

## MALAYSIA ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING ASSOCIATION

**MELTA ANNUAL 2023** 

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## MESSAGE FROM

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR RAMESH NAIR

**PRESIDENT**MALAYSIAN ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TEACHING
ASSOCIATION

The MELTA Annual captures key events in 2023, and provides readers with insights into the Malaysian English Language Teaching Association. Through this publication, we are happy to share our initiatives with our members, partners, and the wider community.

The year holds bittersweet memories for the committee. We recorded the highest ever membership registration in 2023, and we attribute this to the association's capacity to offer members opportunities for professional development and growth throughout the year. We also believe that our determination in ensuring transparency and accountability in all that we do has helped us gain stakeholder trust.

As the only national ELT association in Malaysia, we take pride in having offered a selection of professional development activities in 2023 for our members throughout the country. We continued to invest in improving the quality of our journals.

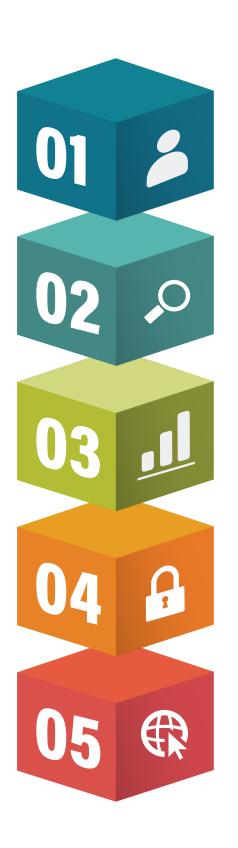
The Malaysian Journal of ELT Research is indexed by the Web of Science while The English Teacher is indexed by the ASEAN Citation Index. We will also remember 2023 as the year we organised our first face-to-face conference since the pandemic. The publication of the 2023 MELTA Annual began many months ago under the leadership of our Publications Director, Allahyarhamah Associate Professor Dr Aminabibi Saldavi. Unfortunately, Allahyarhamah passed in June 2023, and this was a huge loss to the committee. We will always remember her with much affection. I take this opportunity to thank MELTA Vice President, Dr Prema Nair, who stepped in to ensure that the activities of the Publications Bureau continued.

I hope you will enjoy reading the MELTA Annual 2023. We look forward to your active participation in all our future activities.

Thank you.

## **MELTA ECOSYSTEM**

MALAYSIAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING ASSOCIATION
An Expanding Ecosystem



#### **TEACHER DEVELOPMENT**

- > Chapter Activities
- > ELT Network
- > Conferences
- > Certification , Endorsement & Training (CET)

#### **LEARNER DEVELOPMENT**

- > PBL
- > Seminar & Workshops

#### **RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP**

- > ELT Publication
- > Accreditation
- > Journals
- > MIRCELE
- > MELTA Annual

#### **PARTNERSHIP**

- > International : Institutions & Associations
- > National : Institutions & Corporations
- > MOE
- > Consultancy
- > Projects

#### **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

> MELTA-A-HEART

#### **MELTA LOGO**



MELTA is the acronym for the Malaysian English Language Teaching Association. The *Stylised* 'M' is a symbolic representation of the 'M' in MELTA. It is stylised to demonstrate that MELTA is a flexible and dynamic organisation. The 'M' breaks the boundaries of the rectangular blue box to show that MELTA and Malaysian teachers need to work both within and outside the box to achieve greater success. It also suggests that there should be no limits to education and learning.

The Rectangular Box represents the conventional world of education and language use. Royal blue is the MELTA colour and has been used in its logo since the establishment of the organisation. It represents resilience, depth and stability in education and learning. The colour white represents the notion of tabula rasa in education. It reflects the purity of the learner and the act of learning.

#### **MELTA MISSION & VISION**

#### **MISSION**

To be the centre for professional expertise and standards in English language education and research that provides advocacy, consultancy, advisory, quality assurance, and professional development to advance the quality and impact of academic and professional programmes, teaching and learning material and practices, community outreach projects, and national and international collaboration aimed at creating a powerful and positive education ecosystem.

#### **VISION**

To be a leader among English language education organisations contributing to the quality of English language education and high standard of English in Malaysia and internationally.

#### **GET TO KNOW US**

MELTA was formed in 1958, as a voluntary association that is managed completely by Malaysian English language education professionals. The association consists of fifteen members from various education institutions such as schools, Ministry of Education Malaysia, teacher education institutions, corporate organisations and higher education institutions. Over the years, MELTA has grown tremendously, realizing its mission and vision goals through various activities. This is clearly illustrated in the MELTA professional practice ecosystem.

#### TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

This is the founding mission of MELTA and still remains as one of the primary agenda of the organisation. As the only national professional English language education organisation, MELTA assumes the responsibility of being the centre for professional expertise and practice. It is a non-partisan organisation that is open to work with all national and international experts to promote and develop high quality professional practice among English language educators. Activities and entities that drive this agenda include the following:

#### THE MELTA CHAPTERS

The MELTA Chapter initiative was launched in 2000. The goal of the MELTA Chapter is to support the creation of local teacher networks with the aim of empowering educators to take control of managing their own needs, using expertise and resources available locally, and through collaborations with other Chapters.



MELTA Chapters run regular seminars, workshops, conferences and other activities as face-to-face sessions or digitally. MELTA Chapters are currently established in Penang, Perak, Kuala Lumpur, Melaka, Johor, Pahang, Terengganu, Kelantan, Sabah and Sarawak.

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHER NETWORK**

The ELT Network originated from the MELTA Special Interest Groups. The MELTA ELT Network (MELTN) aims to connect teachers with similar areas of interest or stages of career development within Malaysia and regionally. One of the very active groups in the MELTN is the early career teacher network which carries out online and offline regular professional development and community engagement activities. The next phase of development for the MELTN is its plans to expand the network to the ASEAN region.

#### **MELTA CONFERENCES**

MELTA currently runs two international conferences.

#### **MELTA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

The MELTA International Conference is currently in its 31st year. In earlier years, MELTA used to organise close to four international conferences in a year but has now chosen to do a single conference each year.





The conference has become internationally recognised with strong local and international followings. The MELTA International is unlike most conferences and offers a range of academic and professional development activities for educators but also provides activities for students as well. The International conference is also a venue where numerous competitions are held and awards are presented. These include awards for :

#### **TEACHERS**

- The MELTA-Hyacinth Gaudart Award for Outstanding Achievements in English Language Education
- The MELT-Basil Wijasuriya Award for Best Teacher Presenters at the conference
- The MELTA-Malachi Edwin Vethamani Creative Teacher Showcase Award
- The MELTA Creative Student Teacher Showcase Award
- The MELTA Creative Higher Education Teacher Showcase Award



## THE MELTA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION (MIRCELE)

The original aim of the conference was to promote and encourage quality research among postgraduate students in Malaysia. By the third conference, the scope of the conference had expanded to include student teachers, postgraduate students, teachers and higher education academics. The conference became international to allow for wider benchmarking of research quality. The one-day conference is run using a unique format of a competition showcasing and defending participants research. There are five categories in the competition:

- Teacher Trainers/Academics
- Ph.D Candidates
- Master's Students
- Teachers
- Teacher Trainees/Undergraduates







#### LEARNER DEVELOPMENT

This mission was incorporated into the MELTA's goals in the late 1990s. This meant that apart from teacher development work, MELTA would devise and actively involve itself in a range of activities that support teachers and schools in developing the English language proficiency of learners.

#### Workshops and Seminars

MELTA runs workshops and seminars for students based on requests from schools, teachers or institutions of higher education. MELTA does not offer off-the-shelf programmes.





#### Way With Words (WWW)

WWW is a competition conceptualised and organised by MELTA. It is a fun-filled event that is open to teams of three students competing over several rounds to decide the winners. Each round assesses different language abilities which includes spelling, word play, collocation, sentence construction and others. Adapted versions of WWW have also been organised for college and polytechnic students. Winning teams are awarded with certificates and cash prizes.















