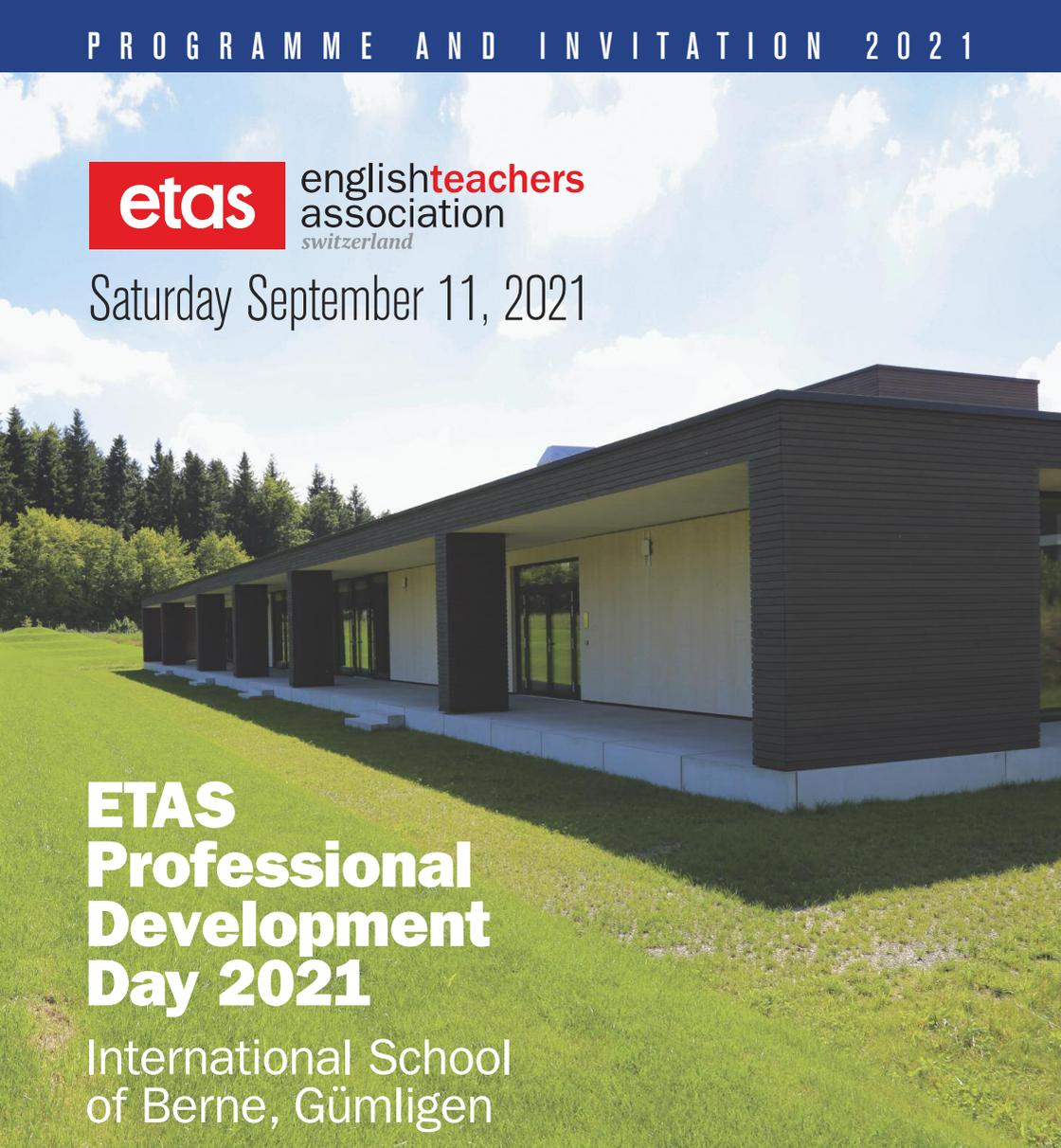


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switzerland

Saturday September 11, 2021



ETAS Professional Development Day 2021

International School
of Berne, Gümligen

PLENARY SPEAKERS:

Kieran Donaghy • Ilá Coimbra and James Taylor

PRESENTERS:

