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E ELT WEEKLY

INDIA'S FIRST ELT WEEKLY eNEWSLETTER

Issue#3

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Quote of the week

“ My God! The English language is a form of communication! Conversation isn't just crossfire where you shoot and get shot at! Where you've got to duck for your life and aim to kill! Words aren't only bombs and bullets — no, they're little gifts, containing meanings! ”

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-Philip Roth

Tip of the week: Use technology in classroom, wisely – Rajesh Bharvad

Technology facilitates teaching and always helps teacher in creating good classroom atmosphere.

However, there is a point which should be noted - overuse of technology can diminish the positive role of a teacher and produce unexpected results.

When a teacher takes recourse to technology, the purpose is to create interest among the students and help them learn things easily and effectively. The strategy culminates into good results if one knows how to use technology wisely without circumscribing the positive role of a teacher in the class room.

Sometimes a teacher relies heavily on technology and diminishes a significant role that he can play to make the learning process more productive. A teacher along with the use of technological instruments in the class room must focus upon his teaching methodology, and skills that he has acquired after years of experience.

In order to throw more light on the issue I am presenting two examples.

In the first example there is a teacher who comes in the class room and straightforwardly opens up PowerPoint presentation in front of the students.

In his presentation of the PowerPoint slides he assumes that the students will enjoy and understand the topic easily. Once the presentation is over his job is done.

In the second example there is a teacher who comes in the class room, but before leading the students to the PowerPoint presentation he initiates the students' interest and curiosity about the topic. During the time of presentation he puts his extra effort to explain the topic already prescribed in the presentation and maintains students' interest in the topic as well as interacts with them to make the class lively. At the end of the presentation he checks the understanding of the student in relation to the topic by various tactics, i.e. brain storming.

Among these two examples we can see that in the first example the teacher is more complacent in his use of technology and hence the positive role of a teacher is missing. He substitutes his role with an insufficient use of technology.

Whereas, in the second example the teacher uses technology without compromising his positive role in the class room. In fact, he enriches his teaching skill with the use of technology.

Hence, it is most advisable that a teacher should use technology in the class room. But the care should be taken that he does not compromise with his own role in the class room 😊

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

Video of the week: Teaching English: How Do You Teach English to Adults?

In this video an eHow team member provides information on how to teach English to adults by choosing topics, vocabulary and expressions that are relative to situations in their normal daily life. Practice speaking, perform common activities and learn a foreign language with tips from a teacher in this free video on education.



Watch this video here: <http://eltweekly.com/more/2008/12/29/eltweekly-issue3-video-of-the-week-teaching-english/>

Featured article

"Teaching Abroad: a Guide to the Basics" by Joel Bleasedale

Teaching English as foreign language (or second language) is an excellent option for visiting new parts of the world. Because English is commonly used for diplomacy, higher education, business and technology, English teachers and classes are in high demand around the worldwide.

Knowing how to teach English also provides you with an excellent skill to be used in volunteering. There are opportunities around the world where people would benefit from knowing English, yet they do not have the funds to enroll in classes, or perhaps they don't have access to any classes at all.

If teaching English isn't for you, international schools require native English speakers to teach other subjects as well, such as mathematics, science, history, and the arts.

What is TEFL, ESL, EFL, etc.?

There are lots of different abbreviations and acronyms to refer to teaching English. Here is a quick simplifier...

ELT: English Language Teaching or English Language Training

EFL: English as a Foreign Language

ESL: English as a Second Language

ESOL: English for Speakers of Other Languages

EAL: English as an Additional Language

TEFL: Teaching English as a Foreign Language

TESL: Teaching English as a Second Language

TEAL: Teaching English as an Additional Language

TESOL: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

All of the above abbreviations are used for essentially the same thing, however, you may notice that generally ESL is used for non-native speakers learning English in an English speaking country, and EFL is for non-native-speaks learning English in a non-English speaking environment, such as their own country. Moreover, Americans tend to use ESL more, and British teachers tend to use EFL. EAL is an attempt to bridge the gap between the two. Oftentimes people learn English not as their second

language, but as their third, fourth or more. Also, EAL avoids using the word “foreign”, which is considered by the more politically correct to have an unpleasant inference.

