthem and I was one of them.</li> <li>• school events: I felt proud</li> <li>• I usually fainted at school celebrations (I couldn’t stand too long) and after singing the anthem i usually sat down.</li> <li>• When I was a child every ceremony started with the national anthem at my school. When I heard the anthem I always was very proud to be Hungarian.</li> <li>• At school celebrations I enthusiastically sang along with the music.</li> </ul>

<b>2.youth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I was member of the school choir and we sang the national anthem at every school event. Once we made a mistake and I felt ashamed.</li> <li>• 16 June 1989: the (new) funeral of Imre Nagy and others who fought in 1956 for the Hungarian Independence. I could feel the ‘wind of change’ in the air ...</li> <li>• 15 March 1989: big crowd in front of the National Museum in Szeged, we were singing together and a lot of people were crying. We were just about to change the old regime ...</li> <li>• When Hungarian sportspeople won abroad, I could listen to the anthem though many of the times it was wrongly played or it was interrupted before its end.</li> <li>• Krisztina Egerszegi won in swimming two gold medals in Seoul (at the age of 14!) three gold medals in Barcelona. I felt excited and very very happy.</li> <li>• The first New Year’s Eve when I was allowed to drink champagne after singing the anthem.</li> <li>• During Olympic Games, when a Hungarian won.</li> </ul>
<b>3. adulthood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I always start crying because of being proud when I hear the Hungarian national anthem at victory celebrations on sports events</li> <li>• I always think of my parents while listening and singing the national anthem; it has become a kind of prayer and I’m thinking of my parents.</li> <li>• The national anthem is a really sad one compared to other nations’ anthems and maybe this is the reason why we, Hungarians often feel depressed and sad.</li> <li>• I felt very proud at my children’s school leaving celebrations.</li> <li>• At the last New Year’s Eve, I felt our anthem is too sad and pessimistic.</li> </ul>
<b>Read again the answers you have given to column B. Think about them for a few minutes and then answer the following questions :</b>	
<b>QUESTIONS</b>	<b>ANSWERS</b>
<b>a. According to your opinion, are there any changes in your feelings and emotions over the years regarding the above</b>	<p>Most people answered “no”.</p> <p>Over the years, I thought it better hymn text. It passes through the whole history. The subtitle is: The stormy centuries of the Hungarian people. The poet prays to God. It’s nice but rather</p>

	<b>memories ?</b>	pessimistic.
<b>b.</b>	<b>If yes, please explain and tell us why</b>	I think when I hear the anthem, I'm Hungarian and I do not want to live anywhere else.