**Jeff Aristy • Neil Bullock • Ilá Cristina Coimbra • Rob Dean • Choreanne Frei •
Nancie Gantenbein • Isabella Gruber • Rachael Harris • Benjamin Haymond •
Michelle Jagger • Urs Kalberer • Michele Kollöffel • Khanh-Duc Kuttig •
Andrea Magee • Ian McMaster • Helen Ng • Joy Pénard • Phil Schiller •
Yuval Shomron • Rose Travers • Caroline Verzier • Dr Carol Waites •
Sylvia Goetze Wake • Lynn Williams**

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International School of Berne
Allmendingenweg 9, 3073 Gümligen

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Register now at <https://go.e-tas.ch/2021PDD>



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If you are a current member of ETAS and want to join or change a SIG, you can do so by editing your Interests & Preferences in your online account, or contact **ETAS Administration**
email: office@e-tas.ch (Please note that you need to have email access to join a SIG)

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Alice Knöpfel ■ Advertising/Sponsorship Coordinator
Jayne Kyte ■ ETAS Teacher Development Chair
Patricia Daniels ■ Programme editor
Carol Waites / Lynn Williams-Leppich / Hannah McCulloch / Patricia Daniels ■ Proofreaders
Annegret Richmond ■ ETAS Administrator
Dawn Wenger ■ Book Exhibition

If you don't see your region or teaching area represented above and would like to start something, please contact Sharon Acton at national.events@e-tas.ch to get involved. Many thanks to the SIG Ambassadors who provided speakers for the programme.

ETAS Professional Development Day 2021

Timetable

08:30 – 09:15 Registration, Coffee/Tea, Book Exhibition

09:15 – 09:30 Welcome, Announcements and A Step Ahead update

09:30 – 10:30 Plenary – Kieran Donaghy

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee/Tea/Juice/Croissants/Book Exhibition

11:00 – 12:00 Workshop Session A (60 mins)

12:00 – 13:15 Lunch/Book Exhibition

13:15 – 14:15 Workshop Session B (60 mins)

14:30 – 15:30 Workshop Session C (60 mins)

15:30 – 16:15 Book Exhibition/Dessert Buffet

16:15 – 17:00 Closing Plenary

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Welcome to the ETAS Professional Development Day 2021 in Berne

ELT in these times of change

May 2021

Dear ETAS Members, Guests and Presenters,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to this year's Professional Development Day, and we hope that you will be motivated by this year's varied programme. At the time of writing this, we are still not absolutely certain we will be able to hold the conference face to face, but we are hopeful. What a pleasure it will be to see everyone again, giving us the opportunity to exchange ideas with old friends and new. We are very lucky to have secured the excellent venue of International School of Berne for a second time and thank them for accommodating all our needs.



This year, we are delighted to welcome internationally known plenary speaker Kieran Donaghy, who will be speaking to us on the topic of the fifth skill of viewing. We are really looking forward to Kieran's first attendance at an ETAS event. The closing plenary will focus on inclusion and diversity in ELT materials with the co-founders of the Raise Up! project, Ilá Coimbra and James Taylor. Ilá will be present in Berne and James will join us via video link from Brazil for their plenary, another first for ETAS!

With a wide selection of workshops on a wide range of topics, I am sure that there will be something to tempt everyone. We have many first time ETAS presenters, and it is really positive to see so many Switzerland-based presenters in the programme this year. If you are thinking of trying your hand at presenting a workshop, please look out for the Call for Papers for the Conference in January 2022 or the PD Day in September 2022; as always, we would love to hear from you.

We have made a special effort to include several workshops suited to teachers of Young Learners and Teens. You will find these in slots, A1, B1 & B2, and C1. We hope to encourage more teachers of Young Learners to join the ETAS family, so they too can profit from the excellent professional development we provide.

At the end of the day, you will receive an email asking for feedback on the event. We really do look forward to reading your thoughts and aim for continual improvement of our events. Please don't be shy; your feedback can be totally anonymous, but rest assured that we read all your comments, and will discuss them with the team at our next meeting. Thank you in advance!

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all our sponsors; without you, we would not have an event. We are very grateful for your support, in the form of your presence, and at taking part in the book exhibition, which is an integral part of our event. Thank you from us all!

The ETAS National Events' team wishes you all a wonderful day of quality professional development and sharing experiences with old friends and new.

