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E ELT WEEKLY

INDIA'S FIRST ELT WEEKLY eNEWSLETTER

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Tip of the week: Encourage More Use of English in Classroom

Getting students to use English in the classroom is one of the biggest challenges.

We could motivate them use English by doing following these steps:

- Always present yourself as an English speaker.
- Don't be tempted to use students' language to be more effective at teaching.
- If you are not able to get across "just with English", use pictures, gesture, facial expression and rephrasing to get your message across.
- Assign various role play activities to them and they will enjoy it "more" 😊

Also we can encourage them to use English by

- Starting each lesson by asking students about their week, weekend or previous evening.
- Asking for explanations in English
- Avoiding asking "Do you understand?"
- Playing games where use of the mother tongue loses points for the team.

I hope this helps. Do you have some more tips? Please send it to eltweekly@gmail.com.

Video of the week: Teaching English with Games

In this video the Bridge-Linguatec Inc. team shows three ways of incorporating games into your ESL and EFL classes.



I am sure you will find those three tips worth trying ☺

Watch this video here: <http://eltweekly.com/more/2008/12/20/eltweekly-issue2-video-of-the-week/>

Featured article

"Developing Language Skills through e-learning: Everyone's Duty, Nobody's Doing" by Bhaskar Pandya

Present article is based on a Poster prepared by Dr. S Arumuga Perumal, though the focus changes herein. It intends to present an overview of how language skills can be developed and / or honed by using e-learning. It also intends to suggest rather discuss some ideas and necessary changes in the process of teaching a foreign language, present scenario, and some ways for getting united for digital content creation. The article does not address those who are looking for primary information about e-learning or the issues they might be involved. It addresses those who are actually involved to some extent in e-learning/teaching.

With the advent of high speed Networking facilities and multimedia, it is universally accepted that face to face teaching is not the only method of teaching in the University Curriculum Planning and there are also other ways which are much better, faster, and cheaper than the traditional one. More so over there is also some craze for developing multimedia (based) courses amongst the Language Faculty for the

students who cannot come to the classroom and especially for those who pursue education through distance mode, not necessarily in a Formal Setup.

This is not so difficult to implement in other subjects as it is in language learning. The reason, as we all know, is language learning / teaching is more an art based skill-demanding work than in case of the content based subjects. Because our concern is four basic skills – LSRW and that too developing them in that order.

At this point in time two aspects can be focused i.e. Implementation and Requirements. Though both of them go hand in hand, we will consider implementation first because: first, it is the implementation that matters the most in a language classroom and two, we cannot think of specific requirements without implementing our ideology.

When we implement e-learning for honing the language skills of our students, first of all, we need to have strategic graded planning right from the preliminary courses for the schools to intermediates ones to the advanced courses for the colleges. Mere crash courses cannot help us except they are designed for specific students with specific requirements or for the students enrolled on Vocational Courses.

For the purpose, we can think of Working (in) Groups, if as a teacher our aim is quality content and services. We have to have contact with all contributors involved in e-learning / teaching so as to have cooperation and harmony through the exchange of ideas and proper planning. There will also be an urgent requirement of putting proposals for innovative projects and consultation. Finally, proper Infrastructure and adequate Equipments with well-trained teachers at all levels is equally important. One teacher with some infrastructure, facilities, equipments, innovative ideas, tech savvy mindset, and some videos, blogs, websites or educational CDs or their implementation in his/her classroom in a scattered way or at a not-required time or with no or very little relevance to the Curriculum cannot help the student community, though he/she might be admired and congratulated personally for the work.

To solve the problems, there has to have some initiative from the Government or Government Agencies, which though seems to be there, is a little too late. There is also a question: in this era of privatization and public partnership what role the Government can play. Then, economically sound Universities and Institutes can help us change the phenomena but the question again is: why they should divert their resources for a cause they are not directly concerned with or responsible for. Thirdly, we can think of the tech savvy minds who are already working but are unable to change the scenario; may be because they are too small a number or are working for personal name and fame. Lastly, the teaching community,

who's responsible for the predicament, comes who's in direct touch with the students and can contribute a lot if they collaborate.

