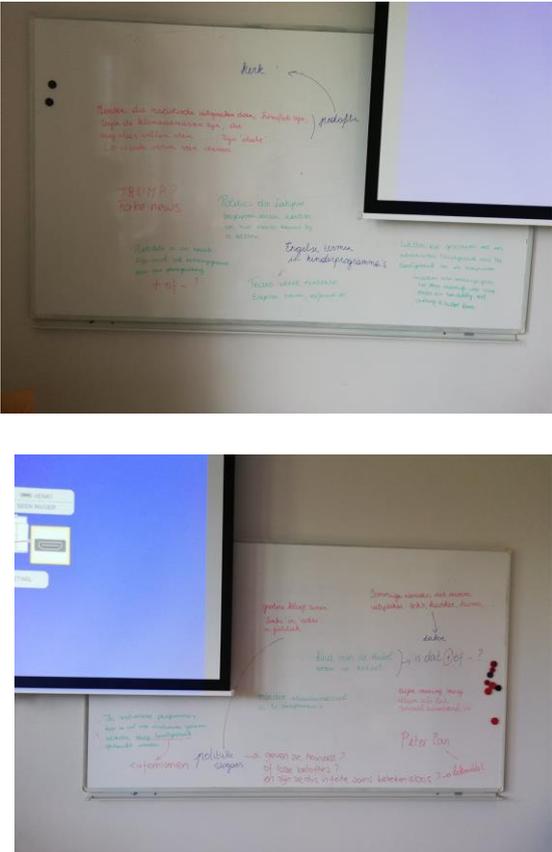


## Method: Chalk Talk

In **UCLL**, **Liesbeth Spanjers** has been trying out the method of Chalk Talk in the course ‘Sociolinguïstiek’ where 5 students participated.

Here are the steps UCLL takes in applying this method:

<p>1. The topic of the session is “Language and Nations” or how nations use language to unify or devide the population.</p>	
<p>2. The lecturer illustrated the possibility of using language to create a unified population by a brief history of language use in the Soviet Union. As this example is rather unknown for the students, the lecturer introduced a Chalk Talk with the following questions: <i>How do you link this information on the importance of language / on the influence of language on society to life in your own society?</i></p>	 <p><i>Hoe kan je deze informatie over het belang van taal voor de maatschappij of de invloed van taal op de maatschappij linken aan je eigen leven?</i></p>
<p>3. The instructions for the chalk talk were the following: “Don’t talk! Write down what you are thinking or wondering about, write a question or add a comment to other people’s comments, link ideas, circle interesting ideas.”</p>	
<p>4. Students started to write down their ideas on the white board in complete silence. They used different colours. While reading the comments of others, they saw links and added questions, as you can see in the pictures of the white board.</p>	

5. After 15 minutes, students were asked to clarify their ideas and to link them to the ideas of others. It became clear that students shared similar examples, seen from different perspectives. Example: society limits freedom of speech (taboos, fear of speaking in case your opinion is different from the general public's opinion, etc)

6. After the presentation and clarification by the students, the lecturer had a good view on the links in the student's own lives to the topic and the lecturer understood that the topic was relevant to the students, although it is rather unknown. It made clear that the brief history was still vague and could be made more concrete in coming sessions.

Go to: [Chalk Talk method](#)