

NURTURING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

20-21 OCTOBER 2023

VENUE: OLD UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, VALLETTA



FRI/20
OCT

12TH ELT MALTA CONFERENCE

NURTURING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

1300 - 1430 **Registration
& Welcome Coffee**

1430 - 1530 **PLENARY 1**

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



EMBEDDING A CULTURE OF EMPATHY IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

In this plenary, I will start by exploring what empathy is, its neurological foundations, and its three main components: cognitive empathy, affective empathy, and empathetic concern. I will draw on general education literature to present what research findings suggest about the role of empathy in education. I will then draw on language education literature and research to support my argument that empathy is particularly important in language education. I will try to determine whether there is an empathy deficit in language teaching and look at hindering factors that may make it challenging to embed a culture of empathy in the profession.

About Kieran Donaghy

Kieran Donaghy is an award-winning writer, international conference speaker and trainer. He is the author of books for students and teachers of English as a foreign language. His publications include *Film in Action* (Delta Publishing), *Writing Activities for Film and Video* (ELT Teacher2Writer), *The Image in ELT* (ELT Council), *Films in Health Sciences Education* (Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona) and *Language Hub* (Macmillan). He trains teachers in Barcelona and online at his specialist teacher development institute, The School for Training <https://theschoolfortraining.com/>. His independent publishing company Film English <http://film-english.com/> has won a British Council ELTons Award, an English Speaking Union Award and the MEDEA Award.



1545 - 1645 **WORKSHOPS 1-4**

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 01 SPONSORED **“WE ARE FAMILY! COMMUNICATION, COMMUNITIES AND COHESION IN ELT.”**

What we do demands a certain mindset. But how do we nurture that? We'll be looking at ways to join the wider ELT community, or start one, and participate usefully, and have meaningful communication. We're, arguably, at a pivotal time for our profession, both in terms of the changes we're seeing in: delivery, production, the language skills needed and in the sense of the world we're preparing our students for. Will anyone need to learn anything we're teaching in their future? The world is changing rapidly, where are we in that? Where should we be? This will be a practical session with interaction and input welcomed.



About Thom Jones

SPONSORED

Thom Jones has lived in more than a dozen countries and delivered training in over 70. Having been a truly useless student he started his professional life as a waiter before going into teaching, then management, before going freelance. Formerly part of the senior executive at Embassy CES before becoming Director of Operations USA for Studygroup he returned to the UK to with a range of organisations. He presents regularly around the world on a range of topics and is a guest lecturer at four universities. He is Ambassador of Buzz for Express publishing.

AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 02 TENSE STUFF

How many 'tenses' are there in English? What exactly is 'aspect'? What's 'will' all about? What's the story with 'stative verbs'? This session takes a look at these and other questions and considers how we can go beyond the traditional explanations in coursebooks and grammar books and help our learners develop a better and more nuanced understanding of how to use verbs and tenses.



About Jon Hird

Jon Hird is a teacher, teacher trainer and materials writer based in Oxford, UK. He teaches grammar and EAP at the University of Oxford and frequently gives talks and workshops in the UK and overseas. Jon has written and contributed to a number of grammar, coursebook and other ELT publications.

ROOM 103
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 03 TEACHING FOR A BETTER WORLD: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN ELT

Working with the UN Sustainable Development Goals brings real world content and issues into the classroom. How about ELT? In this practical workshop, teachers will be working on activities that make language learning relevant and meaningful and consequently lead students to finding world-changing solutions starting with the future of the world in their classroom today.



About Eftychis Kantarakis and Ruby Panagiotis Polygennis

Eftychis Kantarakis is a Teacher Trainer and Sales Manager for NGL for Greece and Cyprus Ruby Panagiotis Polygennis is a School owner and ELT teacher at his PLS, Faros in Athens Greece



ROOM 201
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 04 TEACHING WITH TIK-TOK

TikTok has become a popular social network among today's students, with an average usage time of 95 minutes per day. This workshop aims to explore how educators can incorporate TikTok into their lessons, offering interactivity, creativity, and fun. It will cover what TikTok is, how it works, reasons for considering its use in the classroom, and ready-to-use lesson ideas. Educators can add value to their lessons by using TikTok as an educational tool. This workshop will examine the benefits of using TikTok in the 21st century classroom and provide guidance on how to find appropriate videos and create your own.



