Celebrating innovation

The ELTons, now in their 14th year, are the only international awards that recognise and celebrate innovation in English language teaching. They reward educational resources that help English language learners and teachers to achieve their goals.

In total there are six awards that reward ELT products and services, in addition to The Lifetime Achievement Award. As before, applications have been judged by an independent panel of English language teaching professionals using the Delphi Technique.

During the ceremony we will also be celebrating the winners of our ELT Master’s Dissertation Award and recognising the recipients of our ELT Research Partnership Awards.
Nomination categories

The British Council Awards
These awards recognise the winners of our ELT Master’s Dissertation Award and ELT Research Partnership Awards.

The Award for Excellence in Course Innovation
This award recognises innovation in the complete course packages which publishers produce for EFL or ESL learners of any age.

The Macmillan Education Award for New Talent in Writing
This award is sponsored by Macmillan Education and gives previously unpublished writers the opportunity to win a £1,000 prize and have their work published. Through this award the British Council aims to discover and encourage up-and-coming ELT authors to take the next step in their writing careers.

The Award for Innovation in Learner Resources
This award recognises innovation in any product or service across any media intended for learners.

The Award for Innovation in Teacher Resources
This award recognises innovation in a product or service aimed at developing and supporting EFL and ESL teachers.

The Award for Digital Innovation
This award recognises the innovative use of technology aimed at learners or teachers of English.

The Award for Local Innovation
This award recognises innovation in creating learner or teacher solutions to meet a specific local need within a specific local context and which are developed at a local, national or regional level.

The Lifetime Achievement Award
Now in its sixth year, this award recognises an English language teaching professional who has made a substantial contribution to the field of language learning and teaching throughout their career.
Programme

18.15 Welcome reception with drinks and canapés
   ELTons nominated product showcase – Paget Room
   British Council product display and ELTons sponsors’ displays – Snow Room

19.00 ELTons Awards Ceremony, hosted by author and former ELTons Lifetime Achievement recipient Alan Maley

20.15 Celebratory reception with drinks, small plates and canapés

Canapés served during welcome reception
Cured Scottish salmon with chilli, lime, avocado and salmon caviar
English asparagus, parmesan custard and black olive crumble (V)
Smoked ham hock croquettes with minted pea puree
Crab and sweetcorn beignets, tarragon and buttermilk dip

Small plates served during celebratory reception
Slow cook lamb shoulder, braised peas, broad beans, baby gem lettuce and fresh mint
Courgette and lemon risotto, English goat’s cheese and garlic oil

Canapés served during celebratory reception
Spicy fish skewers with nuoc cham sauce
Spanish tortilla with aubergine relish and semi-dried tomato (V)
Chicken and truffle terrine, sweetcorn puree, black pepper shortbread
Courgette, mozzarella, basil and lemon purée (V)

Dessert
Chocolate, chilli and espresso mousse, hazelnut crumble
Tavistock House

Tavistock House was built by builder and developer James Burton at the beginning of the 19th century. It was a large house that took over half of the east of Tavistock Square. Dickens’ first published story (written under the pseudonym ‘Boz’), Mr Minns and His Cousin (1833) is set in Tavistock House.

In 1851 Dickens, with his young family, moved into the western section of the now divided Tavistock House. While living there, Dickens wrote Bleak House, Hard Times, Little Dorrit and A Tale of Two Cities.

Today the headquarters of the British Medical Association stand on this site.

Paget Room – ELTons nominated product showcase
Access the products first-hand that have been nominated for a prestigious ELTons award. Browse the printed books, try out the web-based and mobile app products, and see what you think!

Snow Room
Browse the latest British Council publications and products, and ELTons sponsors’ materials.

Live streaming
We are delighted to be working with Media on Demand to live stream the red carpet interviews and awards ceremony to our global audience watching online via the ELTons website. Post ceremony video on demand will be available at: http://englishagenda.britishcouncil.org/eltons
ELTons sponsor – Cambridge English Language Assessment

Cambridge English Language Assessment is pleased to sponsor the ELTons, which reward innovative ELT products, services and research in English language teaching around the world and in the UK. Saul Nassé, CEO, Cambridge English Language Assessment will present the 2016 ELTons Award for Excellence in Course Innovation.

Cambridge English exams are taken by over five million people every year in 130 countries and recognised by over 20,000 universities, employers and government departments. They are backed by a world-leading programme of academic and practical research and by quality management systems certified to international standards.

Cambridge English Language Assessment is part of the University of Cambridge.

In collaboration with

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Red carpet interviewers

Join our red carpet interviewers Callie Massey and Chia Suan Chong before the ceremony to share your ELTons experience.

