

# 2ND NATIONAL IATEFL SLOVENIA CONFERENCE

February 5 - 6  
ONLINE

The conference will take place in Zoom.

The links to each of the rooms are added at the top of each page of the program ("Enter HERE").

You are invited to join in or leave at any time during the conference, but make sure your microphones are off during presentations. After the presentations, you may ask questions until the next session starts.

We have created a sharing folder for notes and presentations.

If you manage to keep notes, please share them with us after the conference. This way, the participants will be able to use the ideas from all the workshops. We will ask all the speakers to share their presentations with us after the conference as well.

Click [HERE](#) to access the folder and upload your notes and presentations. There is also a feedback form in the folder - please take a few minutes after the conference to tell us your opinion - it matters to us.

Thank you.

**Enjoy!**  
**IATEFL Slovenia team**

# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**13.45** Official opening of the conference, introductory remarks

**14.00 - 14.45**

Tina Rajhman

**ESP + VET = OMG?**

(SEC, ESP)

Does the VET mobility offer enough time for the students to make progress in English? Who should be offered to participate in mobility programmes - advanced language learners or students with weaker language proficiency? What kind of exercises could be helpful when preparing students for mobility in vocational education and training? Let's have a look at a case study & some exercise examples.

**14.50 - 15.35**

Urška Mejač

**Personalised activities and their special importance during the period of online schooling**

(SEC)

Some benefits of personalised activities which seem to be really important during the period of online schooling will be presented as well as some tasks themselves that worked well with my students. Along with the presentation of the benefits and different tasks, I will show you some work that I received from my students. There will also be a chance to exchange different ideas..

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**13.45** Official opening of the conference, introductory remarks

**14.00 - 14.20**

Mirjana Meško

**Creating ICT tools in distance learning**

(YL, PRIM)

Distance learning presents a challenge for the teacher. In order to motivate students, we need to create engaging and interactive ICT tools. Teachers should create personalized ICT tools. In my teaching I create various ICT tools which enhance my students' eagerness and have a positive impact on their knowledge. These are HTML5 Package tools, online game makers and interactive posters.

**14.25 - 14.50**

Tjaša Šuc Visenjak

**Early life in Slovenia in the virtual classroom**

Students broadened their horizons during a successful video lesson in combination with different digital tasks to improve their language skills among other topics. We discussed Slovenia's rich history and worked with a text, exchanged student presentations about Slovenia. The students also marked historical sites near their home and provided feedback to each other.

**14.50 - 15.10**

Dolores Malić

**When a teacher becomes a student again**

(PRIM)

A presentation of the two American Embassy courses I attended via IATEFL Slovenia with a short description of each and some ideas to use in the classroom.

**15.15 - 15.35**

Jasmina Šisernik

**Teaching English with Bee-Bot robots**

(YL, PRIM)

The presentation introduces teaching English as a foreign language by using the BeeBot robots, mainly designed for younger learners, but they can be used in many different ways with older students, too. The main educational concept of BeeBots is getting children to learn code, programming and STEM along with learning

# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**15.40 - 16.00**

Julia (Yulia) Blinova

**Lazy or just disorganized: time-management vs 8 causes of procrastination**  
(SEC, Adult)

'Why do students procrastinate instead of studying?' is the question. Luckily, science has been quite successful in answering it for us. So, in my talk I will go further and show the basic planning methods and simple tricks to help students overcome the lack of motivation and learn English more effectively.

**16.05 - 16.25**

Nataša Meh

**Creative an inclusive classroom - raising awareness in students and parents**  
(Prim)

We all agree on the importance of creating and fostering inclusive classrooms, but at the same time we realise it is not as easy as it sounds. I will share with you some insights from my practice on how to reach all students and even their parents.

**16.30 - 17.00**

Lea Koler

**LitLessons**  
(SEC)

This short talk will focus on "microdosing" literature to students. To prepare the students for their Matura and expose them to varied literary experiences, I have introduced a weekly little literature lesson or LitLesson. In the first ten minutes of the first lesson we either read a poem, listen to interpretations and compare them, talk about different aspects of literature or similar. This talk will illustrate some of the activities we have done in class and during distance learning.

