

WORKSHEET A

Title Error vs mistake	
Objective(s) Reflecting on language learning as a dynamic and developing process	
Keywords errors – mistakes – competence – performance – assessment – correction	
Ref to the Guide	Ref to the CEFR
I.6, IV.5	6.1.3, 6.2.2, 6.5, 9.3.1, 9.3.6, 9.3.7
Task A	
Step 1 (†)	
<p>When/If your students do something wrong in oral or written tasks, you may think the reason is.....: think of at least three possible reasons, then write each one on a separate post-it. Then stick your post-its under the appropriate heading (a similar grid will be hanging on the wall or will have been drawn at the white board). The definitions are taken from the CEFR, p. 155.</p>	
Errors	Mistakes
are due to an <i>'interlanguage'</i> , a simplified or distorted representation of the target competence. when the learner makes errors, his performance truly accords with his competence, which has developed characteristics different from those of L2 norms.	occur in performance when a user/learner (as might be the case with a native speaker) does not bring his competence properly into action.
<p>Discuss the result of the activity in the plenary. Do you feel satisfied with this disposition or do you think some post-it should be displaced? Why?</p>	
Task B	
Step 1 († †)	
<p>Read Ch 1.6 of the guide and Ch. 6.5 of the CEFR. Discuss the statements in the Guide and express agreement or disagreement.</p>	
Step 2 († †)	
<p>Consider the list of attitudes and actions which the CEFR suggests in paragraphs 1 and 2 of 6.5 with regard to errors and mistakes, then the list of uses that can be made of the analysis of</p>	

errors in sub-paragraph 3 always of 6.5.

Insert each point (a, b, c, d,...) of these lists (1, 2 and 3) where you feel like on the following continuum by indicating number+letter (e.g. 1-a, 2-c, 3-b):

strongly agree

strongly disagree

Step 3 († † †)

Share the result in the group and discuss choices and implications. Also discuss if your way of dealing with errors/mistakes has changed over time in your practice.

Step 4 († † †)

Share the main points of the group discussions and express at least one aspect you feel like changing in the next future as regards dealing with errors/mistakes.