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LIVE blogger – Chia Suan Chong

Chia is a teacher trainer and a General English and Business English trainer, and has been English Teaching Professional’s resident blogger (www.etprofessional.com) for the past four years. Fascinated by the interplay between culture, language and thought, Chia is also an intercultural skills trainer and materials developer, and is now based in York, UK.
Awards Ceremony Host – Alan Maley

Alan Maley’s career in English language teaching began with The British Council in 1962. After postgraduate training at the University of Leeds under Professor Peter Strevens and Professor Pit Corder, he worked for the British Council in Yugoslavia, Ghana, Italy, France, PR China and India over a period of 26 years. After resigning from the British Council in 1988, he became Director General of the Bell Educational Trust in Cambridge (1988–93). He then took up the post of Senior Fellow in the Department of English, National University of Singapore, where he stayed for five years. His last full-time post was as Dean of the Institute for English Language Education, Assumption University, Bangkok, where he set up new MA programmes. Since retiring from Assumption in 2004, he has occupied a number of visiting professorial posts at Leeds Metropolitan, Nottingham, Durham, Malaysia (UKM), Vietnam (OU-HCMC) and Germany (Universitat Augsburg).

He was a founder member of the Extensive Reading Foundation, and co-founder of The C Group (Creativity for Change in Language Education) http://thecreativitygroup.weebly.com

He is a past-President of IATEFL, and was given the ELTons Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012. He has published extensively and was series editor for the Oxford Resource Books for Teachers for over 20 years. He continues to write for publication. He also remains active as a speaker at national and international conferences.
The British Council Awards
English Language Teaching Research Awards (ELTRA)

Through the English Language Teaching Research Awards (ELTRA) the British Council gives grants to UK universities to conduct research into ELT-related topics. Now into its eighth year, the scheme has funded 44 research projects. On completion the research outcomes are published on our TeachingEnglish and EnglishAgenda websites.

Last year’s award were as follows:

- Investigating the impact of study abroad on the oral fluency development of Chinese overseas students – University of York.
- Egyptian children’s experiences of English language learning and their perceptions of ways forward – University College London.
- The role of metacognition in the success of reading and writing tasks across cultures – University of Exeter.
- Master’s programme in ELT: A survey of UK provision and student experiences – University of Stirling.
- Internationalisation, higher education and the growing demand for English: an investigation into the global English medium of instruction (EMI) movement and the use of academic English as a lingua franca (ELF) in non-anglophone higher education institutes (HEI) – University of Edinburgh.
- Exploring the role of newly-qualified English teachers in developing ICT use in language classrooms through communities of practice – Canterbury Christ Church University.
- A global study on EFL teachers’ emotional and social intelligence – University of Essex.
- Assessment literacy – what do teachers want to know? – University of Huddersfield.

Download published ELTRA papers here:
http://englishagenda.britishcouncil.org/research-publications/research-papers
www.teachingenglish.org.uk/teacher-development/publications
Master’s Dissertation with Best Potential for Impact in ELT Award

For the last four years, the British Council has partnered with UK universities to find master’s dissertations with the potential to improve policy and practice in ELT across the world. The scheme is designed to recognise and celebrate the brightest minds in ELT at master’s level. Universities submit one master’s dissertation marked at distinction level and these dissertations are judged by a panel of experts. The dissertations are published on the British Council website and are accessible to practitioners around the world, raising the profile of the authors and universities alike.

This year’s competition has included research into diverse ELT themes, covering a wide range of contexts such as China, Kuwait, the Caribbean and Greece.

Please visit the British Council Master’s Dissertation Award web page to find out more http://englishagenda.britishcouncil.org/research-publications/elt-masters-dissertations
The Award for Excellence in Course Innovation

presented by Saul Nassé, CEO, Cambridge English Language Assessment
Eyes Open
Ben Goldstein and Ceri Jones
Cambridge University Press with Discovery Education Inc.

Eyes Open combines captivating video from Discovery Education™ with a unique approach that opens a whole new way to view the world. With your Eyes Open, learning English becomes much more interesting as you discover and explore the cultures and people of the world around you.

The course includes:
• Four videos in every unit which makes learning relevant and creates opportunities for deeper understanding.
• Carefully progressed activities and personalised learning tasks leading to greater speaking and writing fluency.
• Progress monitoring tools and flexible teaching support, including graded tests and extra practice activities, ensuring that every learner can achieve success.
• Digital support includes:
  – Interactive Student’s eBook with full video and audio.
  – Online Workbook with extra practice activities.
• Presentation Plus which includes Interactive Whiteboard software, interactive Student’s Book and Workbook, full video and audio content, digital Teacher’s Book and Teacher’s Resource Book, online teacher training and a link to the online learning management platform.

Judge’s quote
High quality materials and interesting topics and texts. Practical, thorough and useful.

Keynote
P Dummett, L Lansford and H Stephenson
National Geographic Learning with Cengage Learning

Through life-changing stories, respected thinkers and authentic presentations, Keynote promotes a deeper understanding of the world and gives students the courage and means to express themselves in English.

Communication, collaboration and creative thinking drive students towards real 21st century outcomes and encourage them to respond to ideas and find their own voice. Both students and teachers will emerge with new confidence, new ideas and a new determination to communicate in this increasingly information-rich world of Global English.

• AUTHENTIC LISTENING – carefully selected, supported and exploited, tailored to work in the classroom, with both native speakers and non-native speakers.
• 21st CENTURY SKILLS SYLLABUS – Critical Thinking, Visual Literacy, Global Citizens.
• PRESENTATION SKILLS SYLLABUS – a bag of transferable tools to develop fluency, confidence and engaging delivery.
• CREATIVE THINKING – a safe place to try, fail and practice and a way for students to find their own voice through ideas and language.

