



40 Years of
Empowering
Teachers

SPELT eBulletin

April – May 2025



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spelt.org.pk

Dear Colleagues

This is the end of the Academic year for most of us and I'm sure you are looking forward to the summer vacations:)

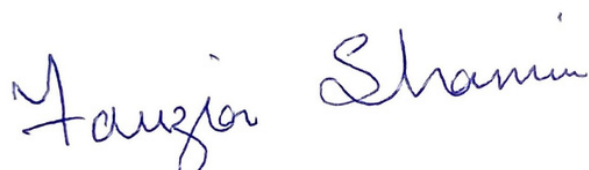
While the summer vacations are a time to relax, they also provide space to recharge by learning about 'what's new in the field?' through attending f2f workshops/short courses and online webinars. Please check the list of FREE webinars/resources offered by IATEFL and TESOL. You may find something here to spark your interest!

Spelt was fortunate for it to be represented by Prof Zakia-Sarwar, Patron-in-Chief, SPELT at the IATEFL Associates Day this year. Do read her report for a quick update on some innovative ideas and contemporary trends in ELT, globally!

The 'Call for Papers' for the SPELT International Conference 2026 will be posted on 31st May 2025. We hope you will consider sharing your ideas and expertise with your fellow colleagues in this conference.

Happy vacations!

Best



Dr Fauzia Shamim

Vice President, Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers (2023-2026).

Asia TEFL Pakistan Representative (2019-)

Chair, Research Professional Council, TESOL International, USA (2018-2019).

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Exciting Announcement: 41st SPELT International Conference – 2025



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Spelt Office: 101, 1st Floor, Plot No. C-28, Kh-e-Ittehad, Lane 12,
Phase II Ext., D.H.A., Karachi

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the **41st SPELT International Conference 2025** on the theme: ***Future-Ready ELT: Innovation, Diversity & Sustainability.***

The SPELT International Conference is a premier platform offering invigorating opportunities for educators, classroom practitioners, researchers, and trainers to engage in meaningful professional development. Through interactive and innovative sessions, participants can exchange expertise and explore new perspectives in the field of education.

This year's conference includes dynamic features designed to foster collaboration and networking among language practitioners, school administrators, principals, and experienced educators.

We are currently inviting **proposals/abstracts**, which must be submitted latest by **30th August, 2025**.

The Abstract Submission Form is enclosed for your convenience. You may also download the Call for Papers and related documents from the conference website: www.spelt.org.pk

Conference Registration: Please note that all presenters need to be SPTLT members.

Important Dates

Early Bird Registration	June 16th2025 - 16h August 2025
Call for Papers Opens	Saturday, May 31st 2025
Call for Papers Closes	Saturday, August 30th 2025

We look forward to your active participation and valuable contributions to make this conference a memorable and impactful event.

Should you have any queries, please contact the undersigned or the SPELT Head Office.

Warm regards,

Dr. Maliha Ahmed

Conference Lead,

Conference Professional Council


Society of Pakistan English Language Teachers

SPELT Goes to HHS School System


SPELT ACD Session No: 486
FREE ACADEMIC SESSION FOR TEACHERS
IN COLLABORATION WITH
HHS SCHOOL SYSTEM
5/3, Modern Housing Society, Shaheed-e-Millat Road, Karachi

**AI BEYOND THE
TEACHING ASSISTANT**

April 26, 2025 10:00am - 12:00pm
Note: Session Cost free
Certificate fee PKR 200/- (on demand)

 **GOOGLE MAPS**

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NOORUDDIN MERCHANT
Assistant Director Library and
Educational Programs
Habib University

PLEASE BE PUNCTUAL

On April 26, 2025, SPELT, in collaboration with the HHS School System, organised an interactive, hands-on workshop titled “AI Beyond the Teaching Assistant”, facilitated by Mr. Nooruddin Merchant (Assistant Director, Library and Educational Programs), an experienced educator and technology integration expert. Held in a well-equipped computer lab, the session was attended by around 65 middle and high school teachers teaching a variety of subjects, administrators, and school leaders.

The workshop emphasised AI literacy as a vital digital competency for 21st-century classrooms. Participants were introduced to advanced AI tools, exploring practical ways to use AI for boosting student engagement, creating personalized learning experiences, and even building custom chatbots. The hands-on methodology allowed attendees to directly experiment with these tools and reflect on their classroom relevance.