**17.00 - 17.30**

Katerina Panfilova

**The times of online: Classroom management for Zoom lessons**  
(SEC)

When your regular state school goes online, you have to think how to transform and adapt the old classroom management techniques to the new realities. With 15 teens on Zoom in a group, the new system had to be easy to introduce and to follow. These are the 5 grounding elements: 1) rituals, 2) rules, 3) air, 4) timing, 5) rhythm.

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**15.40 - 16.00**

Tjaša Verstovšek

**Get in motion**  
(YL)

Studies show that movement enhances learning. I try to include as many physical activities as possible to increase students' motivation, especially young learners who respond very well to different movement challenges. I will present a few activities I use in my lessons.

**16.05 - 16.30**

Ana Perović

**My alphabet**  
(YL)

The presentation introduces an approach to Literacy Development in Young English Language Learners. By raising their phonological awareness, the pupils start to learn the relation between letters and sounds. Learners (age 8) are given cut out letters of the English alphabet, with which they form simple words in order to recognize the phonetic similarities and identify words that rhyme.

**16.30 - 17.00**

Sandra Kozorog-Košuta

**Changing Englishes**  
(All)

Changing Englishes! I am going to present an on-line course designed by British council and hosted by York St John University, which has changed my perceptions of teaching and learning languages a great deal. As a result, my students feel more comfortable with the English they 'own' already, finding our classes an enjoyable and comfortable experience.

**17.00 - 17.30**

Klavdija Križovnik

**Using Padlet for online learning with young learners**  
(YL)

I will share some ideas about how I am using a virtual pin board, named Padlet with young students. The tool helps in ordering, collecting, and sharing collected information and it is a great way for interaction with students. I use it for: formative assessment, sharing website addresses, brainstorming on a topic, working in groups, gathering students' work and their feedback.

# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**17.30 - 18.10**

Dragana Filipovic

**Online teaching for know-alls**  
(All)

If you are a teacher with experience in online teaching, you will definitely want to hone your skills and progress. Along with some easy-to-do activities, in this session we will show you the benefits of MyEnglishLab (MEL) platform and instruct you on how to incorporate it into your online teaching plans.

**18.15 - 19.00**

Natalie Lackovic Krizan

**Active learning NOT only during lockdown**  
(PRIM, SEC)

Smartphones are like an extra limb for our students. Can we use them in pandemic learning? Sure! The workshop focuses on what we can do with NOT so typical ESL apps and websites. We will NOT become digital experts but learn how to use Outdoor apps in English language teaching and keep physically & mentally fit at the same time!

**19.00 - 19.20**

Urška Willewaldt

**Coping with distance learning challenges or how I have become "an ICT expert"**  
(PRIM)

In March 2020 schools "across the Universe" shut down and we faced an at-home learning model basically overnight. The teachers did something incredible: we met the challenge head on and survived. I would like to share my story of how I have coped with the challenges, upgraded my ICT skills and found "the ideal" digital tools for me and my students.

**19.20**

Discussion about how YOU have become ICT experts, sharing of ideas

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**17.30 - 18.10**

Marjeta Juvan

**It's Sprint o'clock**  
(PRIM)

V času poučevanja na daljavo vse bolj prihaja v ospredje pomembnost interaktivne podpore, ki jo posamezna učna serija nudi. Nova potrjena učna serija Sprint za 6. - 9. razred je odlična kombinacija tiskane in digitalne verzije v enem. Učitelju omogoča, da brez težav krmari med klasično, tiskano verzijo in digitalno različico, ki je preko kode v učbeniku dostopna tudi vsem učencem in ne zgolj učitelju. Mednarodna izdaja učnega kompleta Sprint je poleg tega obogatena tudi s slovenskimi dodatki, ki so narejeni na podlagi slovenskega učnega načrta in upoštevajoč vsebine, ki jih učenci obravnavajo v posameznih razredih pri drugih predmetih. Vsi udeleženci bodo prejeli tudi brezplačen izvod prve stopnje učbenika.