#### **RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP**

The research and scholarship dimension of the MELTA profile is an expansion of early activities that focused on MELTA's first journal, The English Teacher and quarterly newsletters. The expansion exemplifies MELTA's goal of being a centre for excellence for ELT research and scholarship.

#### **ELT Publications**

MELTA has two ELT series to its name. The first is called the MELTA-Sasbadi ELT series. To date, this series has over twenty book volumes. The goal of this series is to provide an avenue for Malaysian ELT professionals to publish authored or edited volumes based on research or pedagogical practice.

The second ELT publication is called the USM-MELTA ELT in Southeast Asia series. The focus of this series is to encourage collaboration between ELT professionals in Southeast Asia. A condition for this publication is that at least one of the writers or editors must be from another Southeast Asian country. This series enables writers or editors to carry out comparative studies and showcase how particular ELT- related issues or problems are managed in Southeast Asian countries.

#### Accreditation

Another activity with this dimension is quality assurance and accreditation of commercial products and programmes. MELTA is usually commissioned by corporate organisations to carry out assessments of their products or services and offer audit reports for improvements. Once the improvements are undertaken satisfactorily, the products or services may be accorded the MELTA accreditation or endorsement.

#### **Journals**

MELTA publishes two journals comprising five volumes each year. The English Teacher is among the oldest ELT journals in the country and is a rich resource of ELT literature on Malaysia and the region. This journal largely focuses on classroom practice. This journal is indexed in MYCITE and the ASEAN citation index.

The second MELTA journal is called The Malaysian Journal of ELT Research. The focus of this journal is the publication of research articles. The journal is indexed in MYCITE.

#### The MELTA Annual

The MELTA Annual is an annual publication that highlights the transformations and activities of the organisation. It captures and archives experiences of ELT practitioners and researchers in Malaysia. This publication represents MELTA and reflects the impact the organisation has made each year.

#### International Conference Grants

MELTA offers international conference grants to Malaysian ELT professionals. Interested professionals can apply for the grant by submitting a proposal for screening and selection. This programme allows grant winners to attend a choice of international conferences in Thailand, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Mongolia, South Korea, Japan, Brunei and the Philippines.





#### **PARTNERSHIPS**

One of the main reasons for MELTA resilience and sustainability as an ELT organisation for 61 years, is its strategy of engaging in strategic partnerships. The MELTA partnership agenda is categorised into national and international partnerships.

#### National Partnership

MELTA has a range of public and private partners. The Ministry of Education, Malaysia has been a consistent supporter and contributor to all MELTA activities since its inception. Other public partners include state governments, public schools and higher education institutions. MELTA also works in partnership with government-linked companies and agencies.

#### International Partnership

MELTA has reciprocal agreements to support cross national professional development and research with the following 15 international organisations.

- Thailand TESOL
- KOTESOL, South Korea
- TEFLIN Indonesia
- ETA-ROC, Taiwan
- ELTAI India
- NELTA Nepal

- ELTAM, Mongolia
- JACET Japan
- BELTA Bangladesh
- JALT Japan
- CamTESOL Cambodia
- PALT Philippines
- RELC Singapore
- KATE, South Korea
- 21st Century English Education Media, China Daily Media Group

#### **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The last but not least among MELTA's trust is the work that it undertakes in the area of social responsibility. Under the banner of MELT-A-HEAT, MELTA's social responsibility initiatives include tuition for underprivileged children, and an initiative to set up libraries and reading corners in rural primary schools in underprivileged communities. To date, MELTA has contributed to the establishment and enhancement of libraries and reading corners in over 40 schools throughout Malaysia.

Each year, MELTA reviews its vision, mission, strategies and activities. The goal is to engage in a continuous development cycle to review, enhance and upgrade MELTA engagements and contributions, to ensure that the efforts and initiatives shown by MELTA members and volunteers will have ever- widening outreach and more significant impact. Like the waves that shape the landscape of the world, MELTA aspires to achieve a landmark impact on the ELT and scape of Malaysia and the region.





## TEACHER DEVELOPMENT

Teacher development covers a wide spectrum of activities from conferences to trainings, workshops and seminars on professional development or upskilling for English Language educators in line with the Education philosophy. MELTA is the only national professional English language education organisation and assumes the responsibility of being the centre for professional expertise and practice. MELTA has been and will always be the centre for professional ESL expertise and practice. Educators and teachers in schools get the opportunities to share and present their work or best practices at the English platforms set-up by MELTA through the MELTA chapters, English Language Teacher Network and national and international conferences.

- Chapter Activities
- ELT Network
- Conferences
- Certification, Endorsement & Training (CET)

## **MELTA CHAPTER KOTA KINABALU**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAPTER LEADER: CHANG YEE SHEE

ASSISTANT CHAPTER LEADER: SHUBASHINI SUPPIAH

SECRETARY : ONG WEI ANN @ HAROLD

TREASURER: SITI AISHAH BINTI MAZLAN

MEMBER : ONG JIA WEI

On 2nd November 2023, MELTA Kota Kinabalu Chapter collaborated with IPG Kampus Gaya in organising a Professional Discussion entitled Being an Innovative ELT Practitioner in Implementing CEFR-aligned curriculum. The speaker of the event was Dr. Hyginus Lester Junior Lee who recently published a book on innovation. The programme was organised mainly for the final year TESL pre-service teachers. Dr. Hyginus gave an insightful sharing on the challenges of implementing the English language curriculum and how innovation can help us be better ELT teachers. The lecturers and students have benefitted immensely from the session.









## **MELTA CHAPTER NEGERI SEMBILAN**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS** 

CHAPTER LEADER: ZUBAIDAH BIBI BINTI MOBARAK ALI, PH.D.

ASSISTANT CHAPTER LEADER: YASMINE LIONG PUI KWAN BINTI ABDULLAH

SECRETARY: NOR FADZLEEN BINTI SA'DON, PH.D.

TREASURER: HARATHI SARAH PETERS A.C PETERS

PROMOTION MANAGER: KIRUBASHINI NADARAJAN

TECHNICAL MANAGER: MUHAMAD KHAIRI FAKHRI BIN FAZIL

#### Language Learning for Special Needs Learners' Dialogue Session

The Negeri Sembilan Chapter successfully hosted the 'Language Learning for Special Needs Learners' Dialogue Session' at SJKT Bandar Sri Sendayan on February 25, 2023. It aimed to provide a platform for experts in special education, special education teachers and parents with special needs children to share their language learning issues and problems in Integrated Special Education (PPKI) or Inclusive Education Program (PPI).

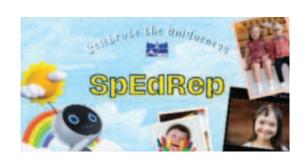


#### Classroom Assessment with Edpuzzle

On July 8, 2023, in PKG Kuala Pilah, the Negeri Sembilan Chapter, Edpuzzle and PPD Kuala Pilah successfully held a workshop for Special Education teachers. The goal of the workshop was to offer an Edpuzzle platform-based classroom evaluation tool. Educators may develop video-based lessons and assessments with Edpuzzle, an interactive video platform. The session gave teachers an overview of Edpuzzle's capabilities and showed how it can be utilised in the classroom for both formative and summative assessments.

#### Special Education Repository (SpEdRep)

The Special Education Repository (SpEdRep) is an online collection of digital learning resources that was created as a result of the dialogue session and content production workshop with Edpuzzle. The objective of SpEdRep is to develop innovative lifelong learning solutions inclusive education in Malaysia where teachers share and peruse digital learning materials uploaded on SpEdRep beyond physical classroom boundaries. On October 10, 2023, SpEdRep was formally introduced on the Negeri Sembilan Chapter Facebook page and YouTube channel.





#### N9 TESL-RIFFIC CONFAB 2023 Webinar

On October 20,2023, the scheduled webinar was streamed in real time on the Negeri Sembilan Chapter official YouTube channel and Facebook. Updates on the application of the CEFR in ESL instruction and learning, as well as the concerns English language teachers have with classroom-based assessment, were given by three Master Trainers from Negeri Sembilan and Johor.