Occasions and Means of Collaboration can be many. One of them is ELTWeekly. Can we not collaborate and work together on this platform for the development of our students? Can we not contribute in the digital content creation? If yes, who are we waiting for?

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ELT News

English teaching tries to get past 'how are you?' - Viet Nam News

HA NOI — Low efficiency in teaching English at universities is a thorny issue, especially since the State has invested money and resources in improving courses.

A first-year student at the Ha Noi National University summarised his English learning process from the sixth grade to university as a stretch of road where he had to learn to say “How are you?” at every education level.

He said the present curriculum did not interconnect these levels well, making teachers and students waste time.

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Read the complete news item

here: <http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/showarticle.php?num=01EDU171208>

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ELT News

7 Staten Island schools get grants to help 'English Language Learners' - Staten Island Advance

Seven Staten Island schools have been awarded grants to help non-native English speaking students overcome the hurdles of assimilation.

The six elementary schools and one high school were among 110 public schools citywide to receive a total of \$7 million in grants for so-called "English Language Learners," Department of Education officials said.

There are about 150,000 ELL students across city, or about 14 percent of the student population, officials said. About 250 schools applied for the grant, which required detailed plans on how the school would improve services to ELL students. In choosing schools, the DOE looked for programs that would expand support for recent immigrants and students with disabilities, create or enhance bilingual programs and improve teacher quality.

Read the complete news item here:

http://www.silive.com/news/index.ssf/2008/12/7_staten_island_schools_get_gr.html

ELT News

Learning the Language - Education Week

Mary Ann Zehr is an assistant editor at Education Week. She has written about the schooling of English-language learners for more than eight years and understands through her own experience of studying Spanish that it takes a long time to learn another language well. Her blog will tackle difficult policy questions, explore learning innovations, and share stories about different cultural groups on her beat.

Arne Duncan and English-Language Learners

I have only one clue to offer about what kind of policies Arne Duncan, who has been nominated as the secretary of education for President-elect Barack Obama's Cabinet, might favor for English-language learners. As the superintendent of Chicago Public Schools, he has argued that English-language learners should have a separate test other than the state's regular reading and math tests for ELLs.

Read the complete news here: http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/learning-the-language/2008/12/arne_duncan_and_englishlanguag.html

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Upcoming events

English Language Teaching Conference (ELT-Con) 2009 - Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia

ELT-Con 2009 is the 4th. biennial international English language teaching conference organised by PELLTA.

The theme is “Language Matters: New Ways of Looking at English Language Teaching & Learning”.

Organized by: Penang English Language Learning & Teaching Association (PELLTA)

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15 January 2009

More information available at: <http://www.conferencealerts.com/seeconf.mv?q=ca1xmx80>

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Upcoming events

Third International Wireless Ready Symposium: Digital Technologies in Language Education

IATEFL Learning Technologies SIG - The International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language, Learning Technologies Special Interest Group

Date: Feb 20, 2009

Place: NUCB Graduate School (Fushimi Campus), Nagoya University of Commerce and Business

More information available at: <http://www.elcalendar.com/events/conferences/>

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Upcoming events

Eighth Annual JALT Pan-SIG Conference

JALT Pan-SIG conference

Annual JALT Pan-SIG Conference

Date: May 23 - 24, 2009

Place: Toyo Gakuen University, Nagareyama Campus, Chiba

More information available at: <http://www.elcalendar.com/events/conferences/>

Upcoming events

2009 Language and Language Teaching Conference (LLTC)

Dates: August 14, 2009, 8.00 a.m.- 4.30 p.m.

Place: he J.B. Hotel, Hatyai, Songkhla 90110 Thailand

Conference Themes:

The conference focuses on all issues related to language and language teaching. The followings are some of the possible themes:

- Applied Linguistics
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Discourse and Interaction Analysis
- Foreign Languages and Linguistics
- Language Acquisition

Session Formats:

- Papers (30 min: 25 min for presentation and 5 min for questions and answers)
- Workshops (60 min)
- Posters (60 min)

Call for Proposal Deadline: October 15, 2008

Call for Full Paper Deadline: December 15, 2008

More information available

at: http://www.libarts.psu.ac.th/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=620&Itemid=37