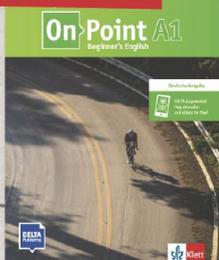
Best wishes,

Jayne Kyte
National Events Chair

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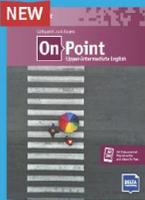
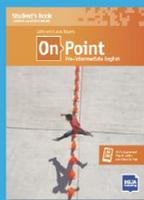
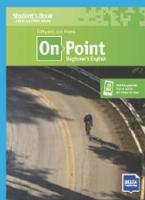
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Plenary Speakers

Opening plenary (09:30 – 10:30)

Kieran Donaghy

What about the fifth skill of viewing?

In the English language curricula of a number of countries – for example, Canada, Australia, and Singapore – two new skills, viewing and visually representing, have been added to the traditional skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Undoubtedly, these two new skills will be integrated into national curricula throughout the world in the near future.

In this session, Kieran Donaghy examines what viewing is and how we can support our teachers in helping their students become more effective viewers by exploring a number of frameworks which can be used with a variety of visual texts – photos, paintings, feature-length films, short films, and videos. Teachers will go away from the session with a clear understanding of what the skill of viewing is and a number of tried and tested viewing frameworks.

Kieran Donaghy is an award-winning writer, speaker, and trainer. He trains teachers at The School for Training, his specialist teacher training institute in Barcelona. He is the author of books for teachers and students of English. His publications include *Film in Action* (Delta Publishing), *How to Write Film and Video Activities* (ELT Teacher 2 Writer), *The Image in ELT* (ELT Council), and *English Hub* (Macmillan).

Sponsor: ETAS

Closing plenary (16:15 – 17:00)

Ilá Coimbra and James Taylor

Inclusion and diversity in ELT materials: The “Raise Up!” project

Diversity and representation have become important social issues in the last few years, and this discussion has filtered through to the ELT world. However, this discussion seems to have had little or no effect on international English language teaching materials.

In this plenary, James Taylor and Ilá Coimbra will discuss why they decided to start the “Raise Up!” project, what the principles behind the project are, and how the inclusive material is planned and made. They will also discuss the pedagogical and social impact of making the ELT classroom more inclusive.

Ilá Coimbra is a Brazilian teacher and teacher trainer based in Munich, where she is currently teaching English and Portuguese as foreign languages. She holds DELTA Module 1 & 2, CELTA, and CPE certificates and has been attending and presenting at local, national, and international conferences since 2014. Ilá is the cofounder of Raise Up!, a project that aims to develop materials to make the ELT classroom more inclusive and diverse. She is one of the founding members and also former president of BRAZ-TESOL Voices SIG, a special interest group that focuses on equality in ELT.

Sponsor: Raise Up! project

A greener conference reducing the carbon footprint of our PD Day

As we return to a face-to-face conference after a particularly demanding year and a half, ETAS is keenly aware of our collective vulnerability regarding the climate crisis, which remains a global challenge for all professions and in all countries. Following the lead of TESOL France, IATEFL, and InnovateELT Spain, the English Teachers Association of Switzerland is now making a conscious effort to reduce the eco-footprint of its events. The Organizing Committee of the 2021 PD Day therefore invites you to help us make this next conference more sustainable by supporting these initiatives:

Bring-your-own-bottle (BYOB)

Many of you have already done this, but we'd like to ask you to BYOB for water consumption throughout the day. Help us reduce waste from disposable cups! There are water fountains in the school for you to fill up your bottles with chilled fresh water.

Transport

ETAS has a long history of delegates arriving by train and we'd like to particularly encourage anyone 'new' to rail travel to check out the SBB/CFF super-saver day pass for this one-day event. It is available online from 11 July. We have also asked exhibitors to consider travelling on public transport when possible.

If you are unable to take the train, but are interested in carpooling, don't hesitate to contact a local ETAS member or the sustainability address below. Travelling together is a great way to save costs, meet new people, and reduce single-car journeys.

Conference food and drink

Catering is a big issue in organizing a more sustainable conference. As a key step in reducing our carbon footprint, ETAS PD Day will be offering a more plant-based menu, while still providing choice to suit the varied tastes of our delegates. We have also asked the caterers to reduce single-use plastics for snacks and desserts, and to source local and/or organic produce when possible.