#### Melt-A-Heart 2.0

The Negeri Sembilan Chapter initiated this project to assist schools that need to replenish their libraries with books to encourage reading among primary and secondary school students. The books were given away to 4 schools after the 'Language Learning for Special Needs Learners' Dialogue Session' at SJKT Bandar Sri Sendayan on February 25, 2023.



## **MELTA CHAPTER PAHANG**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS** 

CHAPTER LEADER: NOORJAHAN BINTI SULTAN

ASSISTANT CHAPTER LEADER: NOOR AZLINDA ZAINAL ABIDIN

SECRETARY: LAILY ZAINAL

TREASURER: SUHAILA HJ. MUKTAR

COMMITTEE MEMBER: ZAKIAH HANIM BINTI MOHAMAD TOHA

The following are events and activities carried out by the Pahang chapter in 2023.



Events in 2023 – 3rd International Conference on Education 2023 (ICEd) & 9th International Conference on Language and Education 2023 (ICLE) 23rd November 2023 | Thursday | 11.00 am | UCYP Main Campus









Events in 2023 MEITA Pahang Chapter 2" meeting. Date: 11th July 2023 | Wednesday Times 8.30 cm Plafform: Nosken Agendo: Merdeka with MEITA – Scavenger Hurif

"Unity as strength!
When there is become ork
and collaboration, wanderful
things can be achieved."

Looking forward in making more wanderful programs.





Events in 2023 — MELTA UCYP Edpuzzie Workshap 20th May 2023 Saturday | 8.30 am | UCYP Main Campus Lecture Theatre



### **MELTA CHAPTER KELANTAN**

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAPTER LEADER: ARIFUDDIN BIN ABDULLAH

ASSISTANT CHAPTER LEADER: LIYANA BINTI AHMAD AFIF

SECRETARY: MOHAMAD FAIZ BIN MOHAMAD SHAKRI

TREASURER: NURUL IMAN BINTI AHMAD BUKHARI

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: HANIS BINTI KAMARUDIN

SUHAIMIRA BINTI NORDIN

WAN INTAN ADLINA BINTI WAN ABDULLAH NURUL HIDAYAH BINTI AHMAD BUKHARI

LINIRA BINTI GHAZALI

ATHIRAH IZZAH BINTI CHE ABAS AHMAD ZUL FAHMI BIN MAT YUSUF ATHIRAH IZZAH BINTI CHE ABAS AHMAD ZUL FAHMI BIN MAT YUSUF

## ACTIVITY 1: A WEBINAR TITLED 'CEFR-BASED ASSESSMENT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

On September 14th, 2023, MELTA Kelantan Chapter hosted a webinar on" CEFR-based Assessment in English Language Education: Issues and Challenges". The webinar was streamed live on the MELTA Channel and attracted over 100 participants. The speaker, Prof Dr Zuraidah Mohd Don, an expert on CEFR from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, talked about the significance of CEFR-based assessment in English language education. She explained how A1 to C2 reference levels help set student goals and measure proficiency accurately. She also highlighted the complexities of language assessment, emphasizing the pivotal role of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

#### **ACTIVITY 2: GLOBAL ONLINE LEARNING (GOL) - ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLES**

The Global Online Learning - English Conversation Circles took place on the 11th and 12th of December, 2023, with the participation of approximately 40 students from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and Sri Lanka. This program aimed to foster cultural appreciation and help students improve their English language conversational skills.



Co- hosted by the Faculty of Language Studies & Human Development, the Language Centre, Prince of Songkhla University and MELTA Kelantan Chapter, this programme brought together participants and EL teachers/lecturers from UMK, UPM and UiTM on one platform where they shared thoughts on different topics.

## **MELTA CHAPTER KUCHING**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAPTER LEADER: MAGDALINE MUUK

ASSISTANT CHAPTER LEADER: YUSIMAH BINTI YUSOP

SECRETARY: AIDA NOOR IZAM BINTI BUJANG

TREASURER: KARTINA BINTI SAHARI

PROMOTION MANAGER: VINCENT WONG

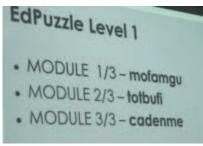
JAROD YONG FAITH WONG REBECCA CHONG

Highlights on events carried out in the year 2023 by Kuching Chapters.













## **MELTA CHAPTER PENANG**

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

CHAPTER LEADER: DR. TARSAME SINGH

ASSISTANT CHAPTER LEADER: ASSOC. PROF. DR. MAH BOON YIH

SECRETARY: SOH PO TEK

TREASURER: BASIL JUDE SURIN

PROMOTION MANAGER: PREMANI

LAYSEE GREGORY YEOH HEE HEE

INDRA KOLAN DAVELOO ASHHADWI PANEERSELVAM

The first meeting to set up the chapter was held on 13th May 2022 via Google Meet.



#### **CHAPTER ACTIVITY 1: WEBINAR**

Make Thinking Visible! Practical Thinking Tools for the ESL Classroom

Date: 11 June 2022

Speaker: Dr. Joanna Joseph Jeyaraj



#### **CHAPTER ACTIVITY 2: WORKSHOP**

MELTA EDPUZZLE WORKSHOP 2023 Develop Classroom Materials Using Edpuzzle

Date: 11 June 2023



#### **CHAPTER ACTIVITY 3: WORKSHOP II**

MELTA EDPUZZLE WORKSHOP II 2023 Develop Classroom Materials Using

Edpuzzle

Date: 09 July 2023



## LEARNER DEVELOPMENT

Learner development aims at developing the English language skills in ESL learners. Besides teacher development, learners will be given opportunities to participate in MELTA activities such as workshops, seminars, language camps (CHILD), Way with Words (WWW) and Project-Based Learning (PBL) competitions. These activities which fully support teachers, schools and institutions of higher education are aimed at improving language skills and proficiency among students.

- Way With Words (WWW)
- Project-Based Learning

## LEARNER DEVELOPMENT

Supporting teachers and schools in developing the English language proficiency of learners is also one of the main agendas in MELTA.

#### Workshops and Seminars

MELTA offers and runs workshops and seminars for pupils based on requests from government and private schools, teachers or institutions of higher education. These workshops and seminars mainly target at improving the level of proficiency in English among the learners of ELT.

#### Way With Words Competition (WWW)

WWW competition was conceptualised by MELTA. This event targets primary and secondary school pupils, where they form in teams of three pupils. It is a fun-filled competition to witness pupils competing over several rounds to decide the winners. Basically, there are three rounds in each category (primary and secondary category). Each round comprises spelling, word play, collocation, sentence construction and others. However, adapted versions of WWW competition have also been organised for college and polytechnic students. These winning teams are awarded with certificates and cash prizes.

#### Project-Based Learning (PBL)

PBL was conceptualised and launched in the year 2019. It focuses on pupils and their learning. Through PBL, pupils learn to take charge of their learning by making personal connection to real-world issues and practices. They learn to identify problem and plan for a solution. Upon completion, they will showcase, explain and defend projects that they have undertaken in schools. This activity is designed to gauge students' ability to take initiative, solve problems and communicate ideas. Pupils are engaged in deep learning that is empowering and sustainable. The winners for PBL are awarded with certificates and cash prizes.

### THE LATE ASSOC. PROF. AMINABIBI SAIDAVI

# DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS (2022-2023)



publications.director@melta.my

Various activities were carried out under the guidance of the late Assoc. Prof. Aminabibi Saidavi as the director of publications. Among the activities are:

- planning and publication of MELTA Annual.
- publication of Teacher's Voices: Stories from the Classroom
- planning and designing the MELTA conference programme book

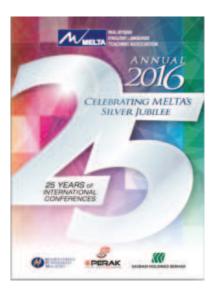
The bureau constantly aims to find ways to allow educators in general to have their voice heard and as such, the Teacher's Voices was initiated in 2021. This publication is well received by many whose storiees inspired teachers to share their real life experiences pertaining to teaching and learning processes.

MELTA Annual on the other hand, is a yearly publication showcasing various activities carried out by various bureaus for the readers. It also disseminates the objectives and goals of the organisation.