About Christos Sotiropoulos

Christos Sotiropoulos is an English language teacher and language school owner, holding a Master's degree in Education Technologies. His expertise lies in implementing technological solutions to enhance the teaching and learning experience.

1645 - 1715

Coffee Break

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1**WORKSHOP 05****CREATING COURSES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY STUDENT**

To some of us, the term 21st Century Skills is our daily bread. So why, in 2023, are so many ELT teachers and trainers still unsure of what these even are, let alone able to understand the implications of not including them in course design and delivery? Through discussion and activities, this workshop aims to promote the understanding of 21st Century Skills and our responsibility to produce employable, confident global citizens. It will also help allay the fear of teaching anything other than language in the ELT classroom and in turn nurture and develop our own teaching community.

**About Siân Hanson**

Siân is Group Academic Director for BSC Education. She has worked in ELT for 12 years as a teacher, trainer and academic manager, and before that worked in education marketing and events. Siân is passionate about student and team wellbeing, seeing others progress and reach their full potential, especially through the development of 21st century skills.

AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2**WORKSHOP 06****RECYCLE, REVISE, TEACH AND PLAY**

Teachers often look for the new ideas on how to teach and revise grammar, vocabulary, test reading and listening skills. In this engaging workshop will share many fun activities using recycled materials such as bottle caps, bottles, egg cartons, paper and plastic cups, yoghurt containers. It's cheap, children love them, and they are effective.

**About Sanja Rašković**

Sanja Raskovic is EFL teacher with 27 years teaching experience. She has run workshops at IATEFL, Malta, France, Slovenia, Serbia, Macedonia, Croatia, Montenegro conferences and teacher training workshops for Pearson and Goethe Institute. Sanja is a certified NLP Trainer with MA in English language and Literature and CELTA, CertIBET certificates.

ROOM 103
LEVEL 1**WORKSHOP 07****DIGITAL INTELLIGENCE AND WELLBEING IN THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM**

Changing student needs and excessive digitalisation have acted as a catalyst for change in education, which has implications for lesson planning as well as materials writing. With a few creative and relevant resources, every classroom can be spiced up in ways that motivate and engage present-day learners. In this workshop, we will discuss what sort of materials may motivate 'modern' learners, and participants will have the opportunity to try out some custom-made classroom activities and resources that are aimed at improving students' digital intelligence (DQ Institute, 2019) and (digital) wellbeing (Mercer & Gregersen, 2020).

**About László Németh**

László has gained extensive experience in both public and private education. While pursuing a PhD, he is a full-time teacher trainer at the University of Pannonia and freelance English teacher and materials writer. His main interests lie in digital intelligence and materials writing. Currently, he is the President of IATEFL-Hungary.

ROOM 201
LEVEL 2**WORKSHOP 08****LESSONS FROM THE ACTOR**

This practical workshop will look at a number of skills usually associated with the craft of acting and offer the experience for teachers to gauge their relevance to themselves in the classroom. We will look at areas such as voice, creative use of space and non-verbal communication



About Mark Almond

Mark is a Senior Lecturer in the Centre for Language and Linguistics at Canterbury Christ Church University, UK, where he directs and teaches on various undergraduate and post-graduate language teacher training programmes. He has taught, trained English language teachers, carried out consultancies and delivered plenary conference papers around the world. He is the author of two ELT books for Pavilion Publishing in drama and theatre.

1830 -1900

TALKS 1-5

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



TALK 01

CONVERSATIONS ABOUT BELF - A CASE STUDY

This case study reports on an online professional learning community which was set up for teachers wishing to know more about English as a business lingua franca (BELF) research and its impact on language teaching and learning in a business context. The community started in June 2022, has met regularly since then, and has developed into a popular resource for teachers around the world who wish to share their experiences and learn from each other. Challenges include limited access to academic literature, different perspectives across different countries and contexts, and different levels of teacher competence and experience.