Judge’s quote
Highly functional tasks, intellectually stimulating input and extremely well integrated.
**Subject Projects 2: English**  
P Ball, D Lindsay, L Viteri, I Muñoa and J Dorronsoro  
Ikaselkar Publishing

Subject Projects 2 is a CLIL-based project-driven English course which forms part of the integrated Basque curriculum. The materials are driven by a set of subject-based competences, appropriate for this age level, and all students must complete a production-based task at the end of each unit which assesses those competences. The materials are faithful to the idea that in CLIL, language is the vehicle, not the focus. The students are encouraged to use language to do real things, for a real audience, with a real objective using real-world contents. The approach is multimedia, with online resource platforms for both students and teachers, supplementary digital language workbooks, a wide range of assessment tools for differentiation, and colourful and engaging real-world tasks for students. The authors of the materials, Phil Ball, Diana Lindsay, Inma Muñoa and Letizia Viteri, are all experienced CLIL practitioners.

**Judge’s quote**  
A well-integrated CLIL element that focuses on real-world competence and goes beyond just grammar.

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**U Dare 9**  
C Grijó, C Lindade, F Van Zeller and H Lima Reis  
Areal Editores

U Dare 9 – Areal Editores is an engaging new coursebook for Portuguese learners, which provides motivating and doable activities for growing 9th form classes and demanding mixed-ability pupils.

It is aimed at teens (14–15 year olds) and is based on level B1 (European Framework – CEFR).

It supplies teachers and learners with a wide variety of activities, which facilitates meaningful learning supported by grammar and competences embedded in the national syllabus.

The project is also deeply rooted in tasks that develop 21st century skills and promote life skills, avoiding offering a stereotypical vision of the world.

Learners are empowered to learn language through themes they feel passionate about.

Because learning in the 21st century is not limited to a classroom, teachers are encouraged to use an exclusive USB stick which offers numerous extension activities and alternative resources, and learners are engaged to keep learning on the publisher’s website.

**Judge’s quote**  
Differentiated tasks in a complete, self-contained package with genuinely interesting and brave topic choices.
The Macmillan Education Award for New Talent in Writing

The Macmillan Education Award for New Talent in Writing, presented by Carol Higho, Head of Product Marketing, Macmillan Education.

Macmillan Education embraces innovation through its award-winning publishing and its approach to delivering high-quality products in various media and to new niche markets.

Macmillan Education is delighted to sponsor the British Council's Award for New Talent in Writing to give new authors a chance to make their first steps into a writing career with the help of an internationally recognised publisher.

The Macmillan Education New Talent in Writing Award is open to aspiring ELT authors who have not yet published any of their work. Product proposals, rather than completed products, are submitted and judged by a panel of ELT experts.
Academic English for the 21st Century Learner
Aylin Graves

Academic English for the 21st Century Learner is an EAP series in two levels (second level in progress) for university students who are non-native speakers of English. The course integrates 21st century themes, such as solving problems ethically or developing collaborative leadership, with more familiar university study skills, such as writing essays, making speeches and citing sources. The themes are guaranteed to stir interest in young adults, prepare them to read and function in an increasingly complex world, and may easily be adapted for use with different learner groups around the world. The two books also have a rigorous vocabulary component and include word families from Coxhead’s (2000) original list of high-utility academic words. The series will be complete in 2016 and looking for a lucky publisher!

Judge’s quote
A fresh, modern approach to academic English with wide applicability.

Advanced Phrases and Expressions
James Warwick

Advanced Phrases and Expressions is a self-study reference and practice book that teaches higher level phrases and expressions through the analysis of their respective functions in context.

The aim of the book is to give B2–C1 level students the opportunity to study speech acts in conversation, and behind higher level expressions, whilst engaging with entertaining and enjoyable dialogues.

Language is introduced, learned, practised and analysed in terms of its function as a speech act and in the respective conversation, and is further supported by the accompanying download, which aims to introduce and raise awareness of intonation and pronunciation of metalinguistic features such as humour and irony. This book tries to address the need for higher level students to reflect on and think about the function of language whilst still learning the nuances of English conversation.

Judge’s quote
A very professionally produced entry and the concept is interesting and useful for learners.
CLIL in my classroom
Jelena Petrovic and Marijana Nikolic

CLIL in my classroom offers an interesting, creative and motivating way of putting smartphones to use in the classroom; provides a great number of ready-made resources for both CLIL and subject teachers; and is available by the means of QR codes enabling even the worst digital immigrant to create their own materials for digital generations. It introduces the idea of a paperless, environmentally friendly classroom and online course materials.

It gives teachers access to a plethora of ready-made resource materials, opportunity to create their own teaching resources using QR codes and become more environmentally friendly in their approach to teaching; introduces them to the idea of the flipped classroom, enabling them to create their own materials and implement the approach in order to reach out to those who have to stay away from school due to disability, disease and also those in inclusive education who need more repetition in their work.