**18.15 - 19.00**

Vesna Gros

**So near, but so far - what helped me reach out**  
(PRIM)

During distance learning, me and my students were suddenly megabytes apart, yet so near I could touch their faces on my computer screen during Zoom lessons. In my workshop we are going to try out tools and ideas that helped me bridge the distance and get my students motivated and engaged. Don't be alone, come spend a lesson with me.

**19.00 - 19.20**

Melanija Majdič Zupančič

**Creating on-line escape rooms**  
(All)

This session will present how online escape rooms can be used to train students' reading skills

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**8.00**

Good morning yoga with Nikki Epps

**9.00 - 10.00**

### **plenary**

Steven Lever

**Communication in the Modern World**  
(All)

We all know that the emphasis in modern language teaching is on communication, but what does it mean to communicate well? In this session, we will break communication down into its constituent parts and discuss how these can be improved to be more effective in a 21st century context.

**10.10 - 10.40**

Klavdija Krempl Slana

**Teaching visual literacy by using multimodal texts in ELT**  
(SEC)

We live in an increasingly visual age, in which we are surrounded with images and screens. How does one make sense of the bombardment of images? How do these communicate together with words? This presentation will introduce the basics of textual analysis and provide teachers with an overview of multimodal texts such as advertisements, photographs, cartoons, comic strips, magazine covers, street art and film and its stylistic and structural conventions to develop students' visual literacy skills.

**10.45 - 11.30**

Ana Jereb

**Who is being silenced in the classroom?**  
(SEC, Adults, ESP)

The session will focus on Critical Pedagogy and the Participatory Approach. The participants will be asked to examine their current classroom practices in view of specific considerations (eg. 'language is a political act', world Englishes, which English 'should' be taught, English as Lingua Franca, native vs non-native teachers question, identity and power relations, plurilingualism and multicompetence, hidden curriculum, power language, various literacies. The participants will be presented with the techniques of Dialoguing and Problem posing which can be used in the classroom. In the end, teachers will have a list of ideas to consider when planning and teaching lessons that encourage a fairer,

## ROOM 2

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**10.10 - 10.40**

Ivana Zidanšek

**Gifted in an English classroom**  
(PRIM)

What to do with the gifted students in an English classroom? How not to lose their attention and keep them motivated when their English is way better and 'more natural' than their peers'? Here are some tips.

**10.45 - 11.30**

Silva Bratož, Anja Pirih

**Reach for the Stars 3**  
(PRIM)

We will present Reach for the Stars 3 (DZS), a course book for 3rd grade pupils. Come to the presentation to meet Annie and her friends, follow the adventures of the Space Explorers and learn English on the way. We will share and discuss the main principles and ideas which have shaped the course book, looking at a number of practical examples and activities.

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**11.30 - 12.15**

Peter Cigrovski

**Oh my lord... of the flies!**

(SEC)

In this talk, I will focus on how I approach William Golding's novel Lord of the Flies in the EFL classroom, preparing grammar school students for their Matura exam. We will look at warm-up activities, activities focusing on the plot and the thematic analysis, and finally at some more dynamic activities that centre on the text and consolidate the student's understanding of the novel.

**12.20 - 12.40**

Natalija Kocijan

**Practical, brain-based implications for the empowerment of EFL teaching - learning practice amidst the pandemic**

(A1)

The paper provides some practical, brain-based implications for efl teachers on how to possibly cope with the current challenges in the educational process and optimize the instructional approach in efl classes amidst the pandemic.

**12.45 - 13.05**

Ivana Matošević Pogačnik

Earth day

(PRIM)

The talk presents an example of 2 (or 3) Earth Day lessons, from the introductory motivation, the acquisition of new learning content, and revision. Forms and methods of how to learn new vocabulary, how to use vocabulary and grammar (modal verbs) in practice, etc. are presented. All skills (reading, listening, speaking, writing) are included in the lessons.