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Upcoming events

“Technology in ELT” Conference, January 29-30, 2009 - Gujarat, India

The sub-themes for the conference are:

- Technology, ELT & English Education in India
- ELT : Technology + Multilingual Approach
- Management of Online Language Learning
- Audio-Video Aids in ELT
- Social Networking for ELT
- Technology in Teaching Language Skills
- Communities of ELT practice
- Source Mechanisms
- ELT Case Studies
- ICT in ELT
- Technology in the Teaching of Business & Technical Communication.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract submission: December 26, 2008
- Acceptance intimation: December 27, 2008
- Submission of full papers: January 16, 2009
- Last date of registration: January 20, 2009.

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

International participants can send their papers to "nctelt09@gmail.com" along with the conference fees of \$20. You can pay by PayPal to "tarunjpatel@gmail.com".

Their papers will be read by the NCTELT'09 conference team and certificates will be issued.

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More information about the conference along with the registration form is available on the NCTELT'09 blog <http://nctelt.wordpress.com>.

Upcoming events

1st Gujarat Regional ELT@I Conference

ACTIVE LEARNING: MAKING LEARNING MORE ENJOYABLE AND PRODUCTIVE

Dates: February 6th and 7th 2009

Place: AHMEDABAD MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, ATIRA Campus, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Marg.
Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380015

CALL FOR PAPERS

- Deadline for submission of abstract: January 6th 2009
- Full paper must be submitted no later than: January 20th 2009

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For more information, please write to Dr. Dharmendra Sheth at shethdharmendra@hotmail.com

Book of the week: The ELT Curriculum: Design, Innovation and Management

The ELT book of the week for the second issue of ELTWeekly is: **“The ELT Curriculum: Design, Innovation and Management” by Ronald White**

Book Details

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell (July 7, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0631151524

ISBN-13: 978-0631151524

Book Description

ELT teachers today are faced with a bewildering choice of aims, methods and materials. How can they design or choose language curricula best suited to their learners' needs? What options are open to them in designing and introducing new Syllabuses and methods? In answering these questions, the author begins by reviewing historically the development of ideas on language teaching and language curriculum.

He describes various types of syllabus, both past and current, and he highlights the assumptions, principles and aims underlying them. Proposing curriculum renewal is one matter; introducing it into an existing system is quite another.

The effective management and implementation of curriculum change forms the basis of the successful introduction of new syllabuses, materials and methods, issues about which the author offers theoretical guidance and practical advice based on evidence derived from the study of innovation in education.

Reviews

Ken Cripwell, ESOL

“Ron White approaches ELT curriculum issues by making the case that however desirable curriculum renewal/change within the financial and administrative constraints of existing educational systems might be, the reality is frequently problematic. This book seems particularly aimed at educational administrators and teachers who want to expand their rudimentary knowledge of the subject, and ample background is provided via the author’s thorough historical overview of the development of ideas on language teaching.” Leslie F. Sheldon, Times Higher Educational Supplement “It makes fascinating reading ... I couldn’t put it down ... The synthesis of the field is excellent and the treatment is very clear so that it really is the kind of book that our students need to have. It is going to be one of those fundamental texts which we will all be referring to in the future.”

Leslie F. Sheldon, Times Higher Educational Supplement

“Ron White approaches ELT curriculum issues by making the case that however desirable curriculum renewal/change within the financial and administrative constraints of existing educational systems might be, the reality is frequently problematic. This book seems particularly aimed at educational administrators and teachers who want to expand their rudimentary knowledge of the subject, and ample background is provided via the author’s thorough historical overview of the development of ideas on language teaching.”

Ken Cripwell, ESOL

“It makes fascinating reading . . . I couldn’t put it down . . . The synthesis of the field is excellent and the treatment is very clear so that it really is the kind of book that our students need to have. It is going to be one of those fundamental texts which we will all be referring to in the future.”

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Useful resources

Resource #1: ESL.About.com

About.com is an online neighborhood of hundreds of helpful experts, eager to share their wealth of knowledge with visitors.

The **ESL.About.com** is headed by Kenneth Beare who is an ESL Guide at About.com.