Judge’s quote
Innovative for its context and creatively developed to lever technology into mainstream education.

My Friend TED: Academic Listening with TED Talks
Naheen Madarbakus-Ring

Academic Listening with TED Talks brings a functional and systematic approach to teaching listening. A three-stage lesson approach including pre-listening, while-listening and post-listening activities which will explore and develop learners’ awareness of listening strategies. The programme is divided into five sets to introduce and transfer listening strategies which are beneficial for the learner. Additional journal resources explore evaluative and monitoring methods for learners to understand the complexities of their listening and to create their own goals in improving their next listening encounters.

The course is contemporary with content-based features using innovative TED Talks. The texts are authentic and realistic, offering students real-time listening practice complete with paralinguistics and accentual features. The course can be incorporated into English for Academic Purposes programmes as one of the four skills with an extension in note-taking and summary skills or as self-student tools to develop learner autonomy using lesson plans.

Judge’s quote
This is a very useful and easy to access resource, ideal for pre-sessional university courses.
Study Skills for Academic Reading
Ian Pemberton

Study Skills for Academic Reading is a coursebook to prepare international students for university study. It differs from current commercially published materials in two key ways. One difference is that the materials are outcome-driven. A focus on what students can do at the end of the lesson rather what they do in the lesson is intended to promote more effective skills acquisition. The second difference is that the programme is an off-the-shelf package. It is accompanied by a complementary suite of PowerPoint presentations so that teachers simply have to turn on their computers and with a few mouse clicks they are ready to teach.

Judge’s quote

Strategy engagement and application to learning – very useful for students.
The Award for Innovation in Learner Resources
Academic Presenting and Presentations
Peter Levrai and Averil Bolster
LinguaBooks

Academic Presenting and Presentations (APP) is a research-based training course designed to help students cultivate academic presentation skills and deal with the various presentation tasks they may face at university. The material is suitable for a global audience and can be used in a wide range of contexts in the field of communication skills, ELT and EAP. The course not only helps students to develop their presentation skills but also deals with broader academic topics, such as research and plagiarism. Each unit of APP focuses on a different presentation genre, building the students’ awareness of how to present effectively whilst at the same time focusing attention on the specific requirements of different presentation tasks. The accompanying videos form an integral component of this course and consist of two types of presentation: Learning Presentations, which give advice to students, and Sample Presentations, which illustrate different types of presentation.

Judge’s quote
The materials are well staged and clearly presented. It’s a useful resource which could be used in class or for self-access.

Explore Our World CLIL READERS
V Evans, J Dooley, M Philips and N Steinhauer
Express Publishing

‘What we learn with pleasure, we never forget’. (Alfred Mercier) How can we introduce all the delights of this world into our classrooms? How can we persuade our pupils to value the pursuit of knowledge?

Explore our World CLIL READERS bring the wonders of the world into the classroom and send curious minds on an unforgettable journey of exploration! The series utilises clear and engaging texts tailored to attract young learners, impressive graphics, remarkable videos, culturally-diverse myths and legends and a state-of-the-art digital application. Each title offers a fresh, compelling look at the topic of choice, turning a reluctant reader into an enthusiastic one!

Judge’s quote
A stimulating overall package which brings CLIL into all aspects of learning.
Grammar Checker
J Lawley, RC Beltrán, SM Gutiérrez, C Harvey-Scholes, N Lawley and M Lawley
Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)

‘Mistakes are learning opportunities’ – especially when you’re learning English. And the best correction is self-correction.

Because it finds spelling, grammar and vocabulary mistakes in your writing and explains how to correct them, Grammar Checker teaches you English as you write...

Grammar Checker analyses every combination of words in your writing, highlighting the phrases which proficient writers don’t use and providing feedback on mistakes. This feedback, with plenty of examples and no jargon, will help you correct over 7,000 common spelling errors and 250,000 common grammar and vocabulary errors – and avoid them in the future. Grammar Checker also tells you which phrases in your writing sound fluent and natural, and it shows you how good writers use the words you want to use.

Grammar Checker becomes more powerful every month as more feedback is added.

Grammars, dictionaries and textbooks tell you about English; Grammar Checker tells you about your English.

Judge’s quote
A very useful tool that helps to encourage independent learning.

Guess What!
L Koustaff, S Reed and K Bentley
Cambridge University Press

Children are natural explorers. They have a natural and insatiable curiosity about the world around them and they are eager to learn and talk about topics that interest them. Why do whales jump out of water? What makes our bodies move? Guess What! taps into this curiosity, sparks children’s interest and enables them to explore and discover the world as they learn English. With Guess What! children learn English by:

• exploring the topics that they want to learn and talk about
• building speaking confidence and ensuring success through small, socially useful language ‘chunks’
• improving proficiency and developing knowledge across subjects through beautiful world photography and captivating video documentaries
• developing social values and preparing for success in life with fun adventure stories
• experiencing English outside of school through digital tools.

Guess What! Interactive ebooks enhance learning outside the classroom by engaging parents and creating non-threatening, enjoyable practice opportunities with bright, child-friendly materials that captivate children’s attention.

