

14th LATGALE ANNUAL English Language Teachers' CONFERENCE
„New Ideas – New Successes: Sharing Professional Experiences”

PROGRAMME with ABSTRACTS

Conference organizers: Daugavpils City Education Department / British Council Latvia / LATE / Daugavpils Centre Secondary School

Date: 28th October 2014

Venue: Daugavpils Centre Secondary School **Hall (175 seats)**
 Room **302 (40 seats)**, Room **305 (40 seats)**, Room **306 (40 seats)**, Room **403 (28 seats)**, Room **213 (30 seats)**

9.15-10.00	Registration	
10.00-10.40	Introduction	Hall
10.00-10.10	Opening Ceremony and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ināra Sprindžuka (Principal of Education Content Department, Daugavpils City Education Department)</i> • <i>Ilona Ustinova (English Language Methodologist, Daugavpils City Education Department)</i> 	
10.10-10.20	News from Express Publishing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tatiana Ginzburg (Express Publishing, ELT Consultant)</i> 	
10.20-10.30	News from Pearson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iveta Vītola (Regional Manager for the Baltic region, Pearson Central Europe, Latvia)</i> 	
10.30-10.40	Teachers' Exchange Programs in the USA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kathy Giles-Diaz (Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Embassy)</i> 	
10.40-11.30	Plenary 1	Hall
	Digital European Language Portfolio for Junior Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rita Kursīte (Foreign Languages Specialist, National Centre For Education, MoES, Rīga)</i> <p>The speaker will remind the teachers of the latest changes in the documentation referring to teaching foreign languages in Latvia and then will concentrate on the new digital product that in the coming year will be offered to teachers and learners of English (and Latvian) for free.</p> <p>In summer 2014 National Centre for Education (VISC) digitalized the European Language Portfolio (ELP) for junior students (7-12) which was worked out by the Latvian Association of Teachers of English (LATE) and accredited in the Council of Europe in 2007. It will be available for all Latvian schoolchildren free of charge as an educational tool to promote language learning. The listeners will gain some insight into the history of its development, will be introduced to the technical possibilities of its use and methodology.</p>	
11.30-11.45	Break	

11.45-12.45	Workshop I	
	<p>Learning English through literature and culture in Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Erika Osvath (OUP, ELT Consultant, Teacher trainer, Hungary)</i> <p>Reading literature and looking into different cultures constantly challenge us to think more about the world around us and inspires us to discover more about it. In this session we will be exploring some practical ways of enhancing the process of language learning through the use of literature and culture, helping low-secondary and upper-secondary students develop their extensive reading skills.</p>	302
	<p>Online Documents in Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kristīne Politere (ELT, National Armed Forces School, Language School, Liepāja)</i> <p>In this workshop I want to remind the teachers of the opportunities offered by online documents (Google Disc and Microsoft Onedrive) which can be used in teaching process when testing students or students self-assessing. Nowadays when everything goes hand-in-hand with IT it's important for teachers to catch up with development and use the offered opportunities.</p>	403
	<p>Teaching English at Primary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Tatiana Ginzburg (Express Publishing, ELT Consultant)</i> <p>Children are naturally inquisitive, enthusiastic, and receptive to new input. They are also undergoing rapid social, intellectual and emotional development. Our goal as educators is therefore not simply to teach children English but to do so in a way that helps them grow. The workshop participants will have a chance to discuss practical activities that facilitate development of young children as well as the development of their English language skills.</p>	305
	<p>Fantasy, Fun and Games in the Primary Classroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Iveta Vītola (Regional Manager for the Baltic region, Pearson Central Europe, Latvia)</i> <p>Once upon a time, there was a classroom full of energetic and happy pupils, who all enjoyed learning English. They loved their classes, and were thrilled when their teacher included the magic of stories, fun characters and exciting activities. The teacher was rather happy too, as she could see how beneficial such ingredients could be to successful learning, and how the right contexts and activities could have a positive effect on effective classroom management. Is this all a fairytale? No, it's reality, and this practical workshop will show just how real it all can be in YOUR classroom.</p>	306
	<p>Three steps to make writing easy, exciting and successful for young learners (form 5-7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Irina Bučinska (ELT, TA, Daugavpils Russian Secondary School –Lyceum)</i> <p>During the presentation the author will focus on the main problems teachers often face when teaching writing in basic school, forms 5-7, and will share techniques and methods how to deal with these problems and achieve good results in teaching young learners to write various texts successfully.</p>	Hall
12.45-13.20	<p>Coffee Break</p> <p>School canteen (ground floor)</p>	

