
BRITISH COUNCIL CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS

Utrecht, 07 April 2017



CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS

FOREWORD

WELCOME TO THE BRITISH COUNCIL CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS 2017 IN UTRECHT.

As the world's English experts, we're passionate about the English language and those who teach it and so we are pleased to welcome English teachers from a variety of institutions and organisations from across the Netherlands.

The conference motto is **collaboration**. Our aim at the British Council Conference for Teachers is to provide a platform for you to develop your teaching skills, to inspire your teaching as well as share experiences and ideas in the field of English teaching and English language examinations.

The conference strives for a collaborative experience with the opportunity for you to learn from each other and make lasting connections to support each other during and even after the conference.

It is important to us to personally meet teachers from schools and organisations we work closely with but also to get to know new teachers in an open and creative way. We look forward to this opportunity to get to know you and your institution further.

We also see this as an opportunity for you to get to know the British Council further and find out more about the work we do in the Netherlands in the fields of English language, education, arts, culture and civil society. Today, you can meet the people who work behind the scenes who make your English exam experience as smooth as possible. We would like to invite you to speak to us and ask your questions throughout the day.

We wish you an enjoyable and productive conference.

Your British Council, Netherlands team

The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

- 09:15-09:30 Conference registration
- 09:30-10:00 Conference opening
- 10:00-11:00 Interactive workshops
- 11:00-11:30 Tea and coffee break
- 11:30-13:00 Poster sessions: Meet the British Council exams team
- 13:00-13:45 Networking lunch
- 13:45-14:45 Interactive workshops
- 14:45-15:45 Discussion session: Teach and meet
- 15:45-17:00 Information market and distribution of certificates of attendance



SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS

Opening speech



Paul Docherty, Country Director France and Benelux at British Council

Moderation



Theresa Costello, Marketing Manager at the British Council, Netherlands

Interactive workshops



Aidan Holland, Senior Teacher for Professional Development at British Council, Spain



Jenny du Plessis, Teacher Trainer at the University of Applied Sciences in Utrecht



Caroline Pickard, Trainer and Translator at betterenglish.nu

Poster sessions: Meet the British Council exams team



Fiona Macdonald,
Assistant Exams Manager
at the British Council,
Netherlands



Evelien Licher, Exams
Co-ordinator at the British
Council, Netherlands



Salinda Poelman,
Exams Co-ordinator
at the British Council,
Netherlands



Josephine Alderdce,
Exams Co-ordinator
at the British Council,
Netherlands



Jody Hoekstra, English
and Exams Co-ordinator
at the British Council,
Netherlands

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

Focus on the process: Doing process writing with advanced-level students

Aidan Holland, morning workshop 1a

This session will argue the value of taking a process approach to teaching writing, with a specific focus on the writing tasks in the Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE).

During the session, participants will reflect on current approaches to teaching writing and analyse a sample lesson sequence in which a process approach is used to teach students to write effective essays. Consideration will be given to how best to give students feedback on their written work and participants will also have the opportunity to put theory into practice in the design of their own process writing lesson sequences.

Spicing up exam course books

Aidan Holland, afternoon workshop 2a

This session will provide you with a range of practical ideas on how to adapt the reading and use of English activities in exam course books. Attendees will participate in a series of demonstration lesson sequences, all of which having the dual aims of integrating a range of language skills and promoting effective exam techniques.

About the speaker:

Aidan Holland has been working in English Language teaching for the last eleven years and is currently Senior Teacher for Professional Development at the British Council Teaching Centre in Madrid. Since completing the Cambridge DELTA in 2011, he has gone on to complete a Masters in TEFL with the University of Birmingham. He is particularly interested in how we can assess students more effectively. He is currently a member of the annual British Council Madrid Teachers' Conference organising committee.





Using digital media to get students talking

Caroline Pickard, morning workshop 1b and afternoon workshop 2b

Getting students talking at the beginning of a lesson can sometimes be easy but on other occasions it can be hard work. What makes students chat and how can teachers encourage them to talk more freely with each other, and teachers, in English classes? How can we harness that chat and turn it into a productive lesson?