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**11.30 - 12.15**

Margarita Kosior

**Fighting for causes through storytelling**

(PRIM)

In this talk, based on an example storytelling session aiming to raise awareness of the plight of stray animals, I will demonstrate how stories can be used to inspire young learners to fight for a social cause, but also to improve their English and develop their 21st century skills. I will focus on activities which can be used both face-to-face and online.

**12.20 - 12.40**

Mateja Kolar

**Remote English lessons with young learners**

(PRIM)

I would like to present the approach I've been using with young learners of English during remote schooling. When planning, my aim was to design an easily accessible, high quality and sustainable medium for cooperating with students, which would contribute effectively to the development of learning goals mainly in the fields of listening comprehension and speaking. I chose Google Sites as the main tool and within it I combined it with other online didactic tools. The approach has proven to be very effective.

**12.45 - 13.05**

Janja Rozman

**Survey Young people and social media**

(PRIM)

I would like to present the results of the survey which was performed among the 6th, 7th and 8th graders of Primary school where I teach. The survey examines which social media are used, why and how much time do the pupils use them; and if they are aware of its disadvantages. The results also show increased use of social media during the lockdown.

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**13.10 - 13.55**

Danny Singh

### **Bordering on Contempt**

(All)

We look at the question of government-created borders and how citizens of those locations are affected. We focus on two films, "A Touch of Spice" (Greek) and "Mama Europa" (Slovenian) and discuss how they deal with this issue of borders and how they affect human rights.

**14.00 - 15.00**

Nicola Epps

### **A Picture Paints a Thousand Words**

(All)

This interactive workshop will look at different ways to use images in class to promote and encourage language production and make your lessons memorable and fun for your students. Before the session, please find a photo on your phone that makes you smile and have it ready to share.

**15.10 - 15.30**

Lea Deržanič

### **Potential game changers**

(PRIM)

In the times of online learning, students and teachers often find ourselves tired of being stuck in a rut. Everyone craves fun activities that keep our spirits up, which is much needed if we expect any positive learning outcome. Turning ordinary classroom activities into games keeps our students engaged in the learning process and can be a true game changer.

**15.35 - 15.55**

Jasna Šebez

### **Getting creative with Canva**

(All)

Na delavnici bom predstavila uporabo programskega orodja Canva, s katerim lahko (brezplačno) ustvarjamo najrazličnejše izdelke. Tako lahko še najbolj dolgočasni delovni listi ali predstavitve postanejo zanimivi in privlačni! Na delavnici si bomo ogledali osnove programa, kaj nam ponuja in kako za svoj pouk in službo najti in ustvariti najprimernejše izdelke. Delavnica bo potekala vslovenskem jeziku.

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**13.10 - 13.55**

Tina Starec Klobasa

### **Haiku - you can be a poet too!**

(PRIM)

Haiku poetry is an outstanding way to take the vocabulary knowledge to the next level. Participants will be given the opportunity to learn about thesaurus, an excellent tool to make their writings more attractive. The workshop tries to awaken the appreciation of poetry and demonstrate how every person has the ability to write something beautiful to be proud of.

**14.00 - 14.45**

Simona Napast

### **THINK outside the Box**

(PRIM)

The workshop will present some challenging activities and stimulating approaches to learning and thinking. It is a combination of interactive and standard ways of teaching where developing values (and self-esteem) is brought to the fore. Activities are based on the new coursebook set THINK featuring appealing topics that raise the students' curiosity as well as their awareness of the world around them.

**15.10 - 15.30**

Simona Žvikart Repnik

### **Distance teaching of young learners and problems**

(YL)

In my presentation I will talk about distance teaching and organization of my lessons for young learners and about problems that I came across.

**15.35 - 15.55**

Mojca Uhernik Pipan

### **Positive Psychology In Practice**

(PRIM)

More and more pupils are already experiencing overload in elementary school, and pupils' burnout occurs at an early stage of education. . Students respond differently to stressful situations: some become disciplinary problems, some feel threatened and, as a result, build low self-esteem. The answer is positive psychology. We are going to look at some activities that involve a positive psychology approach.

# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**16.00 - 16.30**

Nada Đukić

### **What can online schooling learn from business**

(All)

Some ideas from the corporate world can be directly applied to online teaching and learning, when it comes to mindset, goal-setting, high-performance states, time management and leadership. We will explore how to keep momentum, structure our time, take small steps consistently, be resilient and set an example of the change that we want to see in the new reality.

**16.40 - 17.10**

Lea Lenart Štefanič

### **Why you need to know about Irlen Syndrome**

(All)

Irlen Syndrome (also known as Scotopic Sensitivity Syndrome) is an often overlooked disorder caused by the brain's inability to process visual information. Moving and blurry letters, discomfort while reading, headaches, eye strain, and fatigue are just some of the difficulties students (as well as teachers) with Irlen Syndrome struggle with. Luckily, it can be treated through the fascinating power of colors.

**17.15 - 17.45**

Polona Nastran

### **Introduction of Nearpod**

(All)

An online platform Nearpod enables teachers to create fun interactive lessons with collaborative activities, game-based quizzes, videos with question/answer surveys, drawings, virtual reality trips etc. Lessons can be shared with students via email, social networks, links or in google classroom. A lesson can be teacher-paced (done together in class) or self-paced (students do the activities individually in their own time). It can also be used to assess students' learning process as it tracks students' activities and upon completion creates a full report.

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**16.00 - 16.30**

Barbara Dvornik

### **Steps to understanding and using grammar**

(PRIM)

This talk is a presentation and an invitation to a discussion on necessary steps to understanding and using grammar correctly. We start with an overview of what works and what not and add a step I have recently started using in classes- understanding grammar in context. Ready to use materials will be provided for all of you.

**16.40 - 17.10**

Breda Banovšek

### **#zoomislife**

(PRIM, SEC)

Tired of looking for new ways to engage your students during a videoconference? Is the number of students handing in their assignments falling rapidly? I have got your back, dear colleagues! I will present to you different online tools for effective remote teaching and give you new and fresh ideas that will rekindle your passion for teaching.

**17.15 - 17.45**

Marija Klančar

### **Online Safety And Critical Thinking**

(PRIM)

In my talk I want to present teachers with ideas on how to promote online safety while teaching English. I will speak about problems that students are facing online and show activities that I've done with my students. While they were practising writing and speaking skills, they were learning how to behave on social websites and think critically about online content.



# SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

## ROOM 1

Enter HERE

**17.50 - 18.35**

Tanja Fajmut

### **Bridge the gap**

(All)

This presentation gives some practical ideas and hands-on activities I gathered during the teacher training course in Cambridge. The material presented works on three levels: it shows activities that help bridge the gap firstly, between teachers and students (for more effective learning); secondly, between two languages and thirdly, between two cultures. The activities cover all four language learning skills.

**18.40**

### **plenary**

Thom Jones

### **After The Flood**

(All)

Well...that was a big year! With online learning by no means new but now ubiquitous....where does that leave education? Can we put the genie back in the bottle? Do we want to?

**19.20**

### **Conference wrap-up**

### **Key takeaways**

**Chit-chat moderated by Thom Jones**

## ROOM 2

Enter HERE

**17.50 - 18.10**

Urška Medved

### **Teaching Listening Comprehension**

(PRIM)

I will present a special approach to teaching listening comprehension in the sixth grade, which is achieved by cooperative learning, formative learning and assessment and the method of modelling. Self-evaluation checklists and the chances to talk about their learning put the pupils in charge of their own learning, which fosters metacognition and independence.

**18.15 - 18.35**

Andreja Golouh

### **Distance Learning improved my ICT**

### **Skills and increased Student's**

### **Motivation**

(YL)

My experience with TEYL was at the beginning of distance learning primarily based on PowerPoint presentations. Later, I turned them into videos and published them on YouTube which made English learning more available and personal. In addition to video explanations, I used web tools (Wordwall, Filmora and Thinglink). They all enriched English learning, provided instant feedback and increased learners' motivation.