About Evan Frendo

Evan Frendo has been involved in ESP/ business English teaching since 1993. Based in Berlin, Germany, his focus is primarily on language training and consulting in a corporate context. He also speaks regularly at ELT events. For more information see www.e4b.de.

AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2



TALK 02

ENHANCING TEACHING AND LEARNING THROUGH TPD

Teacher professional development (TPD) plays a vital role in supporting educators. It helps them to develop various professional skills and expertise in relevant subject areas, acquire a deeper understanding of learning and student development, or expand knowledge of new techniques and modern technology. Therefore, teachers need to be supported through effective TPD. This talk aims to discuss the significance of teacher professional development for improving classroom instruction and student achievement. Particular attention will be given to preparing educators for a digital future. To this end, the impact of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, on teaching will be demonstrated.



About Agnieszka Dudzik and Agnieszka Dzieciol-Pedich

Agnieszka Dudzik, PhD, is an EFL teacher at the Medical University of Bialystok, Poland. Her main fields of interest include ESP and communicative language teaching. Agnieszka Dzieciol-Pedich, PhD, is a lecturer at the University of Bialystok. She is interested in the communicative approach and intercultural competence in foreign language teaching.



ROOM 103
LEVEL 1



TALK 03

WAYS OF INCREASING STUDENT AND TEACHER MOTIVATION

Motivation is a driving force, a powerful tool that helps educators to be successful in their teaching and an essential part of the whole educational process. Unfortunately, very often both teachers and students feel a lack of it. That is why, it is extremely important to learn about the main types of motivation and the strategies how to develop motivation and inspire students at the English lessons. Moreover, during the talk it is planned to inform the delegates about the ways of increasing motivation while teaching remotely, the features of work with trauma-affected students and a priority of student social-emotional well-being.



About Iryna Ponomarets

Iryna Ponomarets is a teacher trainer, a co-author of the online course, a true leader, a progressive teacher of the country, a Fulbright TEA, AE E-Teacher Program Alumna, a MOOC facilitator, one of TOP 10 of Community Leads, a featured speaker in the CoP and a RELO SMALL GRANTS winner.

ROOM 201
LEVEL 2



TALK 04

COBBLING TOGETHER LANGUAGES: ENABLING TRANSLANGUAGING IN THE CLASSROOM

Traditionally, the learner's first language has often been considered as an obstruction to second language acquisition. Translanguaging, which is a "fluid interweaving of languages", challenges this monolingual bias (Ortega, 2019). This talk aims to give a brief overview of what is translanguaging and why it is important for both meaning making and identity expression. We will look at some examples of translanguaging in pop culture and how these can be used in the ELT classroom to encourage learners to use their full linguistic repertoires. Finally, we will also look at how practices such as language mashup and word substitution can be used in personal narrative writing.



About Josianne Block

Josianne Block is currently reading for a Masters degree in the field of Applied Linguistics and TESOL at the University of Malta. She is qualified in teaching English, Italian and Maltese as foreign languages and is currently teaching English using the CLIL approach to newly-arrived migrant learners.

ROOM 6
LEVEL 0



TALK 05

SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION: ENHANCED 'CLIL-ING'. A WAKE-UP CALL

The objective of this study is to introduce the idea of Sustainable Education through the implementation of CLIL. Sustainability in education is the process of meeting our students' needs by helping them develop divergent, convergent, and metacognitive thinking abilities to address the interconnected global challenges. To create a 'community' of learners who have subject oriented language practice CLIL must be enhanced with technology (Virtual Reality) and combined with Question-Based-Learning. VR can and should be used to provide a tight coupling between symbolic and experiential information and QBL will help learners deepen their understanding of core content.