Sponsors and exhibitors

We have communicated our focus on a more sustainable conference to our sponsors and exhibitors, encouraging them to be creative in their efforts to provide relevant donations and to use advertising strategies that are kind not only to teachers but also to planet Earth.

Your ideas welcome

Sustainability is a tricky topic and we want to avoid greenwashing or misguided attempts to look green, so if you have questions or have noticed something obvious that we didn't think of during 18 months of confinement, please do tell us! ETAS is committed to a greener planet Earth that will support the life, health and well-being of the next generation of English teachers and students.

Links

Sustainability SIG: sustainability@e-tas.ch

Sustainability SIG Ambassador: Sylvia Goetze Wake

SBB/CFF: Please use the following link or scan the QR code for information about the super-saver day pass.

<https://www.sbb.ch/en/travelcards-and-tickets/tickets-for-switzerland/1-day-travelpass/saver-day-pass.html>



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Workshops

Workshop Session A 11:00 – 12:00

- A1 **Rachael Harris** ■ **Stop swimming in concrete and start soaring with swallows**
- A2 **Neil Bullock** ■ **Teaching active listening – The red herring of Cinderella’s slipper**
- A3 **Rob Dean** ■ **Putting the ‘X’ factor into exam preparation**
- A4 **Ilá Cristina Coimbra** ■ **Adapting materials to make ELT more inclusive**
- A5 **Ian McMaster** ■ **When journalism meets language teaching**
- A6 **Choreanne Frei & Nancie Gantenbein** ■ **Not another workshop**

Workshop Session B 13:15 – 14:15

- B1 **Andrea Magee** ■ **Less stress, more joy: Establishing a joyful teaching and learning environment**
- B2 **Urs Kalberer** ■ **Teaching vocabulary**
- B3 **Dr Carol Waites** ■ **Which platforms or websites are cool and free for online courses?**
- B4 **Lynn Williams** ■ **What now? Responding to classroom challenges and opportunities old and new**
- B5 **Khanh-Duc Kuttig** ■ **Making peer assessment work – rubrics that encourage reflection**
- B6 **Isabella Gruber** ■ **The SOC-Check: learning oriented language assessment at A2/B1 level**
- B7 **Helen Ng** ■ **Authentic teacher presence in online teaching. Going beyond ‘Can you hear me?’**

Workshop Session C 14:30 – 15:30

- C1 **Joy Pénard** ■ **Multilingual language development in children**
- C2 **Michelle Jagger** ■ **The importance of personalization**
- C3 **Yuval Shomron & Independent Teachers SIG** ■ **Independent teachers round table**
- C4 **Choreanne Frei** ■ **Decoding listening – setting your learners up for success**
- C5 **Jeff Aristy** ■ **Learn how to teach ‘Fierce’**
- C6 **Benjamin Haymond** ■ **Another method for teaching culture**
- C7 **Sylvia Goetze Wake, Michele Kollöffel & Dr Carol Waites**
Language, gender, and an inclusive English classroom: A panel discussion

Register now at <https://go.e-tas.ch/2021PDD>

Workshop presenters and descriptions

Workshop Session A 11:00 – 12:00

A1 Rachael Harris

Stop swimming in concrete and start soaring with swallows

SIG: Young learners and teens

Sponsor: Independent

Once past the primary years it can be hard to motivate a class of sullen teens who are too cool for school. Producing that dream lesson bursting with meaningful experience and a-ha moments can seem as likely as winning the golden ticket, and an hour faced with eye rolls and sighs can leave you feeling drained and searching for your why. Packed with ideas that work – all chosen by a couple of discerning classes of teens, you will leave this workshop with a spring in your step and plenty up your sleeve for a grey day.

A2 Neil Bullock

Teaching active listening

– The red herring of Cinderella’s slipper

SIG: All

Sponsor: English Plus CH

It has long been said that *listening* is the “Cinderella” of the four language skills. Visible learning is not easy in the same way as it is with writing or reading. Teaching of pronunciation tends to focus on production of single lexical items, but it rarely corresponds to how language is heard in real life communication. The rhythm, and thus the sounds, of language changes quite noticeably from a single word in isolation to when that word is used in real speech collocations. For example, we see and teach ‘take’ and ‘off’ but we say “tay-cough”. No real surprise then that, for learners, the reception of language through listening is often much more difficult than the three ugly sisters of reading, writing, and speaking. Using classroom examples, this workshop will show how active listening can really be great fun and enlightening for teachers and more importantly can help learners’ listening skills not for the classroom but the real world.

