

Participant Notebook:  
Learning a language from Videos

Spring 2025

This notebook belongs to: participant 1

Link to Zeeguu: [zeeguu.org](http://zeeguu.org)

[**Introduction 3**](#_wpsxrg1inrn0)

[Date 3](#_lflnahuiuzt7)

[Goal 3](#_q0cspjwreqig)

[Your Notes 3](#_keondg6nwg89)

[**Session 1 - Article 5**](#_u5b8s1myi5m)

[Date 5](#_3gnta1seg6oy)

[Goal 5](#_p6h2yynuotfv)

[Your Notes 5](#_lz32ufnsq6bs)

[**Session 2 - Article + Exercise 6**](#_r94xo7w6n34h)

[Date 6](#_nsezf6u8p261)

[Goal 6](#_nlltd2eyiz2w)

[Your Notes 6](#_h7qvhqb9h5vz)

[**Session 3 - Video 7**](#_khyvzwaknskh)

[Date 7](#_lbj78lvs6jq4)

[Goal 7](#_vi67xmikl1i8)

[Your Notes 7](#_jo2irgept5k7)

[**Session 4 - Video + Exercise 8**](#_gwu7fxn530x9)

[Date 8](#_bf6of5s3mk0j)

[Goal 8](#_bi8w8c41m6mf)

[Your Notes 8](#_6mtwh6mqma6s)

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# Introduction

We have developed this notebook to guide your note-taking during the study. The insights we uncover in this study heavily rely on extracting your experience from each session, so feel free to go crazy on the notes!

In the below, we explain each section of the session notes.

## Date

* This should be the date that you complete the session.

## Goal

* This part will instruct you on what your goal is with the session.

## Your Notes

* This is where you put in your notes about the session.
* Aim for at least 3 bullet points for each session.
* We keep an eye on this notebook in case you get stuck. In which case we will reach out to you and help solve any issues you may have.
* At the end of the study we will use your notes to have a discussion about learning languages via videos.
* So what should your notes be about?
  + Something that was frustrating
  + Something that is missing
  + Something you liked
  + Something that surprised you
  + etc.
* Examples
  + *“I really liked that I could translate words while watching the video”*
  + *“Bad: finding a video I liked was too hard”*
  + *“I’m not sure if I completed the goal of this session, but what I actually did was…”*
  + *“Where is the save video button??”*
  + *“Watching the video takes too long because…”*
  + *“I was surprised to find out that…”*
  + *“I didn’t know that I could watch the video in fullscreen.*
  + *“This session was a bit difficult because…”*
  + *“Good: Rewatching the video a few times works a lot better for me*

# Session 1 - Article

## Date

* 22/04/2025

## Goal

* 1. Read an article on Zeeguu that you find interesting and challenging
* 2. Translate the words in the article that you don’t understand or find difficult. If you don’t need to translate any words, the article is not challenging enough.

## Your Notes

* I like that I can choose the length of the article
* I would like to have the option to separate the videos from the reading articles
* I like the reading mode of an article. It is easy to focus on the text
* It is very nice that I can translate any word I do not know directly into the text. Going to google translate every time is very time consuming.
* I like that the new word stays on top, so that the translation does not disappear
* I would like to have the option of seeing more translations. With this I mean: when I click on a word, I get the translation. Which is good. But then I would like to have the option to click on the translation and have more info or more alternative translations, so I can understand which other meanings can this word have.
* Maybe it would be nice to have somewhere the words I wanted to translate by hand. I was reading a 6 minute article, and a word I did not know appeared a few times. It would be nice to either have the words you are translating on a side of the page that follows you when you scroll down the article, or maybe, when you translate this word, automatically all the others in the text get translated.

# Session 2 - Article + Exercise

## Date

* 22/04/2025

## Goal

* 1. Read an article on Zeeguu that you find interesting and challenging
* 2. Translate the words in the article that you don’t understand or find difficult. If you don’t need to translate any words, the article is not challenging enough.
* 3. Spend 5 minutes trying out the exercises

## Your Notes

* I like that I can always decide to hear the pronunciation of a word, both in the article and in the exercises.
* I could not get the translation of 2 words in one of the articles I read. it was “Harvard sagsøger Trump-administrationen” and I could not translate ’alvorlige og langvarige’
* When matching danish-english words in the exercise, every word pair has a different color once you match it correctly. Even though I understand the purpose, I would prefer to have one change in color after the match of the words is done correctly. Having similar colors (like light blue and dark purple) makes it difficult to immediately understand if the match of the words is correct or not. The green is the only easy one to understand. So, once the words are matched correctly, I would like that they change color, but I would prefer that you will use only one color for all the words.
* I do not totally understand why while I am doing the exercise I do have a bar with some dots (some gray and some green), like I have to do as many exercises as the number of dots, but then the green dots do not progress.

# Session 3 - Video

## Date

* 30/04/2025

## Goal

* 1. Watch a video on Zeeguu that you find interesting and challenging
* 2. Translate the words in the captions that you don’t understand or find difficult. If you don’t need to translate any words, the video is not challenging enough.

## Your Notes

* There are few errors in the text in Danish under the video when it is about numbers (not the text from youtube)
* I have picked up 2 random videos, the first 2 that appeared in the home page. Both of them had either no or very few written words (no speeches). So they are completely useless videos for learning a language
* I like that the video stops when I want to translate a word
* I like that since the video if from Youtube, you can decide the speed
* I like that there is a variety of topics for the videos
* Same comment as for the articles: I would like to have the option of seeing more translations. With this I mean: when I click on a word, I get the translation. Which is good. But then I would like to have the option to click on the translation and have more info or more alternative translations, so I can understand which other meanings can this word have.

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# Session 4 - Video + Exercise

## Date

* 30/04/2025

## Goal

* 1. Watch a video on Zeeguu that you find interesting and challenging
* 2. Translate the words in the captions that you don’t understand or find difficult. If you don’t need to translate any words, the video is not challenging enough.
* 3. Spend 5 minutes doing exercises

## Your Notes

* Especially in the videos there are some expressions that cannot be translated word by word. So sometimes the literal translation is not accurate and does not make a lot of sense. Even when few words are linked together.
* Few words are sometimes missing from the translation.
* In a normal speed video with a lot of speech, it is difficult to keep up with speech, text and translation. Sometimes the written text is one sentence that disappears in a few seconds. So I nearly manage to hear the speech and see the text, and the next sentence is already on. So I have to stop, go back, and then translate. Maybe longer written sentences would help to have more time to stop and translate the words, and also to see a full and longer sentence to have all the context.
* For the exercises, I have no additional comments to the ones I already did for session 2.