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# CONFERENCE FOR TEACHERS

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Second edition. Utrecht, 28 March 2018



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## FOREWORD

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We create friendly knowledge and understanding between the people of the UK and other countries. We do this by making a positive contribution to the UK and the countries we work with – changing lives by creating opportunities, building connections and engendering trust.

We have been in the Netherlands since 1946. The largest part of our work in the Netherlands is the provision of UK examinations and qualifications. We are the largest authorised centre of Cambridge Assessment English in the Netherlands with a wide network of exam centres across the country. We deliver Cambridge English exams in Amsterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Rotterdam, Eindhoven, Maastricht, Arnhem, Leeuwarden, Groningen, Zwolle and Vlissingen.

As the world's English experts, we're passionate about the English language and those who teach it. Our aim is to support English teachers across the Netherlands particularly in the area of examination preparation.

This is why we introduced our Conference for Teachers with our first edition taking place in April 2017. We aim to provide you with a platform to develop your teaching skills, to inspire you and to share experiences and ideas in the field of English language teaching and examinations.

We value the conference day to meet teachers from schools and institutions we work closely with and to get to know new teachers in an open and collaborative way. You have the opportunity to meet the people who work behind the scenes making your exam experience as smooth as possible and ask your questions throughout the day.

We wish you a valuable experience during our second edition of our Conference for Teachers.

Your exams team,  
British Council in the Netherlands



**Cambridge Assessment**  
**English**

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Authorised Exam Centre

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## AGENDA

- 10.15-10.45 Conference registration with complimentary tea and coffee
- 10.45-11.30 Opening plenary session: Welcome and introduction to our new member scheme Addvantage
- 11.30-13.00 Morning interactive workshops (A-D)
- 13.00-13.45 Complimentary lunch and information market with publishers
- 13.45-15.15 Afternoon interactive workshops (A-D)
- 15.15-16.00 Closing plenary session and distribution of certificates



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## PLENARY SESSIONS

### Opening session

During the opening session we will present our new exams member scheme Advantage. Advantage is the British Council's complimentary examinations member scheme for schools and institutions registering Cambridge Assessment English exam candidates with us in the Netherlands. It's our way of saying thank you and to welcome our new customers.

You will receive the details of how the scheme works such as eligibility, the application process and membership levels. We will present the membership benefits for your students, for your school and for your teachers that will be available as part of the scheme. For example, our exam practice website for students, English exams competition for students and teachers, teacher development offers, our guide to English exams for parents and much more.

For further details on Advantage please visit our website at:  
[www.britishcouncil.nl/advantage-scheme](http://www.britishcouncil.nl/advantage-scheme)

### About the speaker



Jody Hoekstra works as Exams Operations Manager for the British Council in the Netherlands. Jody is based in our Amsterdam office where she started working as an Exams Co-ordinator in 2015.

Before this, she worked as a policy advisor for the NRTO (the Dutch Council for Training and Education) where she was responsible for the portfolios of Higher Education, Languages, and Online Learning. In addition, she also has several years' experience as an English teacher and has given workshops and courses on IELTS and the Cambridge English Qualifications.

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## **Closing session**

Our closing session will be an interactive panel discussion on your questions, experiences, and teaching tips with Cambridge English Qualifications.

The panel will consist of pre-selected teachers from a diverse range of schools from across the Netherlands with a variety of experience with teaching Cambridge English Qualifications, workshop facilitators of the conference day, and exam managers from the British Council and Cambridge Assessment English.

Pre-selected teachers will include:

Helmi Sonneveld, Goois Lyceum

Annemieke Duyvendak, Open Schoolgemeenschap Bijlmer

Dominique Wobben, Ds. Pierson College

The teachers will share their top tips for preparing students for Cambridge English Qualifications and also share their experiences and challenges. The exam experts from the British Council and Cambridge Assessment English will react on these experiences and also give their advice.

We will start the discussion with a selection of your questions you submitted prior to the conference. This selection is based on criteria such as relevance and popularity.

We invite you to ask questions to the panel and participate in the live discussion sharing your experiences and advice also.

Jody Hoekstra, Exams Operations Manager at the British Council in the Netherlands, will lead the panel discussion.

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## INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

### **A. Exploring the writing section of the Cambridge English C1 Advanced exam**

*Elena Louicellier and Maija Kozlova, Cambridge Assessment English*

During this workshop, an overview of the Cambridge English C1 Advanced exam paper will be provided including format, timing, task types, testing focuses, text types, marking and weighting of the paper. Together, we will focus on the concept of writing ability and how it is accounted for in the C1 Advanced exam, look at the assessment criteria and other features of the marking scheme.