Mr. Merchant brought in his wealth of experience from the education and technology sectors to lead the session with clarity, practical insights, and thought-provoking ideas.

SPELT extends its gratitude to the HHS School System for its valuable collaboration, especially acknowledging Dr. Maliha Ahmed (Director Programs, HHS Schooling System) and her team for their coordination and support in making this session a success.



Feedback from Participants

The ACD session on AI Beyond Teaching was insightful and highly relevant to modern education. It provided practical strategies to integrate AI tools into classroom practices effectively.

I feel more confident exploring AI to enhance both teaching and student learning experiences.

ADC session was informative and engaging, covering key topics with clarity. A valuable learning experience that enhanced understanding and skills.

The workshop introduced some useful new AI applications and provided a hands-on opportunity to explore Khanmigo, which was a valuable experience. The trainer came across as warm and approachable, which created a positive and welcoming atmosphere. However, I was expecting a stronger focus on prompt generation, which was not covered in depth. Unfortunately, connectivity issues during the session limited participants' ability to use their computers effectively. Additionally, there was a lack of interaction between the trainer and participants, particularly in the room where the workshop was being telecasted, which affected overall engagement and learning.

It was an interesting session where a lot of AI apps which can be used in the classroom were introduced. Some hands on practice opportunities were also given.

Time to discuss and practice writing of prompts to give to AI like ChatGPT should have been given.

The session was incredibly insightful, especially as it focused on introducing various AI tools that can enhance content development. It provided a clear understanding of how these tools can streamline the content creation process, improve efficiency, and assist with tasks that would traditionally take up more time.

The session was very informative and I have learned a lot from it and yes definitely will use the apps shared in it

The session was good 👍 and I have learned new AI skills and about helpful AIs. The teacher was friendly and helpful .

Thank you for the insightful and engaging session. It was well-organized, informative, and sparked exciting ideas for classroom integration. Looking forward to more such enriching workshops in the future.

The AI workshop was informative and engaging, providing valuable insights on AI tools for teaching. Practical examples and hands-on experience made it highly beneficial. Thank you!"

I really enjoyed the session . I learned new and interesting ways AI can be used in daily life and work. It was easy to understand and gave me good ideas to try in the future.

"Your engagement during the session showed great curiosity and creativity. Keep exploring ideas deeply—you're on the path to mastery!"

The session was very well. We learned a lot from this session it was very helpful.

It was an informative session. I have just basic knowledge about the use of AI tools. I am willing to learn more about it.

It was quite helpful ...learned about new AI tools.

It was an amazing session I learn how to use AI tools effectively

It was informative specially about the future of AI and humans

The session was quite interesting. It provided a lot of information, especially the new AI tools that were introduced in the session were of great benefit.

It was an informative session. Although I have hardly ever used AI but few AI platforms introduced during the session seemed promising. Thank you.



1.5- Hour Webinar

AUDIENCE: All Teachers,
Coordinators, Principals and Heads

SPELT Ramadan Special

Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Revolutionize Classroom Pedagogy and Assessment: An Exploration of Magic School AI

March 22, 2025

3:00- 4:30pm

Fee: PKR 800/-

CONTACT US:

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Wafa Mansoor Buriro

Assistant Professor & Coordinator,
Department of English,
Sindh Madressatul Islam
University (SMIU)

On March 22, 2025, an engaging online workshop titled “Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Revolutionise Classroom Pedagogy and Assessment: An Exploration of Magic School AI” was conducted by Mr. Wafa Mansoor Buriro, Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator at Sindh Madressatul Islam University, Karachi. The session was very well received by educators, school leaders, and administrators across. With a strong hands-on focus, participants explored the practical uses of Magic School AI for personalised learning, automated assessment, and classroom

efficiency. The workshop also included thoughtful discussions on ethical concerns surrounding AI in education. A total of 26 participants attended the session.

Feedback from participants

It was quite gripping and useful.

Some network connectivity issues

It was really an excellent session.

It was really good and useful. Thanks to
SPELT.

Informative, interactive, creative,
supportive, innovative.

It's informative and learn new AI tool.

It was about the use of Magic school AI and
exploring it's various features.