The committee would like to take the opportunity to thank the late Assoc. Prof. Aminabibi Saidavi for her tremendous efforts, time and care put into making the publications accessible. She is well known for her patience and understanding which made her a unique individual whom MELTA is truly gifted to have had her as the director of publications.



#### **MELTA ANNUAL PUBLICATION**





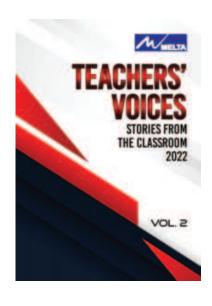


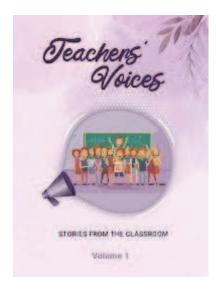


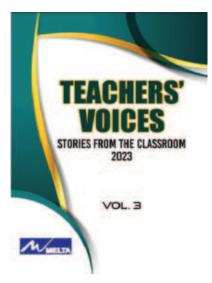




#### **BOOK PUBLICATION**







## DR. JOANNA JOSEPH JEYARAJ DIRECTOR OF JOURNALS

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MELTA is home to two journals, The English Teacher and The Malaysian Journal of ELT Research. MELTA Journals can be accessed online at https://meltajournals.com/

The Journals Bureau oversees the publication of both journals.

Malaysian Journal of ELT Research (MaJER) aims to advance knowledge of and to develop expertise in critical and scientific inquiry in English language teaching and learning. The journal is intended for academics, researchers, teacher educators and graduate students who are involved in research and dissemination of knowledge in the field. This referee, open access journal is published in two issues (June and December) annually.

Authors are invited to submit articles that focus on new theoretical perspectives, syntheses of research, discussions of methodological issues and scholarly analyses of issues in ELT.

Articles may also include debates on a variety of perspectives, policy and theories, investigations of alternative modes of research in ELT, examination of trends in ELT and the advancement of knowledge and understanding of effective English language teaching and learning. The journal is indexed by the Malaysian Citation Centre and also listed in the Web of Science Emerging Sources Citation Index.

The English Teacher, which is Malaysia's oldest ELT journal promotes research and reflection on effective English language teaching and learning. The journal, which has been in continuous publication since 1971 is intended for an audience of ELT instructors who are involved inteaching English to learners of all age groups. The English Teacher is an open access, refereed online journal published in three issues (April, August, December) annually.

The journal is indexed by the Malaysian Citation Centre and the ASEAN Citation Index.

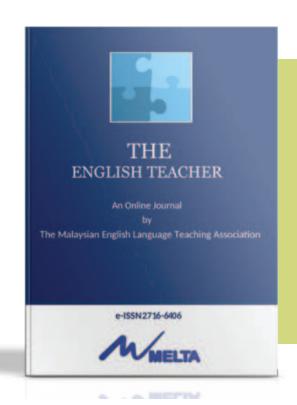
## THE MALAYSIAN JOURNAL OF ELT RESEARCH

Editor in Chief:
Dr Azlin Zaiti Zainal



## THE ENGLISH TEACHER

Editor in Chief: Associate Professor Dr. Cecilia Cheong Yin Mei



### **MELTA CONFERENCE 2023**

The Malaysian English Language Teaching Association (MELTA) has been organising an annual international conference for over 30 years. The conference has a strong following across the globe, and this has been possible because of the association's partnership with other English Language Teaching associations in countries such as Thailand, Japan, Korea, Bangladesh, India, Taiwan, and Indonesia. The 31st MELTA International took place from 26th to 27th August 2023 with the theme From the Ground-up: Dreams and Realities of English Language Education. The main conference was preceded by online pre-conference competitions on 19 August 2023. This conference also marks an initiative to listen to, consolidate and present the voices and experiences of practitioners on the ground to policy maker.

#### **PRE CONFERENCE**

















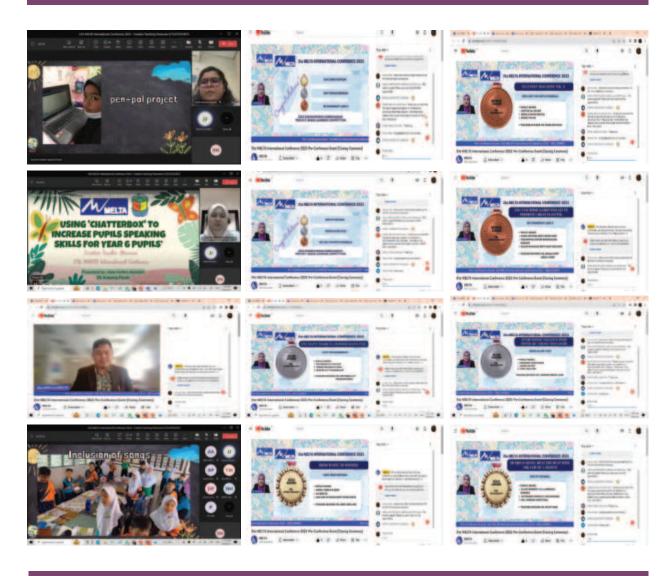








#### **CREATIVE TEACHER SHOWCASE**



#### **MELTA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2023**















### **ASSOCIATES' DINNER**

























### MS. JANE CHAI EN-HUEY

## DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

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MELTA SIG READ, MELTA PAHANG CHAPTER, REGENT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL & NCWO PAHANG

MELTA Pahang Chapter in collaboration with Pahang National Council of Women's Organisations (NCWO Pahang) & Regent International School Kuantan has successfully conducted the 'Fostering English Language through Rhymes' workshop. Focusing on reading; speaker - Madam Noorjahan Sultan the RE.AD SIG Leader who is also the author of award-winning Let's Rhyme Module shared her innovative strategies to make reading more fun and meaningful. The participants discovered how Let's Rhyme Module helps students acquire language with a systematic approach and learning activities. Dato Sri Maznah Mazlan, as the Chairman of NCWO Pahang and the Deputy President of the National NCWO was invited to share the role of women in empowering education, specifically English proficiency.









## MR. THURAIRAJA SUNMOKASUDRAM DIRECTOR OF CHAPTERS

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#### **DEPUTY DIRECTOR: MS. KASTURI MANIVANAN**

The MELTA Chapters Bureau administers activities in different parts of the country so that MELTA members can meet and carry out activities according to their own local needs, thus ensuring the dissemination of current and state-of-the-art knowledge and expertise. The bureau aims at reaching and extending support to all members of MELTA and educators at large, to uphold and expand professional and personal development in teaching, learning and usage of English language, at the same time contributing across the board to the advancements in education at all levels of society.

The presence of each chapter being an on-site team of educators is a position to effectively support professional activities for the betterment of educationists and community within the vicinity. The networking and collegiality is essential in working together to recognize common and localized goals and concerns in the field of English Language Teaching and Learning.

Each MELTA Chapter team comprises educators across the strata of education from kindergarten to primary, to secondary to tertiary and to universities collaborating and cooperating together to solve localized issues that run across their educational levels.

For the year 2023, we've had 10 Chapters carrying out 25 activities, both on-site and online activities. Some of the chapters established new committee set-ups and the transition towards the post-pandemic phase proved to be a little difficult in organizing programs but they have all moved forward successfully and efficiently. These activities were conducted with various structures ranging from sole chapter, inter-chapter collaborations and collaborations with external groups.

To all the dedicated and passionate Chapter teams, MELTA extends its heartfelt appreciation, it is indeed heartening to realize that someone somewhere had an opportunity to advance because of these committed teams. While excelling, MELTA is hoping for more chapters to be established so that we can reach further to the ELT fraternity around Malaysia.