Now I would like to answer some questions related to teaching English abroad.

Do I need a certificate to teach English?

There are many opportunities around the world to teach English without a certificate. However, certification does help, especially if there is an application process involved and positions are competitive.

Do I need to speak a foreign language to teach people English?

Theoretically, to teach English you should only need to speak one language. However, if you are teaching in a foreign country, there is no doubt that some knowledge of that country’s culture and language can make your job much easier, and probably allow you to make your lessons more relevant and interesting for your students. If your students are of mixed international backgrounds, then knowing one or two foreign languages may not be of assistance to the entirety of the group. There is some benefit to your teaching if you do in fact know a foreign language or have learnt one. By having first hand experience of being a student, you are able to have a more complete perspective of the student/teacher relationship and the trials and tribulations of those you teach. Moreover, learning another language provides you with valuable insight about grammar, such as verb conjugations and tenses, which come

naturally to a native speaker. Many other languages use similar grammatical formats as English, and by learning a foreign language you might be able to examine your native language more carefully.

Do I need to speak English as my native language to teach English?

You certainly don't have to speak English as your native tongue; however you must have excellent fluency and writing skills to start a training course for certification. Oftentimes non-native speakers make the best teachers, however. If you've been through it yourself then you are able to relate to what your students will be dealing with.

How long will it take to become certified?

Certification is a pretty quick process, usually taking four weeks or considerably less. You can take the course full time, part time, or through distance learning. There are options to suit whichever method or time frame you prefer.

Joel Bleasedale works for www.TravelTree.co.uk one of the largest directories of Alternative Travel and Gap Year activities online today.

*ELTWeekly would like to thank **Joel Bleasedale** for granting permission to reprint this article.

ELT News

Literature is not about writing love poems - Times of India

Bangalore: Nonagenarian litterateur L Basavaraju feels literature is not about writing love poems, but striving for the betterment of human dignity. He's also thoroughly disappointed with present-day polity, administration, writers and literature.

Basavaraju is president of the 75th All India Kannada Literary Convention (Sahitya Sammelan) in Chitradurga in early 2009. His contribution to Kannada literature has won him many awards, including the Karnataka Sahitya Academy Award, Central Sahitya Academy Award and the Pampa Award.

Read the complete news item

here: http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Bangalore/Literature_is_not_about_writing_love_poems_/article_show/3905923.cms

Indian English teachers to be hired in public schools - JoongAng Daily

In a bid to get more native English-speakers in English teaching jobs at Korean public schools, the justice and education ministries yesterday announced that Indians with an English-related college degree and teacher's license will soon be eligible for the positions.

So far, the Education Ministry has hired native English teachers from countries where English is the mother tongue - the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Ireland, New Zealand and South Africa.

Read the complete news item here: <http://joongangdaily.joins.com/article/view.asp?aid=2899155>

The Teaching Paradox - Inside Higher Ed

SAN FRANCISCO — A new survey of faculty members in English and foreign languages will challenge some assumptions about how and why women and men are not promoted at the same levels or feel the same satisfaction in academe.

The Modern Language Association has yet to release its “associate professor survey,” which, notwithstanding its name, included both associate and full professors. But professors involved in the report, due out soon, revealed some of the key findings Sunday at the MLA’s annual meeting:

Read the complete news here: <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/12/29/gender>

Non-Natives Can Become English Teachers - The Korea Time

Non-native English speakers from India and other countries that use English as an official language will be able to teach at public schools from next year.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the Ministry of Justice said Sunday the government is opening the door for English teaching positions wider to secure more foreign English teachers at primary and secondary schools nationwide.