13.20-14.20	Workshop II	
	<p>Experiences of Critical Thinking Development in American Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kate McClellan (Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, Daugavpils Secondary School No.9, Daugavpils University)</i> <p>This workshop will discuss the speaker's experience of cultural studies classes in both American private secondary education and at the university level. She will discuss her impressions of American strategies of encouraging the development of critical thinking and analytical skills, especially in the contexts of history and literature courses. She will focus on interactive student engagement in seminars to push students to reach a deeper level of understanding.</p>	302
	<p>Making Your Lessons Meaningful (Content in a Language Classroom)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Tatiana Ginzburg (Express Publishing, ELT Consultant)</i> <p>On the one hand, we keep hearing that pupils nowadays have short attention span and expect to be entertained rather than put in some effort in their learning. On the other hand, we cannot avoid the responsibility of educating them, as opposed to simply drilling some grammar rules and a set of lexical items into their heads. In this talk we'll look at the whys and ways teachers can 'mediate', i.e., shape their pupils' learning by bringing topics to the aimed to have personal value, purpose beyond 'here' and 'now' and challenge. The talk is aimed at teachers working all ages of school pupils.</p>	305
	<p>21st Century Learning Concept in Practice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Iveta Vītola (Regional Manager for the Baltic region, Pearson Central Europe, Latvia)</i> <p>Teachers today face many challenges. They need to equip students to be able to function and be successful in the 21st Century World. Integration of technology into the classroom enables to make content more useful, more personal, more valuable and it demands a change in the student-teacher relationship. Learning gradually becomes a true partnership between teachers and students and classrooms are moving towards a form of blended learning. Through a series of practical activities and approaches we will look at how to provide a motivating and rewarding classroom environment for our secondary school students and at the same time stay exam focused to achieve the maximum result.</p>	306
	<p>Primary Teaching: Practical Methodology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Natalja Juško (ELT, Daugavpils Russian Secondary School –Lyceum)</i> <p>I want to share my own experience in teaching young learners, in creative use of new technologies at my lessons, to share my practical ideas. In 2013 I took part in the course "Language and practical methodology: Creativity in the classroom" in Britain. I brought a lot of ideas how to teach English to young learners, which I am ready to share with you.</p>	213

	<p>Support to Adult Learning in Multilingual Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Silvija Kārklīņa (Dr.sc.admin, Board member, Public Service Language Centre, Rīga)</i> <p>These days adults encounter the need to acquire a new language or refresh the language skills learned during the school years. There are several ways how we – teachers can support them. The tools that have been traditionally used to support language learning and the new ones will be tackled during the workshop, and research exploring these issues will be presented, thus leading to a discussion about the existing language (either state or foreign language) learning support system in Latvia.</p>	Hall
14.20-14.30	Break	
14.30-15.40	Plenary 2	Hall
14.30-14.40	<p>News from OUP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dace Miška (OUP, ELT consultant)</i> 	
14.40-15.40	<p>Extensive Reading: Developing Skills, Encouraging Autonomy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Erika Osvath (OUP, ELT consultant, Hungary)</i> <p>Extensive reading helps learners learn English better. This session will provide teachers with practical classroom ideas and activities to motivate primary students to read, both in class and at home with family. It will also help teachers to establish a supportive reading environment, providing activities to help children share their reading experience.</p>	
15.45 -16.30	Raffle / Certificates / Closing	Hall