

Dear Friday Folk,

I hope our postwoman has remembered to bring the letters we wrote to ourselves on Monday. Seems yonks ago. I have completely forgotten what I wrote to myself and really want to find out. It will really be like actually receiving a letter from another person.

I wonder how you found the session on things Welsh. M is amazing because she repeats without repeating, in a most extraordinary way.

This afternoon I am going to ask you to run a session for yourselves in which you decide on the shape of next week's programme for our group. I will make myself scarce so you can discuss exactly what you want without my presence (which would be out-of-place). Your task at this meeting is to reach a consensus view of what sorts of areas you want to drop or reduce and what other things you may want to do. I suggest that we initially schedule the meeting as taking half an hour, and if more time is needed, then you take more time.

It was reasonable to offer you a programme for week 1 but would be foolish not to ask you to take over the management reins for week 2.

We have done a lot of work on vocabulary and collocation

We have done a lot of work on getting to know each other both informationally and more intimately.

We have done a fair amount of listening.

We have done lots of different types of talking in different subject areas

We have done a little bit on culture and culture shock.....

We have done a tiny bit of gentle correction I feel very iffy about this area

We have done very little reading

We have done hardly any media stuff

We have not touched on empathetic listening (trying to listen in great depth and with more discipline)

We have alluded to the whole new area corpus linguistics but very lightly....

We have done nothing really on the new grammar of oral English....

We have lightly touched on one or two NLP techniques for improving communication, and these I used as much to improve group cohesion as for the techniques in their own right.

We have done a spot of writing

On the one hand we seem to have quite a lot and on the other we seem to have done very little indeed.

This is from the teacher's point of view and is irrelevant. The important thing is what has been going on in your linguistic intelligences.

Please come this afternoon ready to shape next week. I will, it goes without saying, abide by your decisions, but, by the same token, you need to make them clear to me.



Mario.