The government has so far allowed English teacher assistant jobs at public schools only to native-English speakers who had completed more than two years of their college courses; and the nationality of the eligible applicants was limited to seven countries ? the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland.

Read the complete news here: http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2008/12/117_36881.html

Learning to teach English - The Star

BESIDES being a rewarding career, teaching English can take you places, literally - you may get the chance to live and work abroad.

Those who wish to learn the nuts and bolts of teaching English can check out CELTA, an internationally recognised teaching qualification offered by the British Council in Kuala Lumpur.

Speaking at a media briefing in KL recently, Tricia Thorlby, the British Council Malaysia's ELT projects and business development manager, said CELTA is an initial qualification for people with little or no previous teaching experience.

Read the complete news here:

<http://thestar.com.my/education/story.asp?file=/2008/12/28/education/2856166&sec=education>

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Worldwide ELT events

British Council's 12th National ELT Conference 2009, Colombia

Conference theme: Perspectives in Bilingualism: Current views and trends

Day / Date: April 23 - 25, 2009

Place: Universidad de La Salle, Sede Chapinero, Bogotá, Colombia

Proposals for sessions should fall on one of the following topics in relation to Bilingualism:

Issues in EFL, ESL, CLIL, Content Based Learning, immersion programmes, and international curriculum (IB, CIE etc)

Global views: Intercultural communication, culture and identity, English as a global language

Evaluation & Assessment: Benchmarks, testing, and the role of International Exams

Spanish and English coexisting in the bilingual classroom

EFL teachers in Content-Based learning classrooms

Teacher development for non ELT specialists

Non native English-speaking teachers: challenges and paradigms

Effective practices in the elementary, secondary and higher education classrooms

Research in bilingualism in the our context

More information available here: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/colombia-eltconference.htm>

Eighth Annual JALT Pan-SIG Conference

ELT-Con 2009 is the fourth English language teaching conference organised by the Penang English Language Learning & Teaching Association (PELLTA). This biennial ELT conference offers a professional platform for teachers, teacher trainers, lecturers, researchers and all others involved in the field of English language teaching to exchange knowledge, expertise and experience, form networks and forge friendships among professionals.

Conference theme: Language Matters : New Ways of Looking at English Language Teaching & Learning

Day / Date: April, 22 - 24, 2009

Place: Bayview Hotel ~ Penang ~ Malaysia

Sub themes:

- Teaching & learning in the digital age

- Redefining the role of the language teacher
- Grammar in the language classroom
- Teaching the slow & the gifted
- Professional & teacher development
- Managing change in the ELT trends & curricula
- Teachers as learners & researchers
- English for specific purposes
- Material selection & production
- Testing & evaluation
- Multiliteracies & ELT
- English language for living skills
- Language teaching & culture.

More information available here: <http://eltcon.webs.com>

TESOL Convention Denver 2009

Day / Date: March, 26 - 28

Place: Denver, Colorado USA

The 43rd Annual TESOL Convention will start on Thursday March 26, 2009 and run through Saturday March 28, 2009 and will be held in scenic Denver, Colorado. Join TESOL to immerse yourself in the theme of Uncharted Mountains, Forging New Pathways. Meet us in the great west for all that the annual convention and Denver have to offer.

More information available here: http://www.tesol.org/s_tesol/convention2009/

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Book of the week: Fifty Strategies for Teaching English Language Learners

The ELT book of the week for the third issue of ELTWeekly is: “Fifty Strategies for Teaching English Language Learners (3rd Edition)” by Adrienne L. Herrel

Book Details

Paperback: 335 pages

Publisher: Prentice Hall; 3 edition (February 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 013199266X