In this highly interactive session, we will use easily accessible digital resources as a starting point to create and share lesson warmers, and explore how these warmers can be integrated into the lesson as a whole, or be used to form part of a lesson series. Be prepared to use smartphones or tablets with both the techno-savvy and technophobes alike, and exchange your best - and worst - teaching practices and experiences with each other.

About the speaker:

Caroline Pickard is an experienced trainer, specialising in both Business English and Workplace Inclusion. Caroline has worked for both international companies as well as smaller scale organisations and institutions designing, implementing and facilitating customised training programmes and events and has extensive experience teaching one-on-one and small group business communication. She has worked as an examiner and presenter for the British Council since 2011. Caroline is originally from the UK and graduated from the University of Bristol and attained a CELTA as a mature student.

Reading matters – before, during and after

Jenny du Plessis, morning workshop 1c and afternoon workshop 2c

In this workshop participants will be given the opportunity to discuss and evaluate reading activities at secondary school level. This will include before and after reading activities but also choosing appropriate material to enhance positive learning outcomes. Gain tips and tricks to enhance your reading lessons.

About the speaker:

Jenny du Plessis completed a B.Mus. degree as well as a Higher Diploma of Education at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg before emigrating to the Netherlands. She taught English and Music at secondary schools for twenty-five years and graduated with a M.Ed. before becoming a teacher trainer at the University of Applied Sciences in Utrecht where she teaches Literature and Methodology.

POSTER SESSIONS

Teaching for success: Planning your professional development

Jody Hoekstra

Through our courses, expert advice, teaching materials and support networks, the British Council are here to help you become a more effective English teacher, whether you're new to English language teaching or taking the next steps in your career. During this presentation we will tell you more about the British Council's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Framework; our approach to help teachers to understand and plan their own professional development with a bit of our help along the way.

Digital resources for English teachers and learners

Josephine Alderdice

There is a wide range of free online resources available to help adults, teenagers and children learn English and also for teachers to help plan their lessons and stay up to date with the latest trends. In this session you will get an overview of the variety of digital resources available from the British Council for both learners and teachers, such as mobile apps, websites, blogs, videos and online courses. Discover our online preparation website for exam candidates (Road to Success) that helps your students to prepare and succeed in Cambridge English examinations.

IELTS: the world's most popular English language test for higher education and global migration

Evelien Licher

The international English language testing system (IELTS) is the world's most popular English language proficiency test for higher education and global migration, with over 2.5 million tests taken in the last year. IELTS

assesses all of your English skills and is designed to reflect how you will use English at study, at work, and at play in your new life abroad. During this session you will gain an overview of the IELTS test and how it differs to the Cambridge English examinations.

Taking Cambridge English exams with the British Council

Fiona Macdonald

The British Council has long standing experience in delivering Cambridge English examinations in more than 150 countries. The British Council first started running the Cambridge exams in the late 90s in the Netherlands with only a handful of candidates. Since then we have grown extensively and now have five sub-centres across the Netherlands. In the session, you will gain an overview of the exam cycle from registration to results. Learn what candidates can expect on the exam day, our child protection policy, the possibility for candidates to sit exams at their own school and the increase of computer based exams.

Aptis: Forward thinking English testing

Salinda Poelman

The right English language skills are an essential element for success in any international situation. Aptis is a new and innovative English assessment tool developed by the British Council. Aptis provides fast, flexible and affordable assessment to get accurate certification of language skills. Find out how Aptis can efficiently and reliably assess English skills for reading, writing, listening and speaking. During this session, you will learn about the flexible delivery of Aptis, the different versions of the test and how it can be adapted to match your assessment needs.

FEEDBACK SURVEY

Your feedback is valuable to us. Please complete this two minute survey on your conference experience today by simply following the link or scanning the QR code below. We will take your feedback into account for any future events.

Feedback survey: <http://bit.ly/conferenceteachers>



INFORMATION MARKET

We would like to invite you to meet with publishers and other organisations to discover the latest offers and opportunities for English teachers. Certificates of attendance will be distributed during this time.

Participating partners:



Part of the **SPRINGER NATURE** group

#ConferenceforTeachers

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 [@nl_British](https://twitter.com/nl_British)

British Council Netherlands

Weteringschans 85a
1017 RZ Amsterdam

T +31 (0)20 550 6060

exams@britishcouncil.nl

www.britishcouncil.nl

