

LATVIJAS ANĢĻU VALODAS SKOLOTĀJU ASOCIĀCIJA

The **Latvian Association of Teachers of English**

**LAVSA**  
**LATE**



RĪGAS IZGLĪTĪBAS UN  
INFORMATĪVI METODISKAIS  
CENTRS



Regional English Language  
Office for Central and  
Southeastern Europe



Embassy of the United  
States  
Riga, Latvia

**THE 15<sup>TH</sup> BALTIC IATEFL & LATE 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**“ELT FROM 5 TO 99”**

**Riga City Education and Information Centre (RIIMC)  
Kaņiera Street 15, LV-1063**

Riga, August **20-21, 2015**

Dear Conference Participants and Presenters,

This year LATE celebrates its 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary! We would not be able to have this year's conference without the generous support of the **Regional English Language Office for Central and Southeastern Europe** (Budapest), **US Embassy** (Riga) and **Education and Information Centre of Riga City**. We are very grateful indeed to them.

Besides we would like to express our gratitude to the following for their sponsorship, work and encouragement:

- **Education and Information Centre of Riga City** and **Signe Neimane** personally for the generous use of their premises and especially to **Sarmīte Katkeviča** for her tireless support
- Organisations (in alphabetical order) for sponsoring **presenters**:
  - **Express Publishing**: Steve Lever, Tatiana Ginzburg
  - **Oxford University Press**: Sally Farley, Dace Miška
  - **Pearson**: Robert Dean, Iveta Vitola
  - **The publishers in general for their continued support and donations of lottery prizes**
  - **Jānis Roze**: for providing the water

We would also like to thank the following people:

**Ligita Rubene** for the administrative work, name tags, participants lists etc. that is really boring but extremely important;

**Silvija Andernovics** for managing the resource centre, for always finding time to do all the necessary jobs and for maintaining email contacts with all concerned;

**Robert Buckmaster** for actively involving himself in the board work and for maintaining our website;

**Beāte Kaupasa** for an effort in intelligently putting together the conference programme, trying to make sure that everyone's wishes were catered for.

**The other members of the LATE Board** - **Nora Kalnača, Ingūna Melne, Inese Bugrija, Gaida Haritone, Ilona Ustinova, and Ilgars Ciprus** who have given so generously of their time and energy.

Everyone, who helped us to organize this professionally useful and informative event. We sincerely apologise to anybody we have forgotten.

We hope that you will benefit from this conference both professionally and personally, spending these two days with your colleagues, meeting old friends and making new friends and getting a good professional kick into the upcoming school year.

We wish you all a very enjoyable and inspiring conference!

Yours,  
**LATE board**

The 15th Baltic IATEFL & LATE 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference

**"ELT FROM 5 TO 99"**

Riga, August 20-21, 2015

Education and Information Centre of Riga City, Kaņiera iela 15

**NB!** Most of the talks and workshops are on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor:

Conference Hall accommodates up to 150 people, Rooms 101, 102, 103, 104 and 105 – 25.

We kindly ask you to keep in mind a second choice in case the room for your first choice is already crowded.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 20**

|   |  |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|
| <b>9:00 – 10:00 Registration</b>                    |  |                        |
| <b>10:00 – 10:10 Welcome and Conference Opening</b> |  | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>10:10 – 10:55 Plenary (45 min)</b>               |  |                        |
| <b>Matthew Thompson</b><br>US Embassy               | <b>Adventures in Teaching English</b><br>I will share my successes and failures teaching English in a rural town in Bulgaria for two years. In addition I will talk about how to make English language learning relevant to students and how the U.S. Embassy can help teachers.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>10:55 – 11:00 Break (5 min)</b>                  |  |                        |
| <b>11:00 – 11:10 (10 min)</b>                       |  |                        |
| <b>Dace Miška</b><br>Oxford University Press        | <b>News from the publisher</b>   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>11:10 – 12:10 Plenary (60 min)</b>               |  |                        |
| <b>Sally Farley</b><br>Oxford University Press      | <b>Working With Dyslexic Students in the English Language Classroom</b><br>Dyslexia is thought to affect about 10% of the population. This talk explores the issues affecting dyslexic students, especially in relation to language learning. We will look at the warning signs that often indicate that a child is dyslexic and examine the processing difficulties that lie behind them, including the role of the working memory.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>12:10 – 13:10 Lunch Break (1h)</b>               |  |                        |
| <b>13:10 – 13:20 (10 min)</b>                       |  |                        |
| <b>Iveta Vītola</b><br>Pearson                      | <b>News from the publisher</b>   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>13:20 – 14:20 Plenary (60 min)</b>               |  |                        |
| <b>Robert Dean</b><br>Pearson                       | <b>Culture and Language – There's More to it than Red Buses and Five O'clock tea!</b><br>Some say that it is not possible to fully appreciate a language without understanding the culture that gave rise to it. To what extent is this true? How should we deal with the issue of culture in the classroom? Is it relevant to focus on culture when the majority of English used in the world is between speakers of other languages? Answers to these questions and more will be covered in this light hearted look at some of the links between language and national identity. | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>14:20 – 14:25 Break (5 min)</b>                  |  |                        |
| <b>14:25 – 14:55 Presentation (30 min)</b>          |  |                        |
| <b>Ingūna Melne</b><br>Riga State Gymnasium<br>No 1 | <b>Professional Development Abroad</b><br>What about those 36 hours of professional development? Have you got yours? This is a presentation about professional development possibilities abroad but still at home. You might find some reasons why to try online courses provided by universities around the globe.  | <b>Conference Hall</b> |

