



SPELT ebulletin

34 Years of
Empowering

FROM THE SPELT DESK

A happy New Year to all SPELTers and professionals associated with it. This is a very special year for SPELT as it turns 35! Not an easy journey, and now even more challenging is not only to maintain the professional standards it has set for itself, but to move with the times and stay at the cutting edge of the profession.

When SPELT was born, in 1984, English Language Teaching (ELT) was not really a recognized field. Teachers who were proficient in English were hired to teach the language. But now, through the initiatives taken through SPELT's educational programmes, like the Academic Sessions, training courses and the Travelling Conferences, there is an awareness around the country that ELT is a field which requires training. Unfortunately, the opportunities for training in the field are far and apart. This is where the concept of 'continuous professional development' (CPD) comes in useful for professionals, who can to some extent continuously develop themselves by becoming classroom researchers. Additionally, indigenous classroom research from

developing countries like ours can be a very valuable contribution to ELT around the globe. SPELT, in its pioneering spirit, has already initiated a "Research Strand" at its international annual conference and created a platform. Now teachers need to come forward to enjoy it with their classroom practices.

Why do teachers shy off from research? It is perhaps because research is often associated with Ph.D. or higher academic skills at university level of education. But research is basically *a spirit of inquiry* looking deeply at any issue to gauge its dimensions. The classroom research has the added advantage that the topic for research and its data, all are within the teachers' reach in their classrooms. Besides the time for research may not be a prolonged one. For instance, the first cycle of research can begin with such a simple question as "How do I ask questions in my classroom?" and either asking a colleague to observe, or personally noting down / observing / recording questions asked in the classroom for a week only to see the pattern. In the second cycle, reflective and conscious changes in questioning

techniques would be introduced. And in the third cycle, observing or recording of questions would be repeated to reflect on what improvements have occurred and what to do next. So, within three weeks, the research cycle could be complete, giving teachers an insight into their teaching methodology and helping their CPD, besides releasing them from the day to day drudgery. Because involved in the spirit of enquiry, the classroom would become a live space to grow.

So why not begin 2019 with a spirit of enquiry, asking questions about your classroom, about your learners and their modes of learning and your modes of teaching, so that you can share your precious experience with the SPELT community at the SPELT Conference?

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E-bulletin Team

Ms. Farheen Hasan

Ms. Sadia Jameel

Ms. Salwa Abbasi

SPELT Working Committee Updates

Academic Committee

Abstract

Language teaching throughout the world today could not be more successful without the extensive use of authentic materials (Richards, 2001). Authentic material is any material written in English that was not created for intentional use in the English language classroom. Using this content to teach English language can make the learning process even more engaging, imaginative and motivating for students. Teachers need to learn techniques to bring such material in ELT classrooms effectively and make it a part of regular day to day classroom practices.

Participants of this activity based Academic session will learn;

- to select authentic material.
- to inculcate authentic material in existing syllabus.
- to use it effectively and efficiently.
- to involve students to create authentic material.
- to use web resources for native speakers' use of language.



Facilitator: **Mr. Waqas Ahmed** is a British Council trained individual who has been associated with ELT for last six years. Teaching is his passion and he never leaves teaching and learning opportunity at any level. This passion has brought him opportunities to conduct numerous corporate and teacher training sessions for different institutes and organizations.

Venue

SPELT House: 101 First Floor Plot No. C-28 Khe-Ittehad,
Lane 12 Phase II Ext. D.H.A, Karachi

Day, Date & Time

Saturday, January 26, 2019
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Workshop committee

ELT Teacher Leader

Teachers will learn to

- Create awareness of fundamental leadership skills as instructional tools
- Practice the skills in class by using the suggested guidelines
- Reflect on how EL teachers can do the same for their students.

This hands-on workshop will require teachers to come prepared to be active and energized in order to participate fully in the experience.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Experienced English language teachers of secondary and post-secondary levels Teachers interested in professional growth and development. Teachers interested in grooming their students to strive towards higher goals

Date January 19, 2019

Time: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Fee: Members 3300/-

Non-members 3800/-

Facilitator: Ms. Rehmat Ebrahim

35th SPELT

International Conference 2019

KARACHI
26th – 27th October, 2019

LAHORE
2nd – 3rd November, 2019

ISLAMABAD
2nd – 3rd November, 2019

ABBOTTABAD
9th – 10th November, 2019

SAVE THE DATE!

(021) 35313731, 35313733

WWW.SPELT.ORG.PK

SPELT Working Committee (Head Office, Karachi): Oath Taking Ceremony



Workshop Committee taking oath

Dr Bushra Khurram (Workshop Coordinator), Ms. Rehmat Ebrahim, Ms. Huma Qureshi, Dr Fatima Dar, Ms. Lubna Mohiyuddin

(Standing from left to right)

Conference Committee taking oath

Ms. Farheen Hasan, Ms. Sonia Kazim (Conference Coordinator), Ms. Shumaila Omar

(Standing from left to right)



Ms. Khalida Saadat, Dr. Fauzia Shamim (Program Coordinator), Ms Fatima Shahanuddin

Annual General Body Meeting and Elections, 29 December 2018



Ms. Khalida Saadat presenting token of thanks to Mr. Saleem Ebrahim, the Election Convenor



SPELTers with Mr. Saleem Ebrahim after the Annual General Meeting held at SPELT Head Office, Karachi.

SPELT WORKING COMMITTEE, Newly Elected Members-2019-2020

Program Coordinator



Dr. Fauzia Shamim is Professor and Dean, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences at Ziauddin University, Karachi, Pakistan. Earlier, she has worked in various leadership positions in several universities including Taibah University, Saudi Arabia, Aga Khan University and the University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan. She has developed and taught EFL/ESL and Applied Linguistics programs, and trained English language teachers in a variety of settings in Pakistan and internationally. Dr. Shamim is a founder member of the Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers (SPELT), and Chair of TESOL International's Research Professional Council (USA). Her current

research interests include teacher development of non-native English speaker teachers, large class teaching, and English as medium of instruction.

Workshop Coordinator



Dr. Bushra Ahmed-Khurram teaches applied linguistics at the Department of English, University of Karachi, Pakistan. She is working closely with Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan to develop an 'English Language Teaching Reforms Project' for the teachers of public sector universities of Pakistan. She is also member of a committee that is restructuring the 'Master Trainers Faculty Professional Development Program' of HEC. Dr Bushra has extensive experience of training English language teachers in a variety of settings in Pakistan and UK. She has worked as a teacher trainer for British Council Pakistan, Higher Education Commission Pakistan, Aga Khan University Examination Board, among others. She has published two books and many articles, research papers and book chapters. Her research interests include metacognition, reading strategies, teaching and researching large classes and learner engagement.

Conference Coordinator



Ms. Sonia Kazim is a self-motivated and widely experienced teacher and multi-faceted trainer. She has completed her two successful tenures (2014 to 2017) as the Academic Coordinator at SPELT and has now been elected as the Conference Coordinator, SPELT Head Office Karachi. She is engaged in a variety of Professional activities such as textbook writing, and learning about SFL and its application through a program supported by Australian scholars to honor Dr Ruqaiya Hasan.

Abbottabad Chapter:

Designation	Name
Academic Coordinator	Prof: Muhammad Farooq
Finance Coordinator	Mrs. Kanwal Gulzar
Conference Coordinator	Prof: Syed Amjad Ali shah

Lahore Chapter:

Designation	Name
Academic Coordinator	Ms. Aafia Qureshie
Finance Coordinator	Ms. Noor-ul-Ain

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