Very informative and insightful session.

Thank you for conducting such an
interesting workshop please must conduct
more online workshops for us. Thanks again.

The session was very helpful. But due to net
issue. I could not hear. I want to know is this
magic school available on Google.

Workshop has provided valuable tools
which will help my teaching practices. It was
insightful

I found it helpful Alhamdulillah. In Sha Allah
will be looking forward to more such
sessions in future.

It was very good but there some distortion
though. However, I truly learned a lot.

Overall, a very effective session! One
suggestion for improvement: pacing could
be slightly faster to keep the energy high.

It is a new AI tool for me, so I appreciate it that the presenter introduced it to us and
demonstrated it for us. The tool itself is really interesting and will be helpful for teachers
who gets overwhelmed when it comes to make lesson plans or assessment papers.

Thank you for sharing this tool with us.

On April 19, 2025, SPELT had the privilege of hosting Professor Dr. Rob Waring, a globally renowned expert in extensive reading and vocabulary acquisition. His session, "Why is Extensive Reading (ER) Essential in All Language Programs?" offered compelling evidence for the central role of ER in language learning. Dr. Waring drew on decades of research and global experience to guide participants through the principles, implementation, and benefits of ER. The session sparked insightful discussion, with the audience actively engaging through questions and reflections on how to integrate ER effectively into their own teaching contexts.



Why is extensive reading essential in all language programs?

April 19, 2025
11:00am to 12:30pm
Member Fee: 1350/
Non Member Fee: 1600/
Dr. Rob Waring
Prof. Notre Dame Seishin University, Okayama, Japan
speltheadoffice@gmail.com
0333-3754250

Feedback from participants

The webinar provided valuable insights into the pivotal role of extensive reading in language acquisition.

The webinar provided valuable insights into the pivotal role of extensive reading in language acquisition.

The workshop was informative.

It was good learn good technique.

Insightful and informative looking forward to more sessions.

Insightful and informative looking forward to more sessions.

Arrange more workshops which can help teachers to improve further.

It's good and informative but somehow internet connection was weak so I was unable to take it properly.

It was quite informative and helpful in teaching.

The webinar provided valuable insights into the pivotal role of extensive reading in language acquisition.

It was interesting. Both intensive and extensive reading are important, but for overall language skills, especially fluency and vocabulary growth, extensive reading is more effective. Helps with exam preparation Good for deep understanding of difficult texts.

The workshop was very insightful. I learned that extensive reading plays a key role in language development by improving vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. It also encourages a love for reading, which makes language learning more natural and enjoyable.

It was quite informative with latest research on need for ER..would like to have more detailed session on strategies to encourage extensive reading among middle and advanced/ tertiary level adults who are L2.

It was quite informative. I liked it.

The workshop was very insightful. I learned that extensive reading plays a key role in language development by improving vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. It also encourages a love for reading, which makes language learning more natural and enjoyable.



1.5- Hour Webinar

USE OF AI IN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTIONS: DETERMINING A HEALTHY BALANCE

AUDIENCE: All Teachers, Coordinators, Principals and Heads

May 17, 2025

3:00 to 4:30pm

Fee: 1,000



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Mehreen Masood



Sadia Sarfraz
Co-Presenter

UPCOMING EVENTS



ACD Session No: 487

**FREE ACADEMIC SESSION FOR TEACHERS
IN COLLABORATION WITH**

EXPLORING AI IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING



Saturday, May 31, 2025
12:00 - 1:00pm

Note: Session Cost free
Certificate fee PKR 200/ (on demand)



Limited Seats Available!



RABIYA KHALID

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Global ELT News

IATEFL Annual Conference 2025

Report by Professor Zakia Sarwar, Patron In-Chief, SPELT



The 58th IATEFL Annual Conference was held from 7-11 April 2025, in the stunning city of Edinburgh, where the famous "One Mile Walk" -the old cobbled road is replete with historic engravings of events that took place there. The conference was a grand event, bubbling with enthusiasm about the immense possibilities that AI offers to the ELT practitioners in all fields. of teaching, learning and research. In the majority of the sessions I attended, presenters made an effort to harness AI as an "aid" to students' quick learning, but at the same time, sharpening their autonomous learning, and critical thinking skills.

