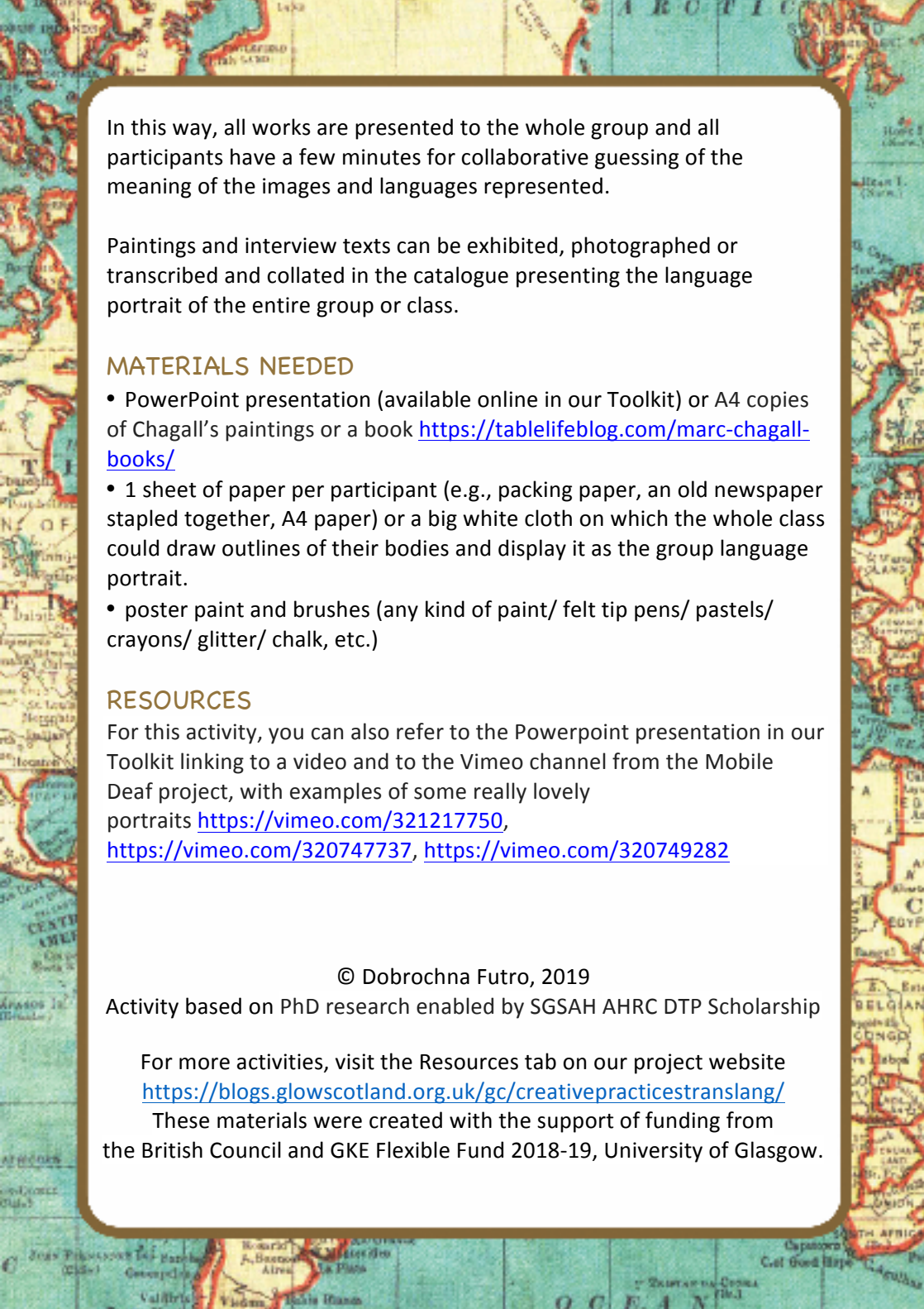


The background of the slide is a vintage-style world map with a color palette of greens, yellows, and reds. A white rounded rectangle with a thin brown border is centered on the map, containing the title and instructions. The title 'Language Portraits inspired by Marc Chagall' is written in a brown, serif font. Below the title, the word 'INSTRUCTIONS' is written in a smaller, brown, sans-serif font. The instructions are a numbered list of five steps, written in a black, sans-serif font.

## Language Portraits inspired by Marc Chagall

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Introduce Mark Chagall to the participants using visual prompts (printouts and/or books with copies of his paintings).
2. Discuss Chagall's linguistic biography and the way he painted languages. You can use the PowerPoint presentation in our Toolkit. Discuss the concept of idioms.
3. Participants work in pairs. One person lies on a big sheet of paper and another one draws an outline of their body on it. The person lying on the paper pretends to be swimming or flying like people in Chagall's paintings. If it is not possible to work with 1:1 scale, participants can draw themselves in smaller scale.
4. Each participant uses the outline as a starting point to develop their language portrait. They represent on the paper languages they use and hear, languages that are part of them and their environment, painting idioms, sayings, symbols and proverbs coming from these languages. If they run out of idioms, they can share ideas or refer to a dictionary, but it should be emphasized it is THEIR OWN portrait. Participants can also consider other ways that languages can be depicted – as an object, situation, person they use the language with.
5. When all portraits are finished, participants discuss their works in small groups. It can be done in the form of an interview with an artist: one person is interviewed by others in a group – the interviewee describes their portrait explaining the idioms, images and languages included in it and interviewers make notes or audio-record it.



In this way, all works are presented to the whole group and all participants have a few minutes for collaborative guessing of the meaning of the images and languages represented.

Paintings and interview texts can be exhibited, photographed or transcribed and collated in the catalogue presenting the language portrait of the entire group or class.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- PowerPoint presentation (available online in our Toolkit) or A4 copies of Chagall's paintings or a book <https://tablelifeblog.com/marc-chagall-books/>
- 1 sheet of paper per participant (e.g., packing paper, an old newspaper stapled together, A4 paper) or a big white cloth on which the whole class could draw outlines of their bodies and display it as the group language portrait.
- poster paint and brushes (any kind of paint/ felt tip pens/ pastels/ crayons/ glitter/ chalk, etc.)

### RESOURCES

For this activity, you can also refer to the Powerpoint presentation in our Toolkit linking to a video and to the Vimeo channel from the Mobile Deaf project, with examples of some really lovely portraits <https://vimeo.com/321217750>, <https://vimeo.com/320747737>, <https://vimeo.com/320749282>

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Activity based on PhD research enabled by SGSAAH AHRC DTP Scholarship

For more activities, visit the Resources tab on our project website <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/creativepracticestranslang/>

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