A3 Rob Dean

Putting the ‘X’ factor into exam preparation

SIG: All

Sponsor: Pearson Schweiz AG

Few people really enjoy exams. Any motivation that is connected with exams is often extrinsic, frequently related to the pressure to succeed - and the fear of failure. But can we foster intrinsic motivation in the exam scenario? This session will look at some ways in which we might change candidates’ perceptions of exams and exam preparation for the better. We will show, through a series of practical approaches, activities, and materials, ways in which the exam preparation process can become more engaging, enjoyable, personalized and effective – ready for positive results on the big day. The session will feature material from Formula – the groundbreaking new exam preparation course from Pearson.

A4 Ilá Cristina Coimbra

Adapting materials to make ELT more inclusive

SIG: All

Sponsor: Independent

We live in a world with a plurality of identities, genders, ethnicities, body shapes, among many other differences, and our learners most certainly reflect that. What about our teaching and materials? Do they reflect that diversity? The aim of this workshop is to briefly highlight why having diverse materials is important, how to adapt the materials we have to make them more inclusive, and what we should watch out for when adapting our materials. Audience participation is expected and there will be hands-on tasks.

A5 Ian McMaster

When journalism meets language teaching

SIG: Business; Independent teachers, All

Sponsor: Business Spotlight/Spotlight Verlag

In 1981, Spotlight magazine was founded with the aim of helping German-speaking learners to improve their English via journalistic content that was more up-to-date and entertaining than course books and also more accessible than regular English-language media.

Forty years later, Spotlight Verlag is part of the ZEIT Publishing Group and publishes six magazines for language learning, including Business Spotlight, which celebrated its 20th birthday in March 2021.

In this workshop, Business Spotlight editor-in-chief Ian McMaster will look at ways in which you use journalistic elements and tasks in your teaching to aid the acquisition of language and communication skills.

A6 Choreanne Frei & Nancie Gantenbein

Not another workshop

SIG: All

Sponsor: Independent

Another invitation to an online workshop, another message from your head of department inviting you to a staff meeting with a workshop, another blogpost discussing teaching. Many of us were a bit overwhelmed by the sheer amount of continuous professional development opportunities last year, and may feel we have participated in our share of workshops for months to come! Just how important is continuous professional development? What offers are there, and is there any worth in attending events? Nancie and Choreanne will discuss the pros and cons of different options with the aim of helping you find out what development opportunities are best for you.

Workshop Session B 13:15 – 14:15

B1 Andrea Magee

Less stress, more joy: Establishing a joyful teaching and learning environment

SIG: Young learners and teens

Sponsor: EmJoy Education

Online or in the classroom: whatever environment we're teaching in, and our students are learning in needs to have less stress and more joy. Join me for a hands-on workshop that will explore ways in which we can use interaction, rapport, and routines to establish a joyful teaching and learning environment.

B2 Urs Kalberer

Teaching vocabulary

SIG: Young learners and teens; All

Sponsor: Independent

Far too often, teachers expect their students to learn vocabulary independently at home. Considering the importance of vocabulary, there needs to be classroom time dedicated to a principled approach towards vocabulary learning. In this talk, participants get to know a collection of activities that can be applied directly to support and enhance the teaching of new lexical items.

Contents:

Repetition and quality of processing as conditions affecting vocabulary learning

Practice activities for your classroom

Digital tools that promote vocabulary learning

Tasks for testing

B3 Dr Carol Waites
Which platforms or websites are cool and free for online courses?

SIG: Teaching with technology; All

Sponsor: Independent

Everyone wonders about whether they have the best mode for delivering their online course. We have so much choice out there and which one is best for your purposes? If you are working with an institution, you may have one that you have to use. But is it the best one? What other options are available? And if you are free to choose one, isn't that a bit overwhelming? I surveyed a range of different people to find out what they use and what they use them for.