Judge’s quote
Good integration of technology promoting learning inside and outside the classroom.
Literacy for Active Citizenship
R Ades, T Cheloul, I Sadi, N Shaheen, LY Teng and V Renner-Thomas
Learning Unlimited Ltd

Literacy for Active Citizenship is a unique series of graded ESOL readers for adult speakers of other languages who are developing their reading skills in English.

Migrant women and volunteer befrienders on the Active Citizenship and English (ACE) project wrote their own stories about funny, personal and less typical aspects of everyday life in the UK. These were turned into graded readers, with two versions of each story – Entry 1/A1 and Entry 2/A2+. Key words, comprehension and discussion questions, illustrations and photographs, and additional free downloadable supporting activities all aim to support integration in a lively, engaging and flexible way.

The Active Citizenship and English (ACE) project, funded by the European Integration Fund, was led by Learning Unlimited working in partnership with Blackfriars Settlement, Working Men’s College and UCL Institute of Education from July 2013 to June 2015.

Judge’s quote
User generated and professionally published content to inspire learners in similar contexts.

Richmond Business Theories
A Lilley and D Cole-Powney
Richmond ELT

Richmond Business Theories is an exciting new online product for business studies students or working professionals with an interest in the world of business. They explore a range of important business ideas and concepts and are available at four levels from A2 to B2.

They offer:
• animated mini-lectures written by business specialists and university lecturers
• interactive word lists which let students create a personalised record of key words and phrases
• practice activities where students can test the theories in a business scenario
• online access allowing students to work from multiple devices whenever they want
• a trackable progress section that lets students and teachers follow their work
• teacher’s notes and class assignment worksheets for teachers.

Richmond Business Theories can be used in class, set for homework, or as a self-study programme. This flexible approach makes Richmond Business Theories the ideal choice for any students who want to do business in English.

Judge’s quote
Nice material, well-designed and structured – very clear and simple.
The Thinking Train
H Puchta, G Gerngross and M Williams
Helbling Languages

The Thinking Train is a unique series of picture books which focus on the development of children’s thinking skills through the use of picture books. When children are involved in thinking and also in talking about their thinking with others, they reach higher levels of achievement in the future as well as developing superior thinking skills. These stories encourage a love of reading and promote thoughtful interaction with books while developing children’s thinking skills while the beautiful illustrations add important details and context as well as fostering children’s visual literacy. Both the stories and activities are in carefully graded English, thereby automatically developing and practising language skills, too.

Each story is completed with a set of free interactive classroom games. Worksheets provide skills and exam practice and a comprehensive Teacher’s Guide gives full support to teachers wishing to learn more about developing thinking in young learners.

All stories by Herbert Puchta and Günter Gerngross, activities developed by Marion Williams.

Judge’s quote
A high quality selection of books and accompanying online activities.
The Award for Innovation in Teacher Resources
Digital Video – A manual for language teachers
Nik Peachey
Peachey Publications

Digital Video is a multimedia manual for language teachers to help them build activities, courses and engaging materials for their students. From exploiting mobile apps on handheld devices to building video into blended and task-based learning, Digital Video covers it all. With detailed technical support through a range of 26 tutorial videos, illustrated step-by-step guides and more than 40 lesson examples and over 300 images, teachers can use this manual to build their confidence and find some of the best free video applications and resources online. Whether you are a novice teacher or an experienced trainer looking to develop your tech skills, this manual can help you with plain English explanations and practical online and face-to-face classroom suggestions.

Available from:

Judge’s quote
A comprehensive and detailed ebook of ideas, resources and tutorials based on sound pedagogical principles.

Language Learning with Digital Video
B Goldstein, P Driver and S Thornbury
Cambridge University Press

Language Learning with Digital Video is for teachers who are interested in using a range of video in the language classroom, from documentaries to YouTube clips and learner-generated material. The book contains a wide variety of generic, easy-to-use practical activities as well as a number of ready-made worksheets for specific video clips. Activities require minimal preparation and use is made of digital tools where appropriate. Activities are suitable for a range of ages and levels and for both the experienced and less-experienced teacher. There is also a useful list of sources, from which teachers can access a wide range of video clips, as well as a bank of technical tips and advice.

Judge’s quote
Useful, helpful and practical, ideal for teachers with little or no experience in using video in the classroom.
**Teachers Research!**  
Richard Smith and Deborah Bullock, with 13 teacher-researcher contributors from eight countries  
IATEFL Research Special Interest Group

This E-book, freely accessible online, consists of teacher-research stories connected to multimedia website resources. Teachers often find research intimidating due to the academic way in which it is presented. This book paints a more welcoming picture, being innovative in its varied writing styles and uses of visuals, and in the use of hyperlinks to website-based video-recordings and posters. The way teachers were mentored towards publication and the teacher-friendly style of presentation serve as a model for future teacher-research publications, and as an attractive invitation to teachers to develop themselves through research.

*I love the format and all the photos, pictures and links.*  
(Siân Etherington)

*I think the publication is very teacher friendly and hope it will be an inspiration for many.*  
(Harry Kuchah)

*WOW! What a wonderful publication. I love the photos, the variety of voices and the design is excellent. It works really well.*  
(Sandie Mourão)

**Judge’s quote**

An interesting, varied collection of research stories, which should inspire and give confidence to teachers to pursue their own research.

