Best Practice in ELT: 10 Traits of a Highly Effective Teacher

As English language teaching (ELT) practitioners face the pressures of an increased workload, institutional accountability and continual change in curricula/assessment, the need for effective teachers has never been more important. In this session, the presenter explores the 10 characteristics that she finds essential for success in the classroom and in educational institutions.


Christine has lived and worked in the Arabian Gulf for the past 19 years. In this capacity, she has served as President of TESOL Arabia and as the founder and co-chair of the TESOL Arabia Testing Special Interest Group who organize the Current Trends in English Language Testing (CTELT) Conference. During her tenure in the Middle East, she has won many awards including: 2002 Spaan Fellowship for Research in Second/Foreign Language Assessment; 2002-03 TOEFL Outstanding Young Scholar Award; TOEFL Board Grant for 2003-04, 2005-06, 2007-08 and 2009-10 for her work in delivering assessment training assessment in developing countries. Most recently she served on the TESOL Board of Directors as Convention Chair for Tampa 2006 and was the recipient of the Chancellor’s Teacher of the Year for 2003-04. She is currently TESOL President (2010-2013).
Teaching Civics and Citizenship to Immigrants: A workshop for Teachers of Adults  
*Natasha Agard, US Citizenship and Immigration Services*  
Room 102  
This workshop is for adult English as a Second Language (ESL), civics and citizenship teachers, volunteers and immigrant serving organizations to enhance their skills teaching US history, civics and citizenship preparation to immigrant students.

How Many Times Do I Have To Tell You?  
*Charlie Guimond, Pioneer Valley School District*  
Room 103  
Once! Come Learn how to stop the cycle of frequent request, interrupted instruction, and ultimate frustration. As teachers we repeat what we’ve just said until the students “get it”. Perfect for academics but it will doom your discipline plan. Our classroom Management strategies will show you how to get what you want - THE FIRST TIME YOU ASK; our transition immediately will refocus technique. You can do this and never stop your instruction.

No Wind, No Waves Film Presentation and Discussion  
*Linda Machalaba, NH SAU 70*  
Room 104  
In this award winning film by NH director Julian Higgins, a Chinese man traveling to America to visit his immigrant son finds himself lost and alone in a country he doesn't understand, and where no one seems willing to help him. 2008, 22 mins, Color.

Supporting Academic Literacy across Disciplines: An SFL Perspective (CREATE)  
*Meg Gebhard, University of Massachusetts, Amherst*  
Room 105  
Dr. Gebhard is an Associate Professor in the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is the co-director of the ACCELA Alliance (Access through Critical Content and English Language Acquisition). This partnership is a university-school collaborative designed to support classroom teachers in using a Hallidayan perspective of language and learning to design, implement, and critically reflect on curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the context of school reforms in the United States. Her work has appeared in the *TESOL Quarterly, Modern Language Journal, Journal of Second Language Writing, Canadian Modern Language Review,* and *Language Arts.*

Spanning the Domains Through the Digital Story  
*Bill Clark, Winooski School District, Winooski VT & Cynthia Reyes, University of VT*
Thirteen Winooski Middle School ELL students expanded their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in developing digital stories. ELL teacher Bill Clark used the Six Traits of Writing and This I Believe essays to model instruction, with support from Dr. Cynthia Reyes and her students at the University of Vermont.

**STEPing up to meet the needs of New Arrivals**  
*Lynda Siegel & Kathy McLean, Burlington School District*

Room 113

With so many refugees arriving on a regular basis, the Burlington School District needed to get creative. STEP (Studying Toward English Proficiency) is an intensive, full day program for elementary aged students who need more instruction than regular ESL provides. Learn what the program does and how it got started.

### Concurrent Sessions – Saint Edmunds Hall 1\(^{st}\) Floor

**11:45 – 12:45**

- **Curriculum Development for Adult Absolute Beginners of English**  
  *Farrah T. Giroux, University of Southern Maine*
  Room 102
  
  This presentation will share a researched-based curriculum guidebook designed for adult absolute beginners learning English. The curriculum is designed for adult pre-literate - low beginning literacy ESOLs; the population on which the guidebook was developed and field-tested included Somali-Bantu immigrants and refugees in Lewiston and Auburn, Maine.

