

21, Harford Drive,
Watford,
Herts.

29 May, 1972.

Dear Dr Yates,

You may remember we were in contact several months ago. Recently I met a Spaniard from Barcelona by chance and I soon asked him his mother tongue (Catalan) and then for some directions on pronunciation. He was most definite that "ll" is pronounced "y" not "ly", contrary to what Gili says (page 16). He also said that "b" and "v" are both pronounced as the English "b" which fits with what Gili says of Barcelona speech (p. 18).

I have so far discovered the following periodicals published wholly or partly in Catalan: Vida Nova (France; mostly Catalan, some "Occitan"), Andorra Magazine (Catalan, French and Spanish articles), Serra d'Or, Oriflama (revista de la joventut) and L'infantil (a children's comic). Please tell me if you know of any more (and addresses if possible).

Did you discover the possible other Catalan text-book for English-speaking people which you thought might exist in Spain? I am going to Malgrat in four weeks' time (north of Barcelona, on the coast), for two weeks' stay except that I intend to make my way from there for five or six days in Andorra in the middle of the holiday. A package holiday with an individual detour for a combination of cheapness and independence.

I hope your "Teach Yourself Catalan" is coming along well. Did you see the article in the Daily Telegraph Magazine (26 May) about the language-teaching theories of Dr Stanley Rundle? I like his approach, at least as described, but I wonder what you think of it. (I realise there is nothing new about the sound changes he employs).

There is an organisation of possible interest to you, called "Association Internationale pour la Défense des Langues et Cultures Menacées", but all I know about it is that their annual meeting is due to be held at Klagenfurt, Austria from 22 to 24 July. I hope to obtain their address.

With good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Robert B. Canagar.