|   |   |                        |
|---|---|------------------------|
| <b>14:55 – 15:00 Break (5 min)</b>  |   |                        |
| <b>15:00 – 15:55 Panel discussion (55 min)</b>  |   |                        |
| <b>Teaching Excellence and Achievement Programme Alumni</b>   | Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) programme is a 6 week US university based programme for practicing teachers and is sponsored by US State Department. It gives a great opportunity to gain new experience in the US and meet colleagues from all over the world. During this panel discussion teachers who have participated in the programme will share their experience in the US and ideas taken back home.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>15:55 – 16:00 Break (5 min)</b>  |   |                        |
| <b>16:00 – 17:00 Plenary (60 min)</b>   |   |                        |
| <b>Robert Dean Pearson</b>  | <b>Use and Choose the Right Word – Helping learners to help themselves</b><br>Some say that the best way to help learners to be independent in their acquisition of vocabulary is to teach them to deduce meaning from context. But is this enough? Does this tell them everything they need to know about a word in order to use it effectively? In this talk we will look at the role of dictionaries in vocabulary acquisition, and show that by becoming familiar with the features of a good learners' dictionary, students will gain the necessary tools to develop their vocabulary effectively and independently, as well as to enjoy success in exams.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>17:00 – 17:05 Break (5 min)</b>  |   |                        |
| <b>17:05 – 17:35 Presentations (30 min)</b>   |   |                        |
| <b>Vera Lapkovska</b><br>Grammar School of Nordic Languages   | <b>An Interactive Game to Develop Reading Skills</b><br>All children deserve a chance to learn to love reading. The main aim of NORDPLUS JUNIOR project 'Joyful Reading' (2013-2015) was to create a habit for young people aged 12 - 14 of reading books by using innovative technologies such as tablet computers, games and interactivity. Four schools from Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Sweden and RIAP Association from Lithuania set the objectives: to create a strong partnership and develop cooperation between schools; to promote reading; - to promote foreign language learning; - to develop an educational game according created scenarios; - to test educational game with direct target group – students from partners schools; - to integrate tested educational game into learning process; - to disseminate educational game to other schools in Nordic and Baltic countries<br>During the Project a real computer game based on a book 'Journey to the Center of the Earth' by <a href="#">Jules Verne</a> was designed and disseminated to schools in the Nordic and Baltic countries. The coordinator of the Project will share the ideas how the educational game might be integrated into modern learning process. | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>Irina Grinevska</b><br>Riga Secondary School Nr 34   | <b>Designing CLIL Programme for English and Science Integrated Learning for Grade 1 Students</b><br>The research was made to explore how to design English and science integrated learning programme. The Programme 1 for integrated English and science learning was designed and explored by means of lesson observation, field notes and expert interview. The disadvantages of the programme were defined and it was transferred into Programme 2.  | <b>105</b>             |
| <b>Baiba Svenča</b><br>Aizkraukle Regional Gymnasium  | <b>Educational Technology: Classroom Response Systems Kahoot and Quizizz</b><br>A quick look at two easy and free edtech tools for gathering student responses at the lesson. The most popular format of tasks is a multiple choice quiz prepared by the teacher. Students may use any device, including smartphones, tablets or laptops to give their answers.<br>Workshop participants are invited to bring their own devices (optional).   | <b>104</b>             |
| <b>David Barry</b><br>Access Development  | <b>Uber Teacher</b><br>A discussion on the Uber Teacher project to enable smart phone booking and payment of English teachers.  | <b>103</b>             |
| <b>Laura Katkeviča, Roberts Rožkalns, Jānis Zeimanis</b><br>Liepāja Rainis Secondary School No 6, Riga State Gymnasium No 1 | <b>Hands-on English for Real Life Skills</b><br>The world perception of adolescents has changed, as well as their way for receiving and treating new information, so language teaching goes hand in hand with developing a general set of competences applicable in all walks of life. The presentation will show how to use such apps as Google Hangout, Typorama, Wordeo, Interlude etc. to help your students building new competences through hands-on, real life learning experience.  | <b>102</b>             |
| <b>Inese Prūse</b><br>Riga School of Arts and Crafts  | <b>Alternative possibilities of using ICT in the Classroom</b><br>Being an active participant of Project CLICK – Technologies for Youngsters, I'd like to share some innovative and supportive ideas for vocational school teachers and learners who can take – up initiatives and solutions in education and youth work.<br>“Promoting the professional development of staff and youth workers (in ICT, education&pedagogic methodologies and tools) namely through  | <b>101</b>             |