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**TEFL Preparation Course**  
E Pratt, J King and J Mora  
ELTCampus

“What is Learner-Centredness?”  
“What is Language Clarification?”

This engaging, online preparatory course by ELTCampus better prepares candidates for initial ELT qualifications such as the CELTA or CertTESOL.

Taking a principled approach, we explore key concepts underpinning best practice in language learning making these clearer and more accessible to participants before they do their training course. It provides candidates with a head start by bridging what prospective teachers need to know, with what they need to be able to do.

Content is broken down into eight accessible, autonomous and fun modules through three spheres of activity: study, observation, application.

Input has been drawn from teachers/teacher-trainers all over the world into a collection of observations, interviews, short vibrant video presentations, quizzes, discussion forums and a range of dynamic interactive activities covering eight content areas:

1. Learner-Centredness
2. Classroom Management
3. Learner Needs/Differences
4. Language Clarification
5. Language Practice
6. Receptive Skills
7. Productive Skills
8. Lesson Planning

**Judge’s quote**

A very professionally produced course, easy to use, well-planned and thought through.
The TEFL Commute
Lindsay Clandfield, Shaun Wilden and James Taylor

The TEFL Commute is a free podcast for language teachers. The tagline is that it’s ‘not about language teaching, but the subject will surely come up’. Every episode we address a topic that is of interest to language teachers in their daily lives and explore it. Topics have included ‘Commuting’, ‘Names’, ‘Stationery’, ‘Invented language’ and many others. The show is regularly hosted by Lindsay Clandfield and Shaun Wilden and is produced by James Taylor and Shaun Wilden. In addition to the regular talk show, episodes of TEFL Commute sometimes feature guest speakers, and other mini features. It finishes with instructions for a practical idea relating to the theme that teachers can take into class that very day.

The TEFL Commute lasts between 25 and 35 minutes per episode, just the right time for a short- to medium-sized commute for teachers.

Judge’s quote

*Fresh, different, providing teaching and learning support on several levels.*

www.EFLtalks.com – talks for teachers
Rob Howard

EFLtalks.com is a website founded by Rob Howard with a searchable database with over 100 ten-minute videos by education professionals throughout the world designed to build a lasting legacy for future language teachers worldwide. The videos, covering a wide range of subjects, were recorded during a ten-hour non-stop webathon held for World Teachers’ Day by 50 presenters and over two days in February when 40 presenters answered previously submitted viewer questions using only ten PowerPoint slides over ten minutes to make their point. Future branded ‘10 in 10’ events will take place throughout the year to add to the database building a free, growing global PLN+ for language teachers worldwide. It is designed to help market to the future professionals of EFL/ESL, reaching new and emerging markets, as well as provide free and accessible teacher development. In just five months, we have reached over 50,000 viewers throughout the world.

Judge’s quote

*A large and varied collection of ten-minute ELT talks with opportunities for interaction with audience.*
The Award for Digital Innovation
Connections E-textbook
J Balanyk, J Bidal and R Radwan
Academic Bridge Programme, Zayed University

‘Connections’ develops the multi-modal literacies and 21st century skills that are so critical for success in both academic and professional contexts today. The series provides an innovative solution for the specific needs of EAP learners in the Arabian Gulf, by linking familiar local experiences to global issues. Academic skills such as critical thinking, researching and paraphrasing are highlighted within English language development tasks, whilst interactive, collaborative and differentiated learning options are presented through a media-rich, yet clean, intuitive layout. The unique affordances of the iPad are leveraged using elements such as video-based cognitive modelling and instant machine-graded feedback on tasks. A range of output options prompt students to take ownership of their learning, by creating meaningful digital artefacts. Unlike many commercially produced textbooks on the market, ‘Connections’ employs a varied unit format, where each module is distinctive in its organisation, whilst maintaining a cohesive integrated skills approach throughout.

Judge’s quote
Very professionally produced with a good range of interactive tasks.

EssayJack
L Ledohowski, RR Balasubramaniam and Z Teng
EssayJack Inc.

Launched in beta in September 2015 by award-winning educators, EssayJack is a versatile new web application that helps students write persuasive essays, and helps educators teach persuasive essay writing in an easy-to-use, vertically aligned, interactive template built from the pedagogical philosophy of scaffolding.

EssayJack has a student-facing version for individual subscribers and a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) extension for educational institutions, such as test preparation centres, schools, and tutoring services (including online).

Using split screen composing and text boxes with interactive tips and prompts and drop down menus of sentence starters, students can develop their essay drafts in real time, moving the writing process along quickly and painlessly.

It offers custom options for educators, peer-to-peer guided feedback capability, scoped commenting by educators or peers on drafts in progress, and helps those working with English Language Learners (ELL), in English for Academic Purposes (EAP), and those requiring assistive technology.

Judge’s quote
The most comprehensive structured writing tool I’ve seen.