## MELTA CHAPTER BUREAU COMMITTEE 2022-2023

**CHAPTER DIRECTOR** 

MR. THURAIRAJA SUNMOKASUDRAM

**DEPUTY C. DIRECTOR** 

MS KASTURI MANIVANAN

CHAPTER	CHAPTER LEADER	DEPUTY DIRECTORS	SECRETARY	TREASURER
PENANG	Dr Tarsame Singh	Asso Prof. Dr Mah Boon Yih	Mr Soh Po Teik	Mr Basil Jude Surin
KUALA Lumpur	Ms Gladys Francis Joseph	Mr Chuan Tiek Min	Ms Michelle Lim Pek Sim	Dr Grace Lim Jia Wei
PAHANG	Ms Noorjahan Sultan	Ms Noor Azlinda Zainal Abidin	Ms Laily Zainal	Ms Suhailah Hj Mukhtar
PERAK	Ms Farini Bt Ahmad Fadil	Ms Juliana Bt Shaharum	Ms Evelyn Lim Meei Suey	Ms Norazlin Bt Abd Aziz
TERENGGANU	Dr Azza Jauhar Bt Ahmad Tajuddin	Ms Norhayati Bt Husin	Ms Nur Salina Bt Ismail	Ms Salma Bt Abd Razak
KELANTAN	Mr Arifuddin B Abdullah	Ms Liyana Bt Ahmad Afif	Mr Mohamad Faiz B Mohamad Shakri	Ms Nurul Iman Bt Ahmad Bukhari
KUCHING	Ms Magdeline Muuk	Ms Yusimah Yusop	Mr Wong Yii Hui	Mr Yong Jik Kam
NEGERI Sembilan	Dr. Zubaidah Bibi Bt Mobarak Ali	Ms Yasmine Liong Pui Kwan	Dr. Sharmini Siva Vikaraman	Dr. Sharmini Siva Vikaraman
TAWAU	Ms Jen Renita Bt Mappah	Ms Mirna Daniati Bt Idris	Ms Nirmaladevi A/p Kandasamy	Ms Nur Aqilah Raihanah Bt Aripin
KOTA Kinabalu	Ms Ease Chang Yee Shee	Ms Shubashini A/p Suppiah	Mr. Harold Ong Wei Ann	Ms Siti Aishah Bt Mazlan
SANDAKAN	Ms Santhi Ramanujam Gopala Krishnan	Ms Stefanie K. Nirmal	Ms Dominique Cashine Chia	Ms Monica Loh Pui Ling
MELAKA	Ms Jai Shree A/p Bipnchandra	Ms Daphne Rosaline A/p Henry Thomas	Mr. P.M. Nagarajan Pillai A/p Murgapan	Ms Norin Norain Bt Zulkifli Anthony

**MELTA ANNUAL 32** 

## DR. WARID MIHAT

## DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGIES

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The year 2023 marks the continuation of various activities pertaining to teaching and learning in the post pandemic. Among the activities highlighted under this bureau are:

- 1. Website Setup for the 31st MELTA International Conference: The team provided technical assistance in setting up the website for the 31st MELTA International Conference. This included website design, content creation, and ensuring smooth user navigation.
- 2. Pre-Conference Event Management: Our team was instrumental in setting up rooms for pre-conference events. This involved coordinating with venue staff, setting up necessary technology, and ensuring a comfortable environment for attendees.
- 3. Webinar Assistance for Chapters: We extended our support to various Chapters in conducting their Webinars. Our role involved providing technical guidance, troubleshooting issues, and ensuring a seamless virtual experience for all participants.
- 4. Webinar Organization: Our team organised two Webinars besides assisting others. These events were well-received, with participants praising the informative content and smooth execution.

Our team plans to continue using StreamYard and Microsoft accounts for our operations. These platforms have proven to be reliable and efficient for our needs. Maintaining the use of these tools will allow us to continue delivering high-quality service and support in our future endeavours. This report reflects our commitment to leveraging technology to enhance our operations and services. We look forward to another productive year ahead.











# DR. AZLEENA MOHAMAD DIRECTOR OF TRAINING

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2023 was a great year for the Training Bureau as the team was actively involved in conducting a workshop on material adaptation for ESL teachers/educators. With EdPuzzle as our partner, training was conducted at five (5) locations around the nation.

The 6 hours workshop kicks off with an engaging ice-breaking activity, fostering a sense of connection and collaboration among participants. Subsequently, the session delves into a comprehensive exploration of participants' experiences in adapting educational materials. An initial introduction to EdPuzzle provides context before participants are guided through EdPuzzle Levels 1, 2, and Coach 2022-2023, which equip them with a fundamental understanding of the platform's features and capabilities.

Upon successful completion of these three levels, participants actively apply their newfound knowledge in a hands-on activity. During this segment, participants leverage EdPuzzle to craft interactive activities within a lesson, enhancing their practical understanding of the platform's instructional potential.













# PARTNERSHIPS

One of the main reasons for MELTA's resilience and sustainability as an ELT organisation for 61 years, is its strategy of engaging in strategic partnerships. The MELTA partnership agenda is categorised into national and international partnerships.

- International Institutions & Associations
- National Institutions & Corporations
- Ministry of Education
- Consultancy
- Projects

MELTA as an NGO, collaborates with private and public organisations in general and specific areas in English Language Education with the aim of realizing its vision in elevating the standard of English language teaching, joint programmes and projects have been successfully conducted with these organisations. New and upcoming programmes and projects are being negotiated for the benefits of learners, teachers and practitioners in the field of English Language Education in Malaysia.

## **NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS

### **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

 MELTA has reciprocal agreements to support cross-national professional development and research with the following 15 international organisations.































- Thailand TESOL
- ETA-ROC Taiwan
- JACET, Japan
- 21st Century China
- JALT, Japan
- ELTAM, Mongolia
- KOTESOL, South Korea
- ELTAI, India
- BELTA Bangladesh
- CamTESOL, Cambodia
- KATE, South Korea
- TEFLIN, Indonesia
- PALT, Philippines
- RELC, Singapor
- NELTA, Nepal



# **MELTA PRESIDENT**

ASSOC, PROF, RAMESH NAIR



I had the pleasure of representing MELTA as a featured speaker at the 27th NELTA International Conference, 17-19 February 2023, in Kathmandu. This was MELTA's first participation at this conference after the presidents of both associations signed an MoU, marking the beginning of relations between the two associations.

Anchored to the conference theme "Reimagining Language Pedagogy: Wellbeing and Innovation Perspectives", I presented a paper titled "ELT associations as agents of teacher empowerment". In this paper, I shared the experiences of MELTA in supporting the professional development of its members. The presentation also drew attention to the role of the association in foregrounding its members as ELT experts who possess the skills to address challenges and contribute practical ideas for effective teaching and learning.

I take this opportunity to record my sincere thanks to NELTA President, Motikala Subba Dewan, and her entire committee for their warm hospitality. I am confident that our partnership with NELTA will provide more opportunities for members of both associations.











# MELTA VICE PRESIDENT 2

## DR. PREMALATHA NAIR



It was overwhelming to be part of the delegates at the NELTA conference which was held in February 2023. The 27th NELTA international conference which took place in Lalitpul Nepal was truly insightful in terms of the presentations from various countries. The theme 'Reimagining Language Pedagogy: Wellbeing & Innovation Perspective' brought together many scholars and intellectuals narrating their views, thoughts and ideas on best practices with regards to the advancement of the English language. It was indeed an honour to be able to present my paper at the conference.











# MELTA MEMBER | IIUM

## ASST. PROF. AINUL AZMIN MD ZAMIN



The 12th Mongolia TESOL International Conference 2023 was conducted at the Mongolian National University of Education, Ulaanbaatar from the 22 to 24th September 2023. The aim of the conference was to provide an opportunity for secondary and university English language teachers to reflect on theories and practice, teaching experiences, learn about the use of modern trends in ELT, develop personal professional skills and competencies, exchange classroom teaching and learning experiences and set up networking with each other.

The conference was organized by the English Language Teachers' Association of Mongolia (ELTAM) and Mongolia TESOL. With their partners like MELTA, KOTESOL and 21st Century English Education from China, the event was supported by the Ministry of Education and Science along with sponsorships from:

- United States Department of State
- Mongolian National University of Education
- The University of the Humanities, Mongolia
- English for Specific Purposes Foundation, Mongolia
- Institute of Education and Training, Mongolia



### Conference Presentations

The conference kicked-off with the opening ceremony on 22nd September 2023 with the keynote address delivered by Dr Greg Kessler, Ohio University, USA. The keynote was entitled "TESOL Technology and Innovation". The opening day ended with a plenary session on the 30th Anniversary of the English Department, Bolormaa Batsuuri, Mongolia National University of Education.