|  |  |                        |
|--|--|------------------------|
|  | the development and production of didactic contents to be spread under open educational resources"/CLICK operational guidelines/<br>The use of ICT not only promotes young people's social inclusion and well-being through the stimulation of empowerment, initiative, participation and leadership but also fosters the assessment of important soft skills. |                        |
| <b>17:35 – 20:00 LATE Annual General Meeting / LATE welcome reception / Raffle</b> |  | <b>Conference Hall</b> |

## **FRIDAY, AUGUST 21**

|  |   |                        |
|--|---|------------------------|
| <b>9:00 – 10:00 Plenary (60 min)</b>   |   |                        |
| <b>Tatjana Kunda,<br/>Rita Kursīte</b><br>National Centre for Education (VISC) | The plenary talk will be dedicated to the discussion of the results of Year 12 Examination in English. The presentation will provide an insight into the current trends in students' performance and outlines directions for improving students' achievement. During the talk, we will also discuss the possibility of taking English language proficiency tests administered by international testing institutions as part of school-leaving examinations.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>10:00 – 10:05 Break (5 min)</b>   |   |                        |
| <b>10:05 – 11:05 Workshops (60 min)</b>  |   |                        |
| <b>Dace Miška</b><br>Oxford University Press                                   | <b>Bring Words Off the Page</b><br>Everyone knows that we learn a language easier if we are exposed to it regularly. However, most language learners avoid using a monolingual dictionary. This session will explore the tools that a monolingual learner's dictionary offers to learners for building vocabulary, understanding and using grammar appropriately, improving pronunciation and developing productive skills.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>Anna Radzihovska,<br/>Iveta Vītola</b><br>Pearson                           | <b>In the World of Fun with English</b><br>Imagine a powerful combination of the Disney stories and characters that young learners know and love with practical activities rooted in solid educational principles – join the workshop to get an insight how listening to stories, playing classroom games, singing songs and learning from the much-loved animated films of Disney/Pixar motivates children and help them to communicate in English.  | <b>104</b>             |
| <b>Robert Dean</b><br>Pearson  | <b>Speaking Personally: Developing the Speaking Skill</b><br>Why do we communicate in everyday life? What subskills do we need to communicate effectively? How can we transfer everyday life communication from the street to the classroom? This session will attempt to answer these questions through a highly practical selection of approaches and activities, and will consider what to do before, during, as well as after speaking. We will also look at some of the problems commonly encountered in speaking activities and suggest possible solutions. | <b>103</b>             |
| <b>Steve Lever</b><br>Express Publishing                                       | <b>Pathways to Literature</b><br>In literature, we are not only asked to observe the lives, worlds and values of others, but to reflect on our own. Therefore, the study of literature is arguably also the study of ourselves and the world we inhabit. We will look at how an organised approach to literature can teach students new skills in both language and thought.  | <b>102</b>             |
| <b>Tatiana Ginzburg</b><br>Express Publishing                                  | <b>Using Literature &amp; Drama in Primary Classroom</b><br>Today many a teacher bemoans the lack of interest in reading among students. At the same time, reading skills need to be taught even though doing it in an enjoyable way present a certain challenge. At the workshop, we'll be looking at the principles of teaching reading at an early stage and ways of introducing drama to bring text to life and engage learners. We will also do some drama activities to demonstrate that fun is very much part of language learning.                        | <b>101</b>             |
| <b>11:05 – 11:10 Break (5 min)</b>   |   |                        |
| <b>11:10 – 12:10 Workshops (60 min)</b>  |   |                        |
| <b>Sandra Kalniņa</b><br>University of Latvia                                  | <b>Literacy Practices for Promoting Higher Level Thinking</b><br>To develop and use high-level thinking skills, including critical thinking in new and increasingly complex situations benefits students' school experience and academic achievement. The session will provide the participants hands-on experience on using some strategies that help develop students' critical thinking skills. It will also introduce the Question-Answer relationships as a language for higher level thinking.  | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>Elina Banzina</b>   | <b>Help Your Students Sound Persuasive in English: Phonetic Tricks</b>  | <b>105</b>             |