The conference was spread over four days with rich inputs from well-known ELT professionals to the first time presenters, in simultaneous sessions in 20 rooms. There were 5 reflective and thought provoking plenaries on a variety of topics such as " 50 years on: what has changed? Examining the similarities and differences between then and now, and questioning what lessons can be learnt from it", presented by Catherine Walter. Interestingly, the next day's plenary was titled," Lessons Learnt: using the science of learning to inform teaching" by Carolina Kuepper-Telzel. So the focus has moved from teacher-centred classroom to learner being on centre-stage. (Are SPELTers aiming to get there?) Another plenary by Daniel Xerri addressed the issue of "Teachers and classroom ownership, relevance and conceptualisations". He explored the reasons why teachers find it difficult to do research. He looked at ways in which teachers can be empowered to gain ownership if they are able to understand what classroom research really envisions, because it actually implies that teachers are owners of the research process on their own terms , for their professional needs and in ways that are relevant to their contexts, learners and their classroom practices.

SPELT was represented at the Associates Day by this author, on the topic " Sharing Action Research in Progress on Writing and Oral Interaction " It is a teacher-initiated , non-funded international project in which teachers from six countries --Bangladesh, China, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Russia -- are participating and have finished the first phase of their classroom research. Also, holding five simultaneous conferences successfully in the same city to celebrate SPELT's 40th Anniversary was shared with the delegates. It was encouraging to note that a lot of delegates knew about SPELT because of the success story of SPELT's Travelling Conferences in the British Council/ IATEFL publication (Sarwar: 2011 pp 69-76).

Delegates from different Associations shared either their academic programme or projects they were running, or how they solved problems and issues of inclusiveness, communication, membership retention and other such issues which most organizations face. These were labelled as 'TED Talks'.

However, the highlight of the Associates Day was the "Networking Event" on the topic "How can Associations find and generate funding?" The interesting tool used was SWOT analysis. The attendees were first divided into four major groups for Strengths, Weaknesses, Threats and Opportunities which were further subdivided into smaller groups to develop questions for the 4 sections . Jean Thuema , IATEFL Associates' Representative, has followed up the event by summarizing and making it into a viable working session for Associates to look at and use to focus more clearly on the financial issues of the association, if needed. This was the greatest take away from the Associates' Day and will be shared with the CEC & the SPELT finance team to lead a session / retreat to work on SPELT's financial issues.

The Associates Day was a fun filled but gainfully busy day professionally, attended by over 60 delegates from about 40 different ELT Associations worldwide. A real academic and professional treat and a memorable day!

Reference:

Sarwar. Z (2011) Event Management. SPELT's International Travelling Conferences: A Success Story in Running an Association for Language Teachers; Directions and Opportunities. Published by the British Council & IATEFL, UK .



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS

BRITISH COUNCIL TeachingEnglish

Webinars for teachers 2025-2026

11 April	Managing the lesson	👤
23 May	All for inclusion	👤
13 June	Local learning, global impact: Regional showcase	🌐
11 July	Assessing learning	👤
22 August	Local learning, global impact: Regional showcase	🌐
12 September	Inclusive assessment	👤
9-11 October	World Teachers' Day	🌐
14 November	Creative lesson planning	👤
5 December	Local learning, global impact: Regional showcase	🌐
16 January	Managing the lesson	👤
20 February	Teaching for equality	👤
20 March	Local learning, global impact: Regional showcase	🌐

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/webinars-events>

Our fab British Council English team have a treasure trove of free webinars planned for this year and beyond. Take a look 📌 and find out more here:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/british-council-teachingenglish-elt-eltcpd-activity-7310964098714726400-UovV?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&rcm=ACoAAAXn3FYBE032e_pyf3bJZbEVx9iVNGayPg

BRITISH COUNCIL Schools Connect

Reading for pleasure

Classroom resource

Reading for pleasure classroom resource

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/find/classroom/reading-pleasure-classroom-resource>



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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/235003087675238/> You will be asked for your SPELT membership number, before your request is accepted.

About Membership Subscription and Dues

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PKR 1500	PKR 5000	PKR 15000	PKR 4000

International Package for 3 years
US\$ 125/

International Membership for 1 year
US\$ 60/



Follow this link to join SPELT WhatsApp group:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JgjLAJDdcRW9Nlsgeho8Av>



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