B4 Lynn Williams
What now? Responding to classroom challenges and opportunities old and new
SIG: All

Sponsor: Independent

This past year and a bit has seen us responding to all manner of challenges both inside and outside the classroom due to COVID-19. In this workshop, we will reflect on how that experience can help us in our regular classroom work by exploring our attitudes and beliefs around responsive teaching, sudden challenges, and magic moments. We will examine a selection of concrete sample lesson plans and discuss how we can proactively maximize on unexpected situations, naturally bearing in mind class goals and curricula, individualization, and principles of differentiated instruction as we do so. I will share how I myself prepare to expect the unexpected, and participants will leave with ideas they can apply to their own classroom situations.

B5 Khanh-Duc Kuttig
Making peer assessment work – rubrics that encourage reflection

SIG: Higher education

Sponsor: Independent

Do you know the three Ps of feedback: personal, peer, and professional feedback? While students at every level of learning value professional feedback, i.e. from the instructor most of all, one of the aims of language proficiency, especially at university level, is the ability to evaluate one's own work and that of peers. In this interactive workshop, we're going to discuss why peer and self-assessment tend to fail and how we as instructors can get our own students to reflect on and review their own work. At the end of the session, you'll walk away with some practical ideas on how to implement self- and peer assessment activities and how to write rubrics that encourage learners to reflect on their own work more.

B6 Isabella Gruber
The SOC-Check: learning oriented language assessment at A2/B1 level

SIG: Testing & assessment; All

Sponsor: VISION

The SOC-Check is a formative diagnostic tool developed with NILE for learners to raise their awareness for their own strengths and weaknesses at the A2-B1 level and help teachers to support them using the reports that the SOC-Check provides. In this workshop I will show participants how to use the online SOC-Check (in use in some schools in Ticino with English as target and Italian as working language) and what results can be gathered from that online diagnostic test. A special focus will be on the aspect of feedback and learner autonomy, i.e. what should learners do after they have received their results and how can teachers improve students' language skills based on the detailed reports of the SOC-Check.

B7 Helen Ng
Authentic teacher presence in online teaching. Going beyond ‘Can you hear me?’
SIG: Teaching with technology;
Online teachers

Sponsor: Independent

“Can you hear me?”

“Can you see my PowerPoint slide?”

These might be all-too-familiar questions as you embark on your online teaching journey and take on the challenge of establishing your presence in front of a screen. In this hands-on workshop, we will explore other ways through which we can build our teacher presence, encourage natural interactions, and consequently boost student engagement. We will start with what we like and what we miss about real-life classrooms, and find ways to adapt or reinvent those practices for a virtual space. The goal is for you to take away low-tech and high-tech solutions that you can apply immediately and find that spark as an online English teacher.

Workshop Session C 14:30 – 15:30

C1 Joy Pénard
Multilingual language development in children
SIG: Young learners and teens

Sponsor: Ahead with English

This interactive workshop addresses many common questions around multilingual language development in children. Should children learn one language at a time? Is mixing languages a sign for concern? How do you know if a child just needs more exposure or needs more support? Come with your questions about speech and language development and learn how to support language acquisition.

C2 Michelle Jagger
The importance of personalization
SIG: All

Sponsor: DELTA Publishing/KLETT Sprachen

We are all wired to be sociable and we spend a large amount of our time communicating with others. Research has shown that during conversations, we talk about ourselves for around 60% of the time, and this increases to 80% when we use social media. In this talk, Michelle will look at the science behind why we spend so much time talking about ourselves, and how can we use this information to our advantage in the ELT classroom. To illustrate some points, Michelle will use examples from the new Adult General English Course from Delta Publishing, On Point, and together we will look at ideas of how we can easily personalize our lessons to increase student engagement.

C3 Yuval Shomron & Independent Teachers SIG
Independent teachers round table
SIG: Independent Teachers

Sponsor: ETAS

Led by the Independent Teachers Team, Yuval Shomron, Phil Schiller, Caroline Verzier, and Rose Travers, every participant will be able to share ideas, problems, and solutions. Possible topics might include pricing, locations, teaching materials, legalities, teaching methods, finding teachers, and anything else you may bring up. We'll do our best to offer suggestions and information on the spot. We'll be sure to follow up on tricky questions after the conference if we need to do a bit of research.