About Maria Diavati

Maria Diavati, BA in English Literature and Philology (UOA), MA in TESOL (Cambridge University), MBA in Educational Leadership (University of Cumbria), Licentiate Trinity College London CertTESOL and DipTESOL. Maria has worked in ELT as a teacher, examiner, teacher trainer and materials developer. With more than 25 years of teaching experience she is currently academic coordinator in two multi-awarded foreign language schools. She introduced the VR and AR experience in the Greek ELT and adopted CLIL as the main educational framework.



BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT STREAM

SCHOOL OWNERS, HEADS OF SCHOOLS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT OF ELT SCHOOLS

ROOM 6
LEVEL 0



1300 - 1430

REGISTRATION

1430 - 1515

OVERVIEW OF MTA MARKETING ACTIVITY

About Carlo Micallef

Carlo Micallef began his career at Malta Tourism Authority over 25 years ago after experiences in Real Estate and Industrial Filtration. A University of Malta graduate, he held various roles in Marketing, including launching Malta's efforts in Russia and the UK & Ireland markets. He progressed to Head of International PR and Regional Director in Amsterdam. Returning to Malta, he became Chief Marketing Officer in 2014 and later Deputy CEO in 2018. He restructured MTA's marketing setup, leading to Malta's successful 2019 tourism year. He became CEO in May 2022, tasked with revitalizing Malta's tourism after the pandemic. He also chaired the Institute for Tourism Studies.



1515 - 1600

VALUES THAT GIVE HIGH VALUE

Within the future of work reality we are facing, successful employers and business leaders are looking more and more at purpose and values driven leadership to stand out by using the transformative power of instilling core values in organizations. How can these principles lead to exceptional outcomes in student engagement, employee morale, and community relationships? Drawing from real-world success stories, the talk explores the impact of values-driven leadership on financial performance and brand reputation. By nurturing a culture of trust, empathy, and adaptability, attendees are empowered to create sustainable businesses that not only maximize profits but also inspire positive change in the broader educational landscape.

About Christine Gingell

After acquiring an MBA at Bocconi Business School in Milan, Christine developed a desire to discover the world through travel and to develop both personally and academically within international business environments. She has always been driven by cross cultural and international environments since they provide a broad understanding on how backgrounds, upbringing, languages and cultures are unified by our unique human needs, which in turn, highlight our commonalities rather than our differences. Christine is a brand marketer at heart, passionate about customer insight and excited by purpose driven innovative trends. With her expertise, she is involved in enabling creative solutions with a focus on data driven analysis, while also strategizing and challenging around the areas of employer branding, cross cultural fit and empathy.



1600 - 1700

NAVIGATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION: A ROADMAP FOR ELT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The objective of this session is to equip leaders with the knowledge and strategies to successfully navigate and implement digital transformation in ELT teaching and classrooms.



About Kevin Spiteri

Kevin Spiteri is an experienced EFL educator with a keen interest in the intersection of gaming, artificial intelligence, and education. Over the past 20 years, he has worked globally as a teacher, Director of Studies, and education consultant. As the Founder/Director of TETRA and Level Academy, he integrates innovative gaming and AI strategies into teaching, focusing on teacher training, course evaluation, and quality assurance in education.

SAT/21
OCT

12TH ELT MALTA CONFERENCE

NURTURING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

0800 - 0900 **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

0900 - 0930 **10th Inspiring ELT Award Ceremony**

0930 - 1030 **PLENARY 2**

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENT ELT

Join the speaker in looking for examples of good practice to place at the heart of what we do. Lacking mainstream education's extensive (and also restrictive) quality assurance framework, and operating in a commercially competitive arena, we face some hefty challenges - but we also have the freedom to experiment, reflect, and get it right. Drawing on the opinions, experience, knowledge and insight of the audience we'll explore what this means to the various stakeholders in ELT and consider questions like, what does excellence look like? How do we measure it? How do we achieve it? How do we maintain it? And, is it really important?