The second day witnessed concurrent sessions that started with featured speakers from Korea TESOL, MELTA Malaysia and Macao. I had the privilege of presenting as the first featured speaker for the day, focusing on the title "Innovative Pedagogy in ESP classrooms: From Campus to Community". Several parallel sessions included speakers from the USA, Brazil, Japan, China, United Kingdom, Russia along with teachers from various provinces in Mongolia. Some of the titles included topics on creativity in English classroom, implicit and explicit feedback in SLA, using interactive online tools to enhance vocabulary resources, expectations and forming intercultural competence of pre-service language teachers in Mongolia. Other areas, like assessments in language teaching, improving speaking skills for tourism and teachers at the postgraduate level, also attracted the audience. The conference also held exhibitions of booths, showcasing posters and works from various universities. A total of 29 speakers presented on the second day.

On September 23, 2023, the last day of the conference, speakers from different countries such as the USA, Egypt, and China, as well as various regions of Mongolia, gave their presentations. The main theme was the teaching of English in science and technology-related fields. Some of the speakers were teachers in universities and institutes of science and technology, while others were school teachers. There were 29 presentations in total on the final day.











# **MELTA SECRETARY**

## DR. SZARMILAA DEWIE KRISHNAN



### Introduction

The 27th NELTA International Conference held from February 17 to 19, 2023, in Lalitpur, Nepal, was a significant gathering of educators, researchers, and professionals from around the globe. The theme, "Reimagining Language Pedagogy: Wellbeing and Innovation Perspectives," set the stage for discussions on the evolving landscape of language education.

### Key Events

### 1. Pre-event (Dinner):

A warm welcome was extended to all associate partners, including the committee members, at a pre-event dinner held at a local hotel. This served as a delightful icebreaker and an opportunity for networking among the conference delegates and organising committee.

### 2. Conference Sessions:

The conference featured a diverse range of sessions, workshops, and keynote addresses exploring the intersection of language pedagogy, wellbeing, and innovation. Renowned speakers from the field shared their insights and research findings, fostering a rich exchange of ideas.

### 3. Tour-trips: Bhaktapur and Durbar Square:

Delegates had the opportunity to explore the cultural heritage of Nepal through organized tour-trips to Bhaktapur and Durbar Square. These excursions provided a glimpse into the historical and artistic aspects of the region, adding a unique cultural dimension to the conference experience.

### 4. Local Cuisine:

One of the highlights of the conference was the exclusively local Nepal vegetarian cuisine served during meals. Participants were treated to a gastronomic journey, experiencing the rich flavours of Nepalese dishes. The meals not only satisfied culinary preferences but also offered a cultural immersion.

### 5. Special Participation:

As a representative of MELTA (Malaysian English Language Teaching Association), I had the honour of being one of the speakers at the conference. Accompanied by the President and Vice-President of MELTA, we engaged in discussions, shared our perspectives, and contributed to the global dialogue on language pedagogy.

### Conclusion:

The 27th NELTA International Conference was a memorable educational plethora, emphasizing the interconnectedness of language pedagogy, wellbeing, and innovation. The event provided a platform for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and cultural appreciation. The combination of insightful sessions, cultural excursions, and the warmth of Nepalese hospitality made this conference a truly enriching experience. We extend our gratitude to NELTA and look forward to future collaborations in advancing language education globally.













# **MELTA SECRETARY**

## DR. SZARMILAA DEWIE KRISHNAN



The collaboration with the English Language Teachers' Association of India (ELTAI) during the 17th International and 53rd Annual Conference held from October 11 to 14, 2023, at the esteemed Uttaranchal University in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, India, proved to be an enriching experience. The overarching theme, "English for Global Citizenship: Multiple Teaching Acts and Learning Experiences," set the stage for an intellectually stimulating gathering.

This association offered an expansive platform, fostering exposure and facilitating meaningful collaborations with the proficient organizers. The sojourn not only kindled interactions with individuals harboring extraordinary ideas but also ushered in a paradigm shift in my understanding of global citizenship. Engaging with fellow attendees provided insightful narratives that underscored the essence of global citizenship.

The conference boasted an impressive attendance of approximately 800 delegates, comprising English educators from diverse educational levels and researchers within the field, both from India and abroad. The distinguished lineup of main speakers and resource persons, including luminaries from the realm of English studies worldwide, elevated the conference to a zenith of scholarly discourse. It served as a nexus for exploring the multifaceted dimensions of global citizenship.

Undoubtedly, this conference stands out as a prominent chapter in the annals of my 2023 calendar. Meticulously designed to cater to the diverse needs of global participants, the event showcased my involvement as a Panelist in a riveting panel discussion, a Resource Person in an engaging workshop, and the anchor of a thought-provoking plenary session.

The hospitality extended by the hosts was nothing short of splendid, enveloping me in warmth from the moment of arrival until the culmination of the conference, including an immersive tour to Rishikesh and key attractions in Dehradun. The meticulous care exhibited by the organizing team, coupled with delectable cuisine that tantalized the taste buds, left an indelible mark. The amicable demeanor of the entire crew, coupled with their friendliness, created an environment conducive to collaboration and exchange of ideas. It was an honor to be introduced to the distinguished Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and Executive Board of Directors of Uttaranchal University.

The plenary and parallel sessions, orchestrated by revered speakers, reshaped my perceptions of language learning, unveiling new dimensions and diverse contexts. Every session attended was a riveting experience, providing an opportunity to interface with icons of the English language, whose insights left an indelible mark.

In essence, heartfelt commendations to the exceptional team for orchestrating a successful showcase of this prestigious conference on the global stage. Gratitude abounds for the enriching experience, which will undoubtedly be a cherished reminiscence until our paths converge once more in the next conference.



















# MELTA DIRECTOR OF CHAPTERS

## MR. THURAIRAJA SUNMOKASUDRAM



It was an honour and privilege to attend the distinguished international conference as a featured speaker on behalf of MELTA. It was a full international fledged event as there were hundreds of speakers and delegates from more than 40 countries across the world, all sharing the platform to converse on the theme of the conference: Our Next Normal- Resilience Building and Future-Ready ELT. The host provided excellent hospitality and highlighted us, the partners during the opening ceremony and throughout the conference, while the featured presentation slot was filled with thought-provoking discussions. Thank you MELTA for the opportunity to be an ambassador, not only for the association but also as a representative for Malaysia in this international event. Definitely a milestone in my learning curve.















# MELTA DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGIES

DR. WARID BIN MIHAT



The 69th TEFLIN and 3rd EEIC Hybrid Conference 2023, which took place from September 22 to 24, emerged as a distinctive platform fostering global discourse on English language teaching and educational innovation. Serving as a representative of the Malaysian English Language Teaching Association (MELTA), I consider myself fortunate to have actively participated in the virtual discussions, with a specific focus on the integration of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) within the framework of Malaysia's educational roadmap. The presentation not only underscored the potential impact of this integration on language proficiency but also delved into the adaptability of assessment practices and the crucial alignment with international standards. The enriching three-day conference proved invaluable, allowing me to acquire new knowledge, engage in continuous learning, and notably elevate MELTA's visibility on the global stage. Heartfelt congratulations to TEFLIN for the impeccable organization of this event. I extend my gratitude and enthusiastically affirm my commitment to attending the onsite TEFLIN conference in 2024, driven by the eagerness to contribute further to collaborative initiatives aimed at advancing English language education.













# MELTA ASSISTANT SECRETARY

PROF. DR. SIVABALA NAIDU



This was my first presentation after the pandemic and armed with zest and enthusiasm I represented the Malaysian English Language Teaching Association at the 42nd Thailand TESOL International Conference 2023, which was held on January 27 – 28, 2023 at the Ambassador Hotel Bangkok, Thailand. The conference themes "ELT for the Future: Navigating the Possibilities" had attracted ELT practitioners from a variety of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary fields from around the globe.