We will discuss challenges learners may have with writing at C1 level and see how teachers can help learners to improve their skills and prepare for the C1 Advanced writing paper effectively. We will also share practical ideas and resources for teachers and learners. This session is suitable for English teachers preparing students for the Cambridge English C1 Advanced exam.

#### **About the speakers**



Elena Louicellier is Assessment Services Manager for Cambridge Assessment English in Europe. She is responsible for providing educational expertise in learning, teaching and assessment to all key stakeholders in the region. Elena Louicellier also delivers talks, workshops and seminars in Europe to support teachers in their professional development.

Prior to joining Cambridge Assessment English in 2015, Elena acquired more than ten years' experience in international school programme management and teaching, and in French higher education.



Maija Kozlova is an Assessment Manager in Cambridge Assessment English, working on Lower Main Suite live exams (B1 Preliminary For Schools, A2 Key and Key for Schools). Maija also provides material for the C1 Advanced and C2 Proficiency exam practice books in collaboration with Cambridge University Press.

Maija comes from a teaching background, and taught English as a foreign language in Cambridge, London, Chile, Colombia and Cambodia.

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## **B. Motivating teenagers**

*Joanna Gore, British Council*

Jo will take you through five key concepts for motivating teenagers, each one with practical demonstrations, ideas for classroom activities and suggestions for using the LearnEnglish Teens website with your English students.

This workshop on motivating teenagers with digital tools will provide food for thought and practical tips to understand motivation and where it comes from, put your students first and help to choose the right materials. It will also provide ideas to exploit 'the gaming factor' and to enjoy 'the random factor' during lessons as well as nurture autonomous learners. Example activities will involve all four language skills, images, video, assessment and self-assessment techniques.

This session is suitable for all English language teachers of teenagers with a variety of different levels of English.

### **About the speaker**



Joanna Gore is an experienced English language teacher, teacher trainer and materials writer at the British Council in Barcelona, Spain whose special interests include teaching teenagers, humanistic and meaning-driven approaches to language teaching and CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning).

She coordinates the LearnEnglish Teens website, the British Council's global website designed especially for 13-17 year olds learning English. This free resource by the world's English teaching experts provides reading, writing and listening practice, tips for exams, grammar and vocabulary exercises, games and videos. Students can also interact with other teenagers from all around the world in a safe online environment.

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## INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS

### **C. Helping students with Cambridge C1 Advanced speaking exam**

*Louisa Dunne, British Council*

In this interactive workshop, which is suitable for both experienced and less-experienced teachers, we will first consider what candidates need to be able to do in the different sections of the Cambridge Advanced speaking test. We will discuss some of the issues your students may face with Cambridge C1 Advanced speaking and how we can help them.

We will also analyse some Cambridge C1 Advanced speaking samples, by referring to the speaking assessment criteria, and think about ways these criteria can be integrated into classroom teaching to give students a better idea of what the examiners are looking for. We will then work through a series of classroom activities that can be used to help students prepare for the Cambridge C1 Advanced speaking test as well as share ideas and useful resources.

#### **About the speaker**



Louisa Dunne is an Examinations Academic Support Manager at the British Council in Paris, France. Her job involves providing support to teachers in higher education, and secondary and adult teachers who are preparing students for various English language tests. Louisa has over 20 years' experience of teaching English to different age groups, from primary to adult, and has taught in Europe, South Asia, the Middle East and the Far East. She has also worked with teachers in various educational contexts around the world.



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## **D. Web of words: Developing vocabulary strategies for B2 and beyond**

*Sarah Ellis, Cambridge Assessment English*

This session will look at ways to encourage your students to develop and consolidate their vocabulary at B2 level and beyond. We will look at ideas and activities for the classroom as well as some useful digital tools and resources to enrich students' vocabulary. We will consider how this can also support exam preparation for Cambridge English B2 First exam.

This session is suitable for all types of English language teachers.

### **About the speaker**



Sarah Ellis is currently working in Assessment Services for Cambridge English Language Assessment, Europe and is based in Bologna Italy. She has an extensive background in teaching, teacher training, assessment and exam management. She has trained teachers on CELTA and DELTA courses and is currently involved in the Cambridge English teacher support programme which provides information, materials and support for teachers and academic directors. She is particularly interested in supporting teachers in developing digital skills and assessment literacy.

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## OUR PARTNERS

We look forward to welcoming our partners, publishers and other organisations to our conference day and we would like to thank them for their continued collaboration.

We would like to invite you to discover their latest offers and opportunities available for you and your students at our information market during lunch.



**Cambridge Assessment**  
English



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## FEEDBACK SURVEY

Your feedback is valuable to us in shaping future events and conferences. Please complete this short survey on your experience today by simply following the link at:  
**[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/utrecht18](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/utrecht18)**

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## 2017 CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



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