About Paul Atkins

For more than three decades since a deeply unimpressive teaching debut, Paul Atkins has been a teacher, academic manager, and teacher trainer; it is to be hoped - not least by his current employer - he has improved somewhat by now. Currently he is the Teacher Trainer at Maltalingua, running in-house CPD plus the school's coaching and mentoring programme for new and early-career teachers, and contributing to the school's quality assurance cycle; he also works as a freelance teacher, trainer, and professional coach. Paul believes strongly that our diverse, creative industry should lead the way in achieving and maintaining the highest professional standards.



1045 - 1145 **WORKSHOPS 09-12**

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 09 SPONSORED IMPROVED LISTENING OUTCOMES

In this session, the presenter will highlight the basics of listening: knowing language, hearing the language you know, and automaticity, or matching meaning to sounds quickly. Using examples from *Outcomes*, Third Edition, participants will learn how to develop these skills through choosing language for clear conversational goal, through pronunciation and micro-listening tasks, and through speaking tasks and revision.

About Hugh Dellar

Hugh Dellar is an author, teacher and teacher trainer with over twenty years' experience in the field. He is also the co-founder of Lexical Lab and has co-written the methodology book *Teaching Lexically*. Hugh has given teacher training and development sessions in over twenty countries including Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Spain, Italy, Japan, Russia and Ukraine. He has spoken on such wide-ranging topics as the nature of English as a lingua franca, the uses and abuses of corpora, approaches to teaching grammar and vocabulary and many others. He is co-author of *Perspectives* and the *Outcomes* series, shortly publishing in its 3rd edition, both published by National Geographic Learning.



AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 10

STORY! STORY! CREATIVE INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES WITH STORIES AND OTHER NARRATIVES

This dynamic, fun, hands-on workshop will look at storytelling and offer some creative 'twists and tweaks' to familiar storytelling and other narrative techniques to bring the stories to life and to engage our learners, sometimes in surprising ways. The techniques are suitable for children, younger teens and adults alike.

About Alan Marsh

Alan has worked for many years in teacher training and teacher development with language teachers from all over the world. He is an international conference speaker, Cambridge CELTA and DELTA teacher trainer and is a co-author of *The Creative Teacher's Compendium* (Pavilion ELT). He is particularly interested in fostering creativity in teachers and learners. He is based in Gosport, UK and Malta.

ROOM 201
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 11

POWERFUL BRIDGES: FROM INDIVIDUALS TO COMMUNITIES - OUR STORY

Let us take you on an intercultural journey, started in Malta in 2022 but envisioned long ago. On our adventurous odyssey we will provide you with tools for successful crossing and solid, creative building between cultures. This workshop wrapped within a story aims to inspire and empower educators to develop and sustain professional learning communities while nurturing critical thinking skills drawing on a concentric approach to identity. The ultimate goal is to invite further intercultural collaboration using digital literacies. Come to hear our true story and join us on a mission to collect stepping stones to build a bridge together.

About Ivana Burić Kurtović, Eva Bogdanović, and Armanda Stroia

Ivana Burić Kurtović, M.A., Eva Bogdanović, M.A. and Armanda Stroia, PhD, are English teachers, teacher trainers, materials developers interested in storytelling, critical thinking, intercultural competences and digital literacies. Eva and Ivana are language school owners and their newly-founded EVIVA Learning Mobility Association aims to create and sustain learning communities worldwide. Armanda founded the Academy of Creators who Teach to inspire, where she shares empowering teaching resources.

ROOM 103
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 12

DEVELOPING TEACHERS' STRENGTHS AND POSITIVE STRATEGIES

The power of positivity not only promotes better wellbeing, but it also leads to less illnesses and diseases. Life challenges are not always easy to handle. However, by learning to master the appropriate tools and become aware of what our everyday life challenges and stressors are, and deal with them, empowers us to not only be happier, but also feel stronger. This workshop is designed to introduce participants to acquire the power of positive psychological strategies that will enable them to obtain the potential tools to overcome any obstacles they come across, both in their personal and professional life.