- **Developing Lifelong Readers: Essential Scaffolds for Teaching Literature to ELLs**  
  *Amanda Gustafson & Kathy McLean, Burlington VT School District*
  Room 103
  
  How we can move beyond prescriptive ESL reading lessons to creating an environment filled with excited students who love to read? We will lead participants through the essential components to making rich, relevant and challenging literature accessible to students and will demonstrate connections to deeper thinking and better writing.

- **Moodle for My Students…Why?**  
  *Thomas Robb, Kyoto Sangyo University*
  Room 104
  
  This presentation will introduce Moodle, a course management system, that unlike Blackboard, is absolutely free to use. This presentation will highlight some of the many applications it has for providing additional learning opportunities for your students outside of the classroom.

- **Unpacking and Repacking Complex Language (CREATE)**  
  *Teams of CREATE collaborators*
  Room 105
• SFL in Grade 5 Science
• SFL in High School Science
• Researching Lexical Density, Grades 6-12

Preparing ELLs to be College-level Readers
_Shawna Shapiro, Middlebury College_
Room 106

The presenter offers strategies for preparing ELLs to meet the literacy demands of college-level classes. She will share handouts she uses to teach the “Reading Process” to students, so that they are better prepared to engage in class discussion and academic writing. Time for questions and discussion will be included.

Teacher Effectiveness in ELT: Empirical and Practical Perspectives
_Christine Coombs, English faculty of Dubai Men’s College_
Room 113

A primary concern amongst English language teachers today is how to be more effective in the ever-changing world of education. This presentation will provide a review of the research about what constitutes an ‘effective teacher’ as well as provide strategies for increasing teacher effectiveness in the EF/SL classroom.

| 12:50 – 2:10 | Lunch - Alliot Hall Cafeteria  
| | Publishers’ Exhibits - Saint Edmunds Hall 3rd Floor |
| 2:15 - 3:15 | Concurrent Sessions –  
| | Saint Edmunds Hall 1st Floor |

Implementing Various Co-teaching Models to Enhance Differentiation of ELL Instruction
_Anda Honigsfeld & Maria Dove, Molloy College_
Room 102

This session will explore how co-teaching can become an effective support for inclusive practices to accommodate the needs of diverse ELLs, help all students meet the national and state ESOL and content standards, and enhance collaboration between ESL and mainstream teachers.

The Cultural Connection: A Conversation with Home-School Liaisons
_Kirsten Kollgaard, Winooski VT School District_
Room 103

Have questions about the hardships refugee and immigrant students face in public schools? Want tips on engaging parents from culturally diverse backgrounds? Come be a part of this panel discussion with the home-school liaisons of Winooski, Vermont. They come from Bhutan, Bosnia, Somalia and Vietnam and can answer all your questions.

Learning English through the college admissions process
Many ESL students find the college application process daunting. The presentation features a unit in a content-based English course to help students understand the application steps and create their own application. Participants will leave with a unit outline and specific examples of assigned work.

**Kick-starting Language in the Classroom (CREATE)**  
*Team of CREATE collaborators*  
**Room 105**  
- The Grammar of Academic English in Student Writing  
- Literacy Instruction and Assessment for ELs  
- The Academic Language of Arts Education  

**Charting our Course toward Academic Literacies**  
*Follow-up with Meg Gebhard—discussion of projects, Q&A*  
**Room 105**  
*(please note these session ends at 3:30)*

**Practical Techniques for Teaching Culture in the Classroom**  
*Joe McVeigh, Middlebury, VT*  
**Room 106**  
The presenter shares some research-based activities designed to help students and teachers integrate culture into the language classroom in fun and exciting ways. He will highlight how classroom activities stimulate English language learners to better understand and appreciate the concept of culture in their daily lives.

**Question and Answers with Christine Coombe**  
*Christine Coombs, English faculty of Dubai Men's College*  
**Room 113**  
An informal Q&A session with TESOL President and this year’s keynote.

| 3:15 – 3:30 | Closing Remarks and Book Raffle – Saint Edmunds Hall 3rd Floor |