ISBN-13: 978-0131992665

Price: \$25.19

Book Description

The third edition of *Fifty Strategies for Teaching English Language Learners* includes a rich assortment of practical features to support teachers as they meet some of the more daunting challenges of the 21st century classroom. All of the strategies in this book are aligned to the TESOL standards and have been field-tested in diverse classrooms. Each strategy includes a brief explanation, step-by-step instructions in how to plan and use the strategy and two classroom scenarios demonstrating how the strategy can be adapted for different grade levels and content areas. A new unique DVD included in the back of the

text illustrates select strategies being used in a classroom dominated by English learners. After the demonstration lesson, one of the authors interviews the teacher for insights into how the lesson was planned and the teacher's reasons for choosing the strategy. The strategies include planning approaches, strategies for improving student involvement, vocabulary knowledge, and comprehension.. Organized into five sections which flow easily from theory and planning, through learner involvement and vocabulary building, to increasing comprehension. Numerous strategies in the theoretical overview section, plus suggestions for assessment integrated into many strategies in other sections. Provides a repertoire of non-traditional assessment ideas such as anecdotal records, performance samples, and portfolios. Integrates material on the use of educational technology such as the internet, visual aids, etc. Includes thorough, concise summary of relevant research from Krashen, Cummins, Terrell, Swain, Asher, and others. For Educators.

Reviews

Jeremy Aldrich

“Over and over, I've looked for a book which focuses on practice rather than just theory. This book is just what I've been looking for! Each strategy is presented with a brief summary of the research behind it, practical methods to apply it to any classroom at any grade level, and examples of the strategy at work in two different classrooms. As an ESL teacher, I plan to use this book as a valuable resource throughout the school year. Don't be fooled by the title, though: these strategies will help all your

students, not just English language learners. Teachers and tutors will enjoy using these ideas with their students.”

J. Smith

“This book was worth the money. It is appropriate for secondary teachers (and many things out there are geared more toward elementary). It has a brief introduction to the theory behind the text in the beginning and then the rest is practical, skill-based lessons/activities for English Language Learners. As a language arts teacher, my only minor disappointment was that some of the lessons are geared more toward general content areas like social studies and science, but there is still plenty of good stuff for me to use.”

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Useful resources

Resource #1: Macmillan ELT Resource Sites

Supporting and enhancing your students' language learning, Macmillan's ELT resource sites provide free English Language supplementary material to download and use in your classroom. To receive the latest resources direct to your inbox, you can register for the Macmillan English Update!

Get the resources you need - visit the resource sites for the type of English you teach, by exploring the Macmillan ELT Resource Sites.

Macmillan ELT Resource Sites - <http://www.macmillanenglish.com/BlankTemplate.aspx?id=28164>

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Resource #2: BritishCouncil.org

For more than 70 years the British Council has been building strong cultural relations with other countries, exchanging knowledge and ideas and providing educational opportunities. BBC's programmes reach over 112 million people a year in the UK and in 110 other countries and territories.

The British Council delivers hundreds of projects in the areas of education, the arts, science, sport and governance.

The British Council publishes a range of publications in the areas of arts, science, governance and learning. They also carry out research.

Visit British Council's official website here: <http://www.britishcouncil.org>

Resource #3: OneStopEnglish

With over 6,500 resources, including lesson plans, worksheets, audio, video and flashcards, onestopenglish is the world's number one resource site for English language teachers.

According to OneStopEnglish team, your **time is precious** so onestopenglish is **packed with resources** to make life easier. All materials are written and edited by their **expert team of teachers and authors** and are organized into core subject areas such as Skills, Grammar and Vocabulary, Business, Exams and Young Learners, so **you'll always find what you're looking for**.

Here is your OneStopEnglish :) <http://www.onestopenglish.com>

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.

Dr. Manish Pandya

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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.

YES, We Want To Hear From YOU!

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

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info@eltweekly.com

Also you can leave your feedback at <http://eltweekly.com/more/feedback/#respond>

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

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.

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

Currently all four are running ahead with one mission called NCTELT'09. To know their latest mission visit this blog: <http://nctelt.wordpress.com>

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

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