About Louise Cortis

Louise Cortis has been an English teacher for the last 20 years and teacher trainer for 10 years. She is an MA TESOL graduate from the University of Malta, and a Wellbeing Life Coach. Louise is passionate about teachers and their wellbeing. Her workshops are designed to help teachers strengthen their wellbeing, and their personal and professional growth.

1145 - 1215

Coffee Break

ROOM 201
LEVEL 2

WORKSHOP 13 SPONSORED

THE POWER OF STORIES

We all know that stories play a big part in our lives. They are magical and have the power to transport us to the most amazing places with just a flick of a page! But what if stories could impact memory retention, learning efficiency, and understanding of the unknown? What if all this could be happening while also shaping our students into competent users of the English language and teaching them how to connect to themselves and others around them? Well they can. How? Let's find out together!



About Kristy Kors

Kristy Kors has a BA (Hons) from Leeds Metropolitan University and a CELTA allowing her to study different types of teaching methodological approaches. She taught English as a foreign language for several years before joining Express Publishing as an ELT Consultant. She now participates in seminars and conferences around the world, conducting teacher training sessions where she shares her research and ideas on the latest methodological advances.

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1

WORKSHOP 14

AI-ENGLISH: TEACHING ENGLISH IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Explore the fascinating realm where Artificial Intelligence (AI) intersects with English Language Teaching (ELT) in this engaging workshop. Delve into the cutting-edge applications of AI that are reshaping the landscape of English language education. Through interactive demonstrations and thought-provoking discussions, gain insights into the transformative power of AI in ELT, including virtual language tutors and intelligent language assessment tools. Examine the advantages and challenges of integrating AI in language classrooms, equipping educators with valuable knowledge for harnessing AI's potential. Join us on this journey to embrace the future of ELT, unlocking the possibilities offered by AI-driven tools in teaching and learning English.



About Kevin Spiteri

Kevin Spiteri is an experienced EFL educator with a keen interest in the intersection of gaming, artificial intelligence, and education. Over the past 20 years, he has worked globally as a teacher, Director of Studies, and education consultant. As the Founder/Director of TETRA and Level Academy, he integrates innovative gaming and AI strategies into teaching, focusing on teacher training, course evaluation, and quality assurance in education.

AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2

WORKSHOP 15

APPROACHES AND ACTIVITIES FOR FOSTERING EMPATHY IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

Research indicates that empathy is central to successful language learning. In this workshop we will explore how we could explicitly develop empathy as a skill among teachers and students. We will propose a number of approaches and highly practical activities inspired by literature, paintings, photographs, short films and cognitive behavioural therapy which encourage language teachers, teacher trainers and students to be more empathetic. Participants will go away from the workshop with activities and ideas to help them and their students to be more empathetic.



About Kieran Donaghy

Kieran Donaghy is an award-winning writer, international conference speaker and trainer. He is the author of books for students and teachers of English as a foreign language. His publications include *Film in Action* (Delta Publishing), *Writing Activities for Film and Video* (ELT Teacher2Writer), *The Image in ELT* (ELT Council), *Films in Health Sciences Education* (Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona) and *Language Hub* (Macmillan). He trains teachers in Barcelona and online at his specialist teacher development institute, The School for Training <https://theschoolfortraining.com/>. His independent publishing company Film English <http://film-english.com/> has won a British Council ELTons Award, an English Speaking Union Award and the MEDEA Award.

ROOM 103
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 16

TEACHERS IN DISTRESS? KEEP CALM AND TRUST CLASSROOM CULTURE

The status of English as a global phenomenon requires a more intercultural teaching orientation, where the Intercultural speaker is the desired new model. Moreover, as language and culture are intertwined, culture can become a unifying rather than divisive factor in pluricultural classes, if addressed with respect, and explored with open-mindedness. The emerging class classroom can become the safe space where emotional and social learning takes place. Moreover, all this can be achieved while having fun. Participants will leave the presentation with fresh practical teaching ideas that can be incorporated in various lessons, or combined towards project-based learning.