Luke Thompson
Luke’s English Podcast

This is a podcast for learners of English produced by Luke Thompson, a diploma-qualified English teacher and stand-up comedian from London. As well as teaching English on the podcast, Luke aims to keep the learners engaged and entertained throughout every episode, making it enjoyable and motivating for learners to listen to authentic English for extended periods on a regular basis. Episodes typically feature a mix of personal storytelling, comedy, spontaneous speech, light-hearted conversation, competitions, a focus on British culture and the teaching of language and learning strategies. The podcast is supported by Luke’s website teacherluke.co.uk where transcripts, vocabulary notes, discussion forums, games and polls are provided to support those who want to do more than simply listen to each episode. The podcast is seven years old this year and has been downloaded over ten million times and counting.

Judge’s quote
Collaborative, fun, real-world, mobile friendly learning experience.

Movies: Enjoy Languages
‘Movies team’ of Archimedes Inspiration, a.s.
Archimedes Inspiration a.s.

Mobile application ‘Movies – Enjoy Languages’ features film titles that have been adapted into fully-fledged materials for modern foreign language learning. It is convenient, fun, interactive and entertaining.

Major benefits:
• Films are translated by our language specialists.
• Original transcript and the translation are arranged into two columns that run simultaneously with the film.
• The original script or translation can be covered up at any time.
• It is possible to go back to any line of the script and play it repeatedly.
• Bilingual audio flashcards: the user can create them easily from the script and use them to practise vocabulary and drill pronunciation.
• Pop up footnotes clarify idioms and cultural elements of the text.
• Grammar and comprehension exercises in the Exercises Part.
• By learning through films, users can improve their vocabulary and pronunciation as well as the ability to understand authentic language.

Judge’s quote
A motivating, real-world language learning opportunity using great content.
The Listening Post
Paul Driver

The Listening Post is a growing collection of cutting-edge multimedia posters that fuse augmented reality, 3D sound, kinetic typography and design, to create truly interactive materials for language teachers and learners.

Each poster is individually designed to be visually striking and instructive, containing, for example, images, vocabulary, useful collocations or tips that relate to a particular theme. Following this, a speech layer is added along with images and a synchronised kinetic typography transcript.

This project stems from and is an expression of embodied cognition research. In addition to being an innovative resource for both teachers and learners, it is an exploration of how language is made meaningful through multimodal integration. The spatial audio, contained in the 360 degree recordings, provides rich and detailed information regarding direction, location, distance and ambience.

The posters can be downloaded and positioned either in classrooms or in other key locations around the school.

Judge’s quote
I loved the idea of interactive posters connecting the physical and digital world.

Wibbu English: The Game
D Jacobs, L McKinley, J Suárez, K Tamura, M McKenzie, A Rizvi and JPS Borromeo Wibbu

Wibbu makes multi-platform video games to learn languages. The first product, for Spanish and Portuguese speakers to learn English, was launched as a smartphone and tablet app, and acquired over 250,000 downloads. It topped the iOS Education charts in 20 countries around the world, and was named by BBC World News as one of the Top 5 Apps to Learn a Language.

Wibbu has raised £1,250,000 in private investment and continues to grow both as a team and a brand. It distinguishes itself from all other language-learning products by placing the emphasis on producing high-quality games. The team is full of polyglots and gamers who have worked on incredibly successful AAA games, who have taught and learned multiple languages, and who have worked as linguists for the government. Wibbu’s vision is to create engaging products that inspire people to learn and to use the power of language in their everyday lives.

Judge’s quote
Engaging and fun and very imaginative.
The Award for Local Innovation
Creative English Family Learning: 12 Sessions for Families with Pre-school Children  
Anne Smith  
FaithAction with Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG)

Childcare is a significant barrier to many women wanting to access English language provision. By combining English skills with play in a non-threatening environment this can quickly build trust and community between parents, children and the facilitators.

This course seeks to strengthen the relationship between parent and child by working on activities together through craft, role play, story-telling and games. It focuses on participants who would not normally engage with a child-centred activity, which helps to create a strong foundation in preparation for school.

By the end of the course, the adults will have increased confidence in speaking in English in everyday situations and the children will be making progress towards appropriate milestones in line with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage.

This course was written by Dr Anne Smith, delivered with FaithAction utilising funding provided by Department for Communities and Local Government

Judge’s quote

Great materials at this moment in time to help immigrant families.

Read On! Mobile Class Library Project for Italy  
D Fitzgerald, N Prentice, C Caughlan, E Peressutti, R Harraway and S Malinconi  
Oxford University Press

‘Literacy is the most basic currency of the knowledge economy we’re living in today.’ Barack Obama, 2005.

The Read On! Class Library Project consists of age-appropriate class libraries containing Oxford University Press graded readers with audio, supported by a comprehensive and ongoing teacher-training programme. Students read their way to better English through freedom of choice and freedom from tests.

The books are housed in a trolley suitcase creating an instant mobile library in any classroom, anywhere. A digital version of the library is also available.

Adaptable to different markets and local requirements, Read On! also works with CLIL, international certifications and topical anniversaries. It provides a template for the practical implementation of extensive reading on a large scale geographically, across age groups and levels.