ESL.About.com offers free English courses, vocabulary lessons, ready made lesson plans, grammar tips, and various quizzes.

Key topics on the site include:

- Beginning English
- Intermediate English
- Advanced English
- Pronunciation - Speaking
- Lesson Plans
- Grammar
- Vocabulary
- Listening Skills

- Writing Skills
- Teaching English
- Reading Skills
- TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge
- Business English
- Tests and Quizzes
- English Learning Tools

This site provides opportunities to educators to make money online by becoming an ESL.About.com guide.

I am sure you will find ESL.About.com worth bookmarking 😊

Access ESL.About.com at <http://esl.about.com>.

Useful resources

Resource #2: Oxford's ELT Journal

Oxford's *ELT Journal* is a quarterly publication for all those involved in the field of teaching English as a second or foreign language. The journal links the everyday concerns of practitioners with insights gained from related academic disciplines such as applied linguistics, education, psychology, and sociology.

ELT Journal provides a medium for informed discussion of the principles and practice which determine the ways in which the English language is taught and learnt around the world. It is also a forum for the exchange of information among members of the profession worldwide.

The Editor of *ELT Journal* is supported by an Editorial Advisory Panel whose members referee submissions. Their decisions are based upon the relevance, clarity, and value of the articles submitted.

Access Oxford's *ELT Journal* at <http://eltj.oxfordjournals.org/>

Useful resources

Resource #3: Macmillan's ELT Website

Macmillan has hosted a unique website exclusively to cater to the teaching/learning needs of English teachers in India.

www.elt.emacmillan.com is rightly called the English teacher's trusted companion. Every Friday two worksheets and one assignment for each level, from 1 to 12, are put up.

Six teachers from a member school can access the site and download the worksheets and assignments or browse.

You can send your articles and other work done by pupils to be featured on Macmillan's ELT Website.

Access Macmillan's ELT Website at <http://www.macmillanindia.com/elt-school.asp>

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Feedback

Here's what people are saying about ELTWeekly.com

Dr. Rangnayaki Srinivas

Read this newsletter regularly.

The eltWeekly Newsletter has a lot of tips, resources and suggestions for teaching English.

ESL Experts contribute to the newsletter and share excellent resources.

You can also contribute to the newsletter and send in your feedback.

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Dr. Manish Pandya

A very good initiative.

The community of ELT practice will have a lot of resources available through such novel step forward by young minds.

My best wishes 😊

Hadi Mostowfi

Hi Dear

Thanks for your first attempt on ELT newsletter.

For the first step , it's great.

I have some suggestions as...

- 1.Please provide more ESL website addresses.
- 2.Please try to arrange a contact email address for all those around the world to be more in contact about Teaching and Linguistically Issues.
- 3.Try to make us more informed about International Seminar events and ,....

Dr. Dharmendra Sheth

Dear Colleagues,

Congratulations on starting India's first ELT weekly. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading the first issue. I will surely recommend it to all the teachers in my circle.

Please publish the information about the first ELT@I Gujarat Regional Conference. The details are attached to this mail.

Thank you and keep up good work.

With best wishes,

Dharmendra.

National Vice President,

English Language Teachers' Association of India

ELT@I

Dr. Dilip Barad

Hi, Mr. Tarun,

Congratulations for ELT e-Journal. It is really a commendable act.

4. Try to manage all the ELT members to have annual seminars and gathering, each year in a country and the members of the country be the Host for other members at that event so that all will be more informed about educational systems and materials of that region regarding ELT.

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- * We want to know what you want to know about.
- * We want to know the topics you want.

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ELTWeekly Team

The **ELTWeekly** Newsletter is an initiative of Tarun Patel, Bhaskar Pandya, Kaushal Kotadia and Rajesh Bharvad - a young team of English teachers.

All four are working as Communication skills teachers in an Engineering college.

Bhaskar and Rajesh have earned their M.A., & M. Phil. degrees in English Language Teaching and English Literature respectively.

Kaushal is reading for his Ph. D.

And Tarun is working on his M. Phil. dissertation.

You can write to the ELTWeekly team at info@eltweekly.com.

[HTTP://WWW.ELTWEEKLY.COM](http://www.eltweekly.com)