The conference was indeed insightful, and I had the opportunity to capture insightful ELT ground-breaking research, pedagogies, materials, and innovations related to current endeavours. As a featured speaker at the event, I believe that my presentation on "metacognitive reading strategies employed by a selected group of ESL students in comprehension" had also contributed to the success of the annual conference.



# MELTA MEMBER SENIOR LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

# TEAC COMMENTS AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF TH

### DR. AZLIN ZAITI ZAINAL

The 62nd JACET International Convention was held over three days from 9.30am on Tuesday until 4.30p.m. on Thursday. During the opening ceremony, the plenary speakers and the invited speakers were introduced by the JACET President, Professor Masaki Oda. The plenary sessions were delivered by Professor Anne Burns of The University of New South Wales, Sydney and Associate Professor Dr Supong Tangkiengsirisin from Thammasat University, Thailand. They spoke on ways to collaborate in research, language teaching and testing. A total of nine invited speakers were there including myself. The other speakers are from Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, China, Thailand, Indonesia and Japan. My session was on Wednesday afternoon.

Apart from the parallel sessions, there were also workshops that focused on ways to enhance English language teaching and learning. I attended a workshop on publication conducted by the JACET Academic Publications Committee and it helped me to learn more about the JACET journal. The invited speakers were provided with accommodation for four nights from 28-31 August at the Edmont Metropolitan Hotel. It was not too far from the Suidobashi subway station, and we were given a smartcard to travel using the subway to get to the convention venue. Breakfast was provided during our stay at the hotel, and over breakfast was a great time to chat and network with the other invited speakers staying at the hotel.

During the convention I also had the chance to try a variety of Japanese food thanks to the organizing committee. Lunch consisted of bento meals and on Tuesday night, the organizer hosted a dinner for all the invited speakers at a Japanese restaurant near our hotel. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know the other speakers and the organizing committee. There was also a networking session for the conference participants on Wednesday evening.

On the whole, I had a wonderful time, and I am grateful to MELTA for giving me the opportunity to present my paper at the convention.















# MELTA MEMBER SENIOR LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF Nottingham





Dr. Too Wei Keong, a life member of MELTA, membership number LM100, represented MELTA at the 2023 Philippines Association of Language Teaching (PALT) International Conference at Baguio Teacher's Camp, Baguio, Philippines from 7 to 9 December 2023. His presented his featured presentation, "Translanguaging in ESL and EFL Classroom: Teacher and Teacher Trainer's Belief and Practice, to 300 conference participants. He also helped MELTA convey its interests in continuing collaboration in future events and research with the presented MELTA international partners, such as ThaiTESOL, PALT and KOTESOL.

During the convention I also had the chance to try a variety of Japanese food thanks to the organizing committee. Lunch consisted of bento meals and on Tuesday night, the organizer hosted a dinner for all the invited speakers at a Japanese restaurant near our hotel. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know the other speakers and the organizing committee. There was also a networking session for the conference participants on Wednesday evening.

On the whole, I had a wonderful time, and I am grateful to MELTA for giving me the opportunity to present my paper at the convention.









# **MELTA | TREASURER**

DR. TEH PEI LING



The 2023/32nd International Symposium and Book Fair on English Language Teaching and Learning was held at Taipei city, Taiwan from 10 to 12 November 2023. The theme of the convention was: "Innovation, Diversity, and Sustainability in English Language Teaching and Learning." I felt honoured to share my paper with the conference delegates from over the world. The conference had featured numerous thought provoking sharings. I have made some new friends too and was particularly impressed by some innovative sharings by them. A special thanks to MELTA for granting me the opportunity to have a seamless and enjoyable learning experience.











# MELTA PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT 2

# ASSOC. PROF. RAMESH NAIR DR. PREMALATHA NAIR



To mark the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative, the China Daily extended the invitation to MELTA to attend the Belt and Road Youth English Speaking Competition and the B&R Forum/Meeting held from 12 – 17 October, 2023 in Shanghai and Beijing China. It was indeed a fruitful visit where MELTA was able to make connections and share ideas across various countries that share the same interests in upskilling the English language besides promoting people-to-people exchanges, strengthening international collaboration in language education and to improve the effectiveness of intercultural communication. A total of thirty two representatives from various countries took part at the forum.















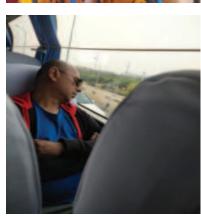














## PN. SALMA ABDUL RAZAK

# DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROJECTS

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The main event handled by this bureau was the Gunakumaran Subramaniam Project-Based Learning (GS PBL) competition, which involved 26 schools in Malaysia.

This event was conducted online via Streamyard on 19th August 2023 (Saturday) in conjunction with the 31st MELTA International Conference 2023.

The three dedicated moderators were TESL trainee teachers from IPGM Kampus Dato' Razali Ismail.

ConQuest: The Great Speech Challenge 2023 was organised by Quest International University (QIU) in collaboration with MELTA.

The bureau was responsible for providing two esteemed judges for the final round on 23rd September 2023 (Saturday) at QIU, Perak.

The judges were:

Mr. Thurairaja Sunmokasudram Ms. Mona Liana binti Markon





Pre-Conference Event: Gunakumaran Subramaniam Project-Based Learning on 19th August 2023



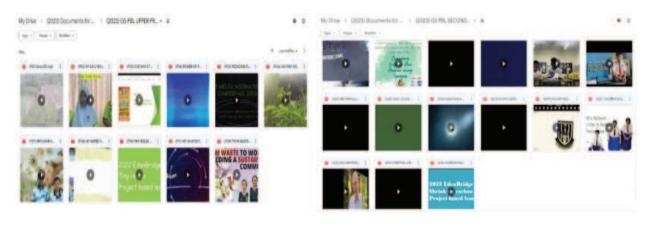
Speech and feedback by the Head Judge, Ms. Chandrakala V. Raman (Former Director of Chapters MELTA Exco)







Gunakumaran Subramaniam PBL Competition Online via Streamyard



Collection of 15 PBL Videos (Secondary School Category) & 11 PBL Videos (Upper Primary School Category)

### List of Winning Teams according to categories







# Winners, Upper Primary Category

### Gold

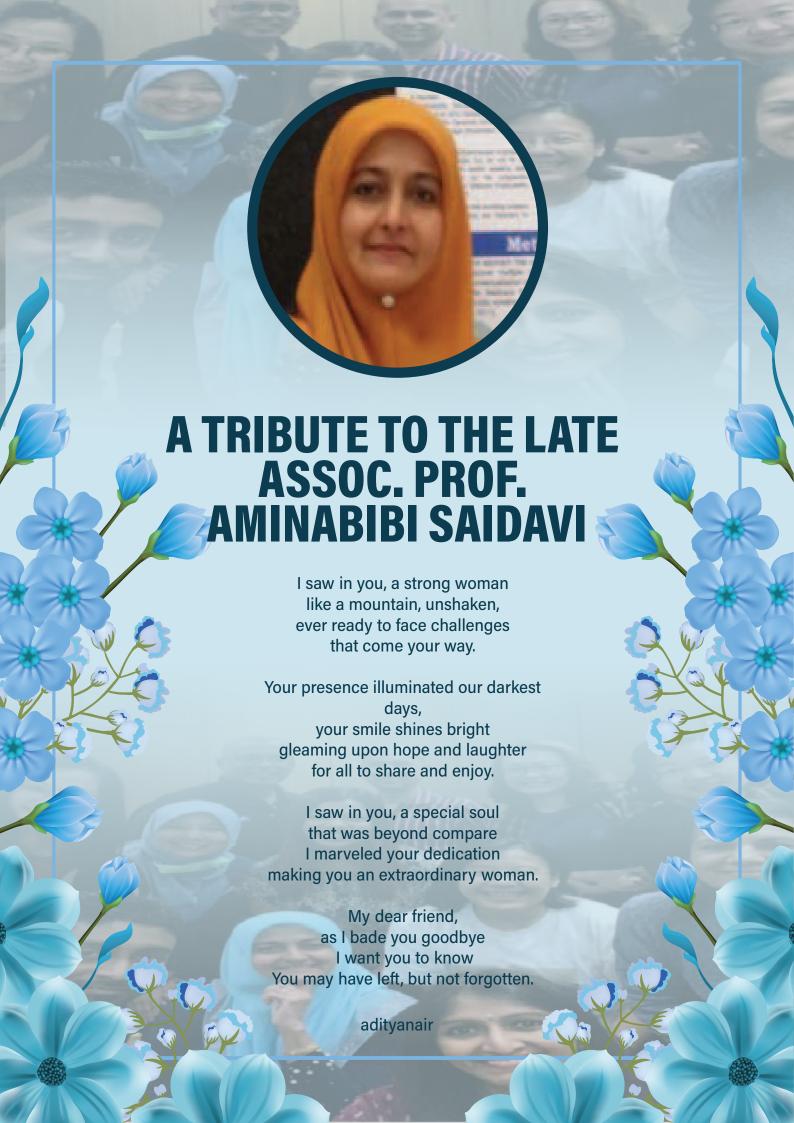
- SJKC New Kopisan, Perak
- Angel Yong Kai Qing, Au Qiao Qi, Nur Aimi Fathihah Binti Mohd Soffa, Teacher Advisor: Ms. Shee Yuen Ling