About Julia Aliverti and Vicky Chionopoulou

Julia Aliverti has been an EFL teacher/educator for more than 30 years. Vicky Chionopoulou has worked as an EFL practitioner for more than 25 years. They have both taught in Greece and abroad and have repeatedly presented in international conferences.

1330 - 1430

WORKSHOPS 17-20

ROOM 201
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 17

MIND THE _____: PUT A SPARK IN GAPFILL EXERCISES

Gap-fill exercises have been criticised for being boring, unauthentic and mechanical: they focus only on receptive knowledge (of vocabulary) and the correct form with little attention paid to meaning (for grammar). Let's discover how, with a bit of imagination, we can put a 'spark' into gap-fills making them more effective and meaningful tools for language practice and review.

About Leo Selivan

Leo Selivan has been involved in ELT for almost 20 years in various roles: teacher, examiner, teacher trainer, senior teacher, materials writer, e-moderator. He considers himself fortunate in three respects: (1) starting his ELT career with the British Council; (2) having Penny Ur as his Master's thesis supervisor; (3) getting to work on his first book, *Lexical Grammar* (CUP, 2018), with Scott Thornbury. His other professional writing credits include articles in *Modern English Teacher*, *EFL Magazine*, *Guardian Education*, *Humanising Language Teaching* as well as his own aptly-named blog Leoxicon (<http://leoxicon.blogspot.com>). His recent publications are *Activities for Alternative Assessment* (Delta, 2021) and a chapter in *Demystifying Corpus Linguistics for English Language Teaching* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022)

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 18

EXPLOITING FREE ONLINE TOOLS TO SUPPORT YOUR COURSEBOOK

As English teachers, we are constantly seeking innovative ways to make our lessons more engaging and effective. One way to achieve this is by incorporating online tools into our teaching practice. This workshop aims to help English teachers learn how to exploit free online tools to support their coursebook and enhance the learning experience for their students.

About Sigo Gatt

Sigo has designed and delivered numerous workshops on various topics, including introduction to IWB, Using Video for Fluency, and Engaging Students through Song. He has a talent for engaging his audience and creating an interactive learning environment that encourages participation and discussion. As a workshop presenter, Sigo is known for his creativity, flexibility, and ability to adapt to the needs of his audience.

AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 19 FILM, POETRY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE: AN ELT ACTION GONE GLOBAL

This interactive workshop focuses on the exhilarating power of language when taken beyond the formal learning context with intention to express a specific social message for positive change. Drawing upon the remarkable impact of a spoken-word poem by a 16-year-old L2 speaker of English, the session explores how collaborative, student-driven actions can be powerful mediums for social change. The message may focus on something in the immediate community, or extend to a national or even global level. Whatever the case, the underlying criteria throughout the process are creativity, enjoyment, encouragement of self-expression, and a shared commitment to positive change.



About Judy Boyle

Judy has been involved in ELT education for over 30 years as a teacher, teacher trainer and author. She also founded The NO Project, an award-winning, global arts-based educational campaign against modern slavery and human trafficking. As a filmmaker, Judy directed and produced the surreal short film, *It's Just Business*.

ROOM 103
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 20 INCLUSION 2023 - HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?

Inclusion and diversity are two words that have become fashionable over the past decade. Everyone is inclusive. Or are they? In this workshop we will look at what it really means to be inclusive and diverse and how we can promote and implement it in big and small ways and how we can create diverse communities of learners and educators. I will be sharing ideas about how to make inclusion more than just a buzz word.



About Varinder Ünlü

Varinder Ünlü is a teacher, academic manager and teacher trainer. She has worked in ELT for 30 years in a wide range of contexts. She is the co-founder of the Inclusive Practices and SENs SIG with IATEFL.

1430 - 1530 LUNCH

1530 - 1630 WORKSHOPS 21-23

ROOM 201
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 21 EXPLORING WOMEN'S ISSUES THROUGH DRAMA BASED PEDAGOGY

"I like to tell stories. I am going to tell you a story about a girl who didn't want to belong." In this workshop, participants will discover how Drama-Based Pedagogy can be utilized to create engaging and dynamic learning experiences that promote critical thinking and creativity. Specifically, participants will learn a variety of strategies that can be used to facilitate discussions surrounding women's position in society, including their physical and psychological development, belief systems, and the experiences of underprivileged girls. Participants will leave the workshop equipped with a range of practical strategies that can be used to explore a variety of topics and to promote critical thinking and creativity in the classroom.