C4 Choreanne Frei
Decoding listening – setting your learners up for success

SIG: All

Sponsor: Swiss Exams

All too often, listening skills are tested rather than taught in our classrooms. But how can we help our learners to build up their listening skills? In this workshop we will look at how students use both top-down (meaning-building) and bottom-up (decoding) processes to access and process listening texts. The features of connected speech make it challenging for learners to successfully decode connected speech, so we need to have effective and efficient strategies to support our learners to become competent and confident listeners. We will look at activities that enable our learners become better at decoding, and how this in turn can also help them to achieve better exam results.

C5 Jeff Aristy
Learn how to teach ‘Fierce’

SIG: All

Sponsor: Fierce

Fierce Conversations is a communication and culture-change programme from best-selling US-based author Susan Scott. Fierce is a radically authentic approach to conversation, with tools which develop skills for effective decision-making, networking, coaching, feedback, and time management. The presentation introduces the Fierce approach, and outlines an exciting NEW accreditation process for teachers who want to integrate soft skills into their classrooms.

C6 Benjamin Haymond
Another method for teaching culture

SIG: Inter-cultural communication

Sponsor: Independent

What do students or clients learn in an intercultural communication class or seminar? Upon completion, what can they do with this information? Does knowledge about theories of social distance and hierarchy produce better communication outcomes? This talk will offer another method for teaching culture to students, which is based on a goal to prepare students to visit a foreign country for any length of time and hold an “intelligent” conversation with a reasonably well educated local. It will review some of the material and methods currently employed in courses at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts Computer Science Department. Participants will receive a template with examples for creating a similar type of course.

C7 Sylvia Goetze Wake,
Michele Kollöffel & Dr Carol Waites
Language, gender, and an inclusive English classroom: A panel discussion

SIG: All

Sponsor: Independent

Language is constantly changing – a fact teachers are keenly aware of but also sometimes forget. Gender language and gender identity include relatively recent language changes as well as some standard practices which often go unmentioned in coursebooks. Can we teach up-to-date English usage that is precise yet inclusive in our classrooms? How can we address students appropriately or teach writing in a gender-suitable way? These and other questions will be addressed in this panel discussion, with each presenter sharing teaching experiences and perspectives on this very current topic. The session will finish with audience participation, so bring your curiosity and your list of questions.

Speakers' biodata

Jeff Aristy is the founder and managing director of Big Apple Business, a training, coaching and consulting company based in Munich, Germany. Jeff is also an accredited Fierce trainer.

Neil Bullock is a teacher, teacher trainer and testing specialist. He presents and writes regularly on many language matters and is a regular participant on the Delivering Development podcast.

Ilá Cristina Coimbra is a Brazilian language teacher and teacher trainer based in Munich, Germany, where she is currently teaching English and Portuguese as foreign languages. Ilá is the co-founder of Raise Up!, a project that aims to develop materials to make the ELT classroom more inclusive and diverse. She is also one of the founding members and former president of BRAZ-TESOL Voices SIG, a special interest group that focuses on equality in ELT.

Rob Dean has been involved in ELT since 1994 and is based near York in the UK. Rob works as an independent international teacher trainer and methodology consultant, and travels widely (when allowed). He delivers talks, workshops, seminars and online webinars to teachers all over the world.

Choreanne Frei is a teacher, trainer and presenter with almost 25 years of ELT experience. Her main interests include teacher development, Business English and ESP, learner autonomy, developing language skills, coaching, and all things digital.

Sylvia Goetze Wake, Michele Kollöffel and Dr Carol Waites are passionate about inclusive education for learners of all genders and abilities. They are keenly interested in gender referencing in the classroom, textbooks and in writing. Michele and Sylvia teach at the UNIL Language Centre, and Carol teaches English and writing skills at the UN Centre for Learning and Multilingualism.

Nancie Gantenbein has been in ELT for over 25 years and is a teacher and qualified teacher trainer. She has been a CELTA tutor since 2009. Her main interests include teacher development, Business English and ESP.

Isabella Gruber is a member of CEBS, an institution affiliated with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, which operates as a national in-service teacher training centre. Her responsibilities include the SOC-Check, the oral school-leaving exams, and the implementation of plurilingual lessons and exams at upper secondary vocational colleges.

Rachael Harris teaches primary and secondary ELT and is passionate about discovering how all learners learn best. She is an IATEFL IP&SEN SIG committee member, author, presenter and learner. Rachael is fascinated by many themes, including teens, inclusive practices and well-being in learning.