### Silver

- · SJKT Somasundram, Kedah
- Puvanaan A/L Vijayan, Thamil Selvan A/L Siva, Roshini A/P Thanabalan, Teacher Advisor: Ms. Prithibaa A/P Gnanasekaren

### Bronze

- SK Changkat Lada 3, Perak
- Hawa Insyirah Binti Mohd Hairi, Muhammad Ammar Ridhwan Bin Norazni, Walin Wahaada Binti Wan Mustaffa, Teacher Advisor: Ms. Nadiah Binti Abdul Kadir



# NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLASSROOM BASED ASSESSMENT {NCCBA 2023}

### By Zakiah binti Zain

The topic that I presented in National Conference on Classroom -Based Assessment {NCCBA 2023} showcase was Integrating ICT to Enhance Reading Skills In The Classroom-Based Assessments. This is about me.

My name is Zakiah binti Zain. I was born on 18th April 1978. I am 45 years old. I am the fifth child of 5 siblings. My father was a teacher and my mother was a housewife. Both of my parents are passed away. I was born in Kedah. My primary school was Sekolah Kebangsaan Wan Abdul Samad. My secondary school were Maktab Mahmud Alor Setar and Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Pokok Sena.

I studied at Maktab Perguruan Sultan Abdul Halim in Pengajian Inggeris and Pendidikan Moral before. Then I furthered my study at Universiti Teknologi Mara Shah Alam Selangor in TESL Course. I am an experienced English teacher. My first school was SK Jengka 7 located in the Maran district of Pahang in 2005. Then I went to Sekolah Kebangsaan Maran and my last school in Pahang was Sekolah Kebangsaan Kampung New Zealand. When I was in Pahang, I taught in three schools in 5 years.

Then my first school in Selangor was Sekolah Kebangsaan Seksyen 7 Shah Alam. Then I moved to Sekolah Kebangsaan Shah Alam Seksyen 16. I am teaching at Sekolah Kebangsaan Puncak Perdana, Shah Alam Selangor since 2018. It is under PPD Petaling Perdana and Jabatan Pendidikan Negeri Selangor.

I am an experienced English teacher. I am teaching at Sekolah Kebangsaan Puncak Perdana, Shah Alam Selangor. I am a passionate professional with 19 years experience in the teaching career at the esteemed National Primary School. I am also the teacher who is trying to further develop myself in many areas. I coached my students in the HIPPO 2022 competition where one of my students competed successfully at the southeast Asia Level in the Google Meet. I am also the main trainer of PPD Petaling Perdana since 2022 until now and also HIP Coordinator 2020 until 2022. In the Year 2022 my school succeeded in getting HIP Level 4 where my school was awarded a certificate and award. I am also a Choral Speaking and English Sketch coach at my school. Through my years of service, I am a role model for my students. I am also a co-teacher to my fellow countryman, Sasirekha a/p Kandasamy, where she is a presenter on a topic Integrating ICT to enhance Speaking skills in the Classroom-Based Assessments in NCCBA showcase.

The activities that I did in the showcase in the NCCBA 2023 was stated here. In this competition I have tried my best to carry out the activities by preparing the materials to present. I choose this title because I teach students in urban school and this activity I often use in school when teaching. It is very effective when many of my students can read and speak well.

In this contest I tell the strategies and techniques I use when teaching my students. For example, I tell the students to make a bookboard where the students need to make it individually and must provide a cardboard and need to google themselves for poems, songs or stories and pictures related to the title I give. Then the pupils must read in front of me while I correct their pronunciation and intonation.

While in class the students need to paste all the materials they bring and draw pictures related to the poems, songs or stories they bring. Before that the students will be taken to the computer lab where I teach the students how to search for materials and what to type so the students can print their pictures and materials at home. For students who do not have a computer, I instruct them to do it in pairs with a friend who has a computer and internet at home. In addition to that for group activities, I tell the students to find pictures and worksheets based on the TP that I share to each group. After the pictures are pasted the students will present in front of the class. So here indirectly the integrated skill that is speaking skill can be used here.

If the students are looking for worksheets then they will send me in the form of softcopy on Whats App and if I agree then I will print for them. In the class, they will answer these questions as a group and stick on the class wall for a week for each title so the students can record what their friends are doing.

I also once told my students to send me GCR street singing videos with the condition that the students must put the lyrics on the video. This is the way of applying the use of ICT in my reading skills.

Even though I only won the consolation prize, I still feel grateful and thankful to the organizers, ELTC {English Language Teaching Centre} of the Education Ministry, the Resources and Educational Technology Division {BSTP}, the Information Management Division {BPM} and the Teacher Professionalism Division {BPG} for organising the competition like this. Thanks a lot to Jabatan Pendidikan Negeri Selangor and PPD Petaling Perdana for giving me the opportunity to join this competition. This showcase competition gave me many memories and experiences where I got ideas from other participants. Hopefully I can join NCCBA showcase competition again next year. See you again NCCBA and thank you.

## **MEMORIES IN NCCBA >> HISTORIC MOMENTS**













## **MEMORIES IN NCCBA >> MY CERTIFICATES**









# HARNESSING TECHNOLOGY FOR EFFECTIVE ONLINE TEACHING: BEST PRACTICES AND STRATEGIES



The pandemic saw an acceleration in the use of technology in teaching. Technology in education is already in the Malaysia Education Blueprint (2013 - 2025) and the schools were adopting its use, albeit at a snail's pace. The closure of schools during the pandemic decided the rate of change as teachers had no choice but to rise to the challenge of being remote teachers.

This year at the National Conference of Classroom Based Assessment (NCCBA) Pn. Jasvinder Kaur representing Kuala Lumpur showcased the use of technology in teaching and learning in a secondary

school, focusing particularly on how formative assessment was carried out using digital tools in remote teaching. She introduced an effective feedback and assessment tool called 'PearDeck' which enables feedback and progress tracking. The aim of establishing a supportive and collaborative environment while guiding on Reflection & Self-Assessment could easily be achieved through effective usage of this tool.

The State Education Department, in encouraging Professional Learning Communities (PLC) during the pandemic, organized a Virtual Open Classroom for English language teachers in the country to 'sit' in Jasvinder Kaur's Form 5 class. This session presents to you how a remote learning lesson can be planned and executed successfully.

In conclusion, with this approach, Jasvinder Kaur clearly demonstrated how educators can have the power to turn their pedagogy mindset from teacher-led to student-centered lessons in remote teaching.

Here are some examples of features embedded in the remote teaching session for reference:-



Fig 1. Interactive slide using drag & drop



Fig 2. Students respond anonymously to encourage participation



Fig 3. Student providing real-time responses



Fig 4. Allows collaborative activity and peer review



## MELTA 2022-2024 IT ONLY TAKES A MOMENT, BUT THE PLEASURE LASTS FOR YEARS

It has been an honour to have served melta thorughout the years. A token of appreciation to all for their contribution, time and dedication.



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