|   |  |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|
| Stockholm School of Economics in Riga   | English teachers can help their students sound more persuasive and charismatic not only to win public speaking contests, but, more importantly, to excel in their future careers. Phonetically, persuasiveness is expressed differently in Latvian and English; this workshop will walk participants through the main phonetic differences and let everyone practice and test their persuasiveness with the help of hands-on exercises.  |                        |
| <b>Gaida Haritone</b><br>Zvejniekciema Secondary School<br><b>Iveta Vītola</b><br>Pearson | <b>Reading Pleasure for Young Learners</b><br>Language learned and practised in a story is memorable and provides a natural opportunity to copy language in context. Let's explore together the known as well as the new in this reading for pleasure workshop!  | <b>104</b>             |
| <b>Benjamin Mitrofan-Norris</b><br>International School of Language Excellence            | <b>The Freudian English Class</b><br>Psychology and ELT have long overlapped, and we've all used several 'pop-psychology' approaches to lessons. In this workshop, we'll explore how many of the real psychoanalytical techniques pioneered by Freud can not only be utilised in ESL classrooms to encourage fluency, but can also add fascinating, fun components to any lesson.  | <b>103</b>             |
| <b>Mara Dirba</b><br>European Educational Circle  | <b>Experiential Learning in the Classroom</b><br>Practical implementation of experiential learning in the classroom will be demonstrated. Short insight in the theoretical basis of experiential learning will be presented. The class will be constructed around the topic of developing entrepreneurial competences. This topic is one of the priorities of the EU programme ERASMUS+.   | <b>102</b>             |
| <b>Inta Augustāne, Jūlija Očeretnaja</b><br>Riga State Gymnasium No 3                     | <b>Let's Raise Entrepreneurs. Ideas for Business English Classroom</b><br>This workshop gives an insight into simple but effective ideas how to make Business English lessons diverse, exciting and useful. Based on the teachers' experience gained during the participation in the international project ' <b>Learning to do business in Europe through participating in innovation camps</b> ' the colleagues will be offered a variety of tasks aimed at the development of entrepreneurial skills.                                  | <b>101</b>             |
| <b>12:10 – 13:10 Lunch break (1h)</b>   |  |                        |
| <b>13:10 – 13:20 (10 min)</b>   |  |                        |
| <b>Tatiana Ginzburg</b><br>Express Publishing   | <b>News from the publisher</b>   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>13:20 – 14:20 Plenary (60 min)</b>   |  |                        |
| <b>Steve Lever</b><br>Express Publishing  | <b>Making the Right Noise</b><br>In this session we will be discussing control issues. The easiest way to keep students behaving well is to keep them busy, involved and focused and that it is easier to channel our students' energy than fight it. We will look at what help is available in terms of methodology and what this means in practical terms.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>14:20 – 14:25 Break (5 min)</b>  |  |                        |
| <b>14:25 – 14:55 Presentation (30 min)</b>  |  |                        |
| <b>Inga Saulīte-Bēniņa</b><br>Baltic Council for International Education                  | <b>IELTS and Cambridge Exams the Best Choice for All From 5-99</b><br>The latest news about IELTS and Cambridge exams in Latvia and world.   | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>14:55 – 15:00 Break (5 min)</b>  |  |                        |
| <b>15:00 – 16:00 Plenary (60 min)</b>   |  |                        |
| <b>Agnese Gromova-Ķūrena</b><br>Salacgrīva Secondary School                               | <b>Multisensory Strategies to Facilitate Students' With Special Needs Involvement</b><br>Inclusion is a current issue nowadays. Students with special needs (SEN) learn together with mainstream students which makes teachers' work rather challenging. The author has carried out a research during her teaching practice to find out which multisensory strategies facilitate SEN students' involvement in English lessons. The presentation is the dissemination of different visual, auditory, tactile and kinaesthetic activities. | <b>Conference Hall</b> |
| <b>16:00 – 16:15 Closing of the Conference / Certificates</b>                             |  |                        |
|   |  | <b>Conference Hall</b> |