Benjamin Haymond is a writer, lecturer, and team coordinator at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts Computer Science Department in Rotkreuz, Switzerland. He has written and developed course materials and curricula in Germany and Switzerland for more than 15 years.

Michelle Jagger worked for over 20 years as an English trainer for various private and business clients. She is also a certified Neurolanguage® Coach. As an educational consultant, she enjoys helping learners and supporting teachers with excellent English teaching materials from Delta Publishing.

Urs Kalberer is an experienced workshop presenter with more than 25 years of experience teaching Swiss teens at lower secondary schools. He is interested in skills training and how to make the best use of digital tools in the classroom. Urs is a former ETAS Teacher Development Chair and holds an M.Ed. in English Language Teaching.

Khanh-Duc Kuttig has an MA in TESOL, teaches at the University of Siegen in Germany, has an interest in creative assessment and learner autonomy, and is the 2021 TESOL/NGL Teacher of the Year.

Andrea Magee teaches in a local primary school and is also a co-founder of the non-profit, Embrace Joy in Education (emJoy education). EmJoy organizes events for teachers, including local teach clubs, workshops and annual conferences. With teaching experience across Europe, Andrea focuses on finding joy for her learners and as a teacher herself.

Ian McMaster has been editor-in-chief of the business communication magazine Business Spotlight since its launch in March 2001 and is a former coordinator of IATEFL BESIG.

Helen Ng is an English instructor, teacher trainer, and e-learning specialist. For the last 11 years, she has built her career in Canada, Hong Kong, and now in France. She currently teaches at the INP-ENSEEIH engineering school. Helen holds a B.Ed. in ESL education and an M.Ed. in Instructional Design.

Joy Pénard is an American speech-language pathologist specializing in multilingual speech and language development. Drawing on up-to-date research and her own experience, she provides information for parents and teachers to support a practical approach for a linguistically rich environment.

Yuval Shomron, Phil Schiller, Caroline Verzier and Rose Travers all have years of experience working independently and managing their own schools. They represent various parts of Switzerland and different teaching situations.

Dr Carol Waites has taught online writing skills and advanced English to international civil servants at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland for 20 years. She is soon to retire from the UN and is looking at all the many options out there and reflecting on what to do next.

Lynn Williams is a teacher of upper-secondary English language and literature with some 15 years' experience. Since 2010 she has also been involved in initial teacher education as a coach and lecturer. Lynn is particularly interested in assessment and testing, differentiated instruction, and literature and culture in the EFL classroom.



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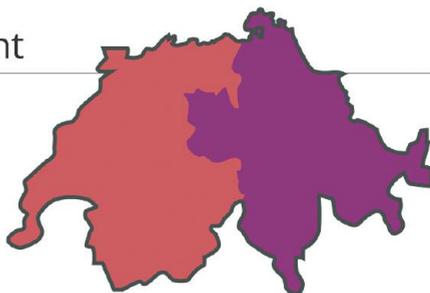
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ASA A STEP AHEAD

Second-hand book sale at the PD Day



Despite the severe restrictions imposed by the Brazilian government to combat COVID-19 in Brazil, our programme to teach English to underprivileged children in the Rocinha slum of Rio de Janeiro is still going strong. The youngest children are having their lessons in person in the daycare centre, and the older children are having their lessons on Zoom, as you can see in the image above.

Jakeline, our wonderful teacher, was attending English classes of her own in Rio to continue to improve her English, but those classes were discontinued due to COVID-19 restrictions. Jakeline now has weekly English lessons with a teacher in Basel and is

continuing to improve her vocabulary, her spoken English, and her accent, and is also working hard on developing her writing skills.

ASA, A Step Ahead, had to cancel all of its fundraising activities in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions and has not hosted one so far in 2021. Our funds are dwindling quickly as we are continuing to support our programme in Brazil without interruption. We are grateful for any support you can provide. To that end, we will be organizing a **second-hand book sale** at the PD Day. Please bring any books you may like to pass on; these can be English teaching materials (but please do not bring any really old coursebooks!), graded readers, teacher development books, or paperbacks that you have finished. As long as they are in good condition, we are happy to accept them.

The ASA team is looking forward to seeing you in Gümligen and giving you an update on our activities and the progress we are making in Rio de Janeiro.

Simone Littlejohn

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