Read On! is committed to inclusion. Its mission is to give learners, particularly those most in need, the opportunity to become autonomous in English.

Judge’s quote

A huge, well-resourced project that reaches the parts other library services in ELT cannot reach.
Teacher Trainer Academy
Grzegorz Śpiewak and Marta Rosińska-Trim
DOS-ELTea with The Teacher, Szukaj-Lektora. pl, and deDOMO Education

Teacher Trainer Academy (TTA) is an intensive, blended teacher-to-trainer programme concept, developed by DOS-ELTea – a pioneering, independent teacher development organisation, based in Warsaw, Poland.

TTA has been designed for experienced EFL teachers who want to expand their range of professional skills, embark on a new career track and ultimately join the ranks of professional ELT teacher trainers. An innovative mix of state-of-the-art EFL methodology and modern public presentation techniques, tailored to the specific needs and realities of ELT. Tuition combines face-to-face sessions led by accomplished local teacher trainers, and live webinars featuring leading world ELT experts. Formal tuition time is extended throughout the programme through ICT tools and social media, creating a vibrant personal learning network.

The programme culminates with an ELT conference, featuring TTA graduates as freshly qualified teacher trainers – a unique opportunity to try and test what they have learned and receive reliable feedback from a live audience.

Judge’s quote
Systematic, comprehensive, and supportive of those teachers who want to become trainers.

Teaching English in Africa
Jason Anderson
East African Educational Publishers Ltd.

Teaching English in Africa is a practical guide written for primary and secondary school English language teachers working all over Africa. It addresses the challenges commonly faced by African teachers both in remote rural contexts and in busy urban schools, offering practical, proven solutions for effective teaching. Teaching English in Africa includes:

• guidance for teachers of English language and literacy
• a model for child-centred learning developed in Africa
• example lesson plans for a range of lesson types
• suggestions for teaching large classes effectively
• ideas for no-cost or low-cost, reusable resources
• guidance on CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning)
• over 50 activities, games and songs that require only a chalkboard or a little paper
• reflective and practical tasks to help teachers to develop professionally.

Teaching English in Africa is suitable for self-study, group study, and use in both pre-service and in-service teacher education all across the continent.

Judge’s quote
A unique, comprehensive resource for a previously neglected context of English teaching.
The Little English Library
T Gruenbaum, H Redding and R Wiseman
The Little English Library (Crumbs Publishing and Titch Design)

The Little English Library (TLEL) is a not-for-profit children’s book project founded by Tatia Gruenbaum. The project is based in the Netherlands and runs a number of initiatives to support young speakers of English, young learners of English and (trainee) teachers of English in Dutch primary schools.

One initiative of TLEL is an open-access children’s school library based in a Dutch Primary School. The library was a finalist at the 2015 School Library Association (SLA) Inspiration awards and was considered to be making a tremendous contribution to the English Language Learning of children in the Netherlands.

Since September 2015, Gruenbaum has focused on supporting teachers and teacher training academies through various projects. She gives workshops, has created the 1-2-3 booklists for Dutch Primary schools and her book lending campaign for teachers, SWAP 20, was rated as ‘ingenious’ by many children’s book publishers at the 2015 Frankfurt Book Fair.

Judge’s quote
The diversification into a wider range of activities has added a level of innovation to this project.

The Macmillan Early Learning Path
Y Dalorto, C Ordoñez and S McConnell
Macmillan Education

The Macmillan Early Learning Path is the first project of its kind in Spain to actively involve parents, carers and grandparents in all aspects of their pre-school child’s English language education, without any prior linguistic knowledge required. It is based on research demonstrating that parents who show attention, respond positively and are actively involved with their child will greatly aid their child’s development. The Macmillan Early Learning Path promotes a holistic approach to education, linking home, school and the wider environment with the child at the centre. It includes a set of printed and online materials complete with guidance and support for parents, an Online Parents’ Community, a theatre workshop for children and a mentoring course for teachers. It is essentially an English language initiative, but the Macmillan Early Learning Path also promotes social, creative and emotional development and learner autonomy, with the involvement of the family as the key.

Judge’s quote
A wonderfully produced resource that involves everyone in the learning process.
The Lifetime Achievement Award
The Lifetime Achievement Award

The British Council Lifetime Achievement Award for ELT is designed to recognise members of the ELT community who have made a major contribution to the field of language learning and teaching.

The aim of the award is to celebrate long-standing achievement in the field of English language teaching by members of the different branches of ELT – writers, academics, trainers, school managers, thinkers – who have changed the way we look at English language teaching and contributed to advances in areas such as methodology, learning, technology and publishing.

The award forms part of the suite of ELTons awards recognising innovation and achievement in ELT, and celebrating the enormous contribution that ELT makes to the UK.

English language teaching is a major profession that impacts on the lives of hundreds of millions of people worldwide, and ELT as a UK-based industry brings around £3 billion in revenue to the UK each year.

Despite this, ELT is often under-celebrated in the UK, and this award aims to remedy that by shining a spotlight on the ground-breaking contributions made by members of the ELT community.

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Henry Widdowson

receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award,

ELTons 2015
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