About Sabina Skenderovic and Aleksandra Popovski

Sabina Skenderovic is the founder of Center for Foreign Languages Big Ben with about 5000 students. In 2020, she received an award: Super Woman of Solidarity for her volunteer work during the pandemic. In 2021, she received an award: Person of the Year 2021 in the field of education.



Aleksandra Popovski is a teacher and teacher trainer with a strong passion for language education. Her interests include incorporating visual arts into language teaching, exploring effective reading comprehension strategies, and creating original readers for her students. She is particularly interested in reading as a tool for exploring and discussing issues such as social (in)justice, diversity and inclusion with learners of English. Aleksandra is also passionate about 'no single stories', i.e. writing and exploiting stories about countries, cultures, and communities that are usually excluded from published ELT materials.

AULA MAGNA
LEVEL 1



WORKSHOP 22

FUN & GAMES IN THE ESL CLASSROOM: BEST GAMES TO LEARN ENGLISH.

Do you want to make your ESL classroom more engaging and exciting? Join the session to discover how you can use fun and games to make learning English more enjoyable for your students. We will explore a range of ready-to use games and game-based activities that you can use to engage learners of all ages and levels. We will discuss how you can use these activities to facilitate language acquisition and help students feel more confident speaking English.



About Nataliia Holodniuk

Nataliia Holodniuk is a passionate ESL teacher, teacher educator, online course developer, project coordinator, and TESOL certified teacher. She has over 17 years of experience in which she dedicated herself to helping students and teachers reach their full potential in teaching and learning English.

AULA PRIMA
LEVEL 2



WORKSHOP 23

TEACHERS, HONEY BEES AND GEESSE MAKING TEAMWORK THE DREAM WORK.

We'll take a look at this psychological concept that suggests that new behaviours can be acquired by observing and imitating others, teachers learning from teachers, for better or for worse. We'll take examples from learning a lot about the importance of teamwork by observing animals in their natural habitat, how many animals, from tiny insects to large mammals depend on their teammates to survive in harsh environments. By cooperating to solve problems, giving importance to diversity, expressing care, affection, patience and forgiveness, we can nurture our learning community in the world of ELT.



About Stefania Ballotto

Stefania is a teacher, trainer and trainer of trainers. She has worked in China, Turkey, Africa, and in numerous countries in Europe. She has been a Pilgrims teacher trainer for over two decades and is a lecturer at the University of Udine-Italy. Stefania is a South-African born Italian.

1645 - 1745

PLENARY 3

ROOM 103
LEVEL 1



ON ECLECTICISM AND OTHER EXOTIC FRUITS

"I am eclectic" is a very popular claim among EFL teachers these days. What is being eclectic? What does it involve? As we go on a journey through the history of ELT methodology, this presentation will address these questions and allow teachers to reflect on their favourite teaching methods and favourite fruits.



About Leo Selivan

Leo Selivan has been involved in ELT for almost 20 years in various roles: teacher, examiner, teacher trainer, senior teacher, materials writer, e-moderator. He considers himself fortunate in three respects: (1) starting his ELT career with the British Council; (2) having Penny Ur as his Master's thesis supervisor;

(3) getting to work on his first book, *Lexical Grammar* (CUP, 2018), with Scott Thornbury. His other professional writing credits include articles in *Modern English Teacher*, *EFL Magazine*, *Guardian Education*, *Humanising Language Teaching* as well as his own aptly-named blog *Leoxicon* (<http://leoxicon.blogspot.com>). His recent publications are *Activities for Alternative Assessment* (Delta, 2021) and a chapter in *Demystifying Corpus Linguistics for English Language Teaching* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022)

1745 - 1815

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