

**TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative**



# TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative

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# TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative

## Message from the President:



### **Ms. Rana Khan, Assistant Professor, Canadian College Kuwait, Kuwait**

Dear TEFL Kuwait members and conference attendees,

Welcome to the second Fall Conference of the TEFL Kuwait Association. It is my pleasure to greet you at this event. TEFL Kuwait is a non-profit organization focused on providing its members with consistent opportunities for academic growth and professional development. The event will serve as a great platform to connect with others from around the world, providing opportunities for networking and learning from peers. TEFL Kuwait's journey has been remarkable, thanks to the support of our diverse and dynamic membership. Since our inception in March 2021 in Kuwait, we have recognized the need to make our organization more inclusive by involving the broader MENA region. With over 1500 members worldwide, we are proud to be the largest organization of our kind. Our community is made up of educators from a wide variety of backgrounds, creating a truly international and diverse group that represents a wide range of pedagogical perspectives.

We are incredibly grateful for the support received from our TEFL and TESOL Partners, TESOL Kuwait, KSAALT, TESOL Arabia, TESOL Morocco, TESOL Spain and TESOL Turkiye. How can we forget our colleagues at IATEFL and TESOL International whose consistent support throughout this journey has made it all possible. Their dedication and continued support have been invaluable. We believe that collaboration and teamwork will create a forum for knowledge sharing. As an organization, we are excited to offer this opportunity for all our members to share their expertise and experiences.

Additionally, I'd like to acknowledge the individuals who worked tirelessly to bring this event to life. A heartfelt thanks to Ms. Alison Koushki, President Elect; Ms. Oshin Danish, Conference Chair; Ms. Shannon Parks, Membership Chair; Mr. Abdulrahman Sulaiman, Membership Chair Elect; Mr. Albert Kurtishi, Treasurer and Sponsorship Chair; Newsletter Editor, Dr Nawal Mebitil; Tech Advisor, Dr Azzam Alobaid; our Members At large, Ms Selma AlQasri, Ms. Laya Moghadam, Dr. Mansor Ali Darazi and Ms. Shoboo Maktoobi. We also deeply appreciate our SIG Chairs for their contributions in shaping the content of this conference.

Looking forward to an exciting conference! See you there on 28<sup>th</sup> September and thank you all.

Best wishes,

Rana Khan, President, TEFL Kuwait

# TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative

## Message from the President Elect:



**Ms. Alison Larkin Koushki, Language Instructor/ English through the Arts,  
Kadir Has University School of Foreign languages, Turkey**

Dear teachers of the world,

Welcome to the TEFL Kuwait All Virtual International Fall Conference, Saturday, September 28, 2024, from 9 AM to 6 PM.

Collaboration is our ace card. We are TEFL Kuwait and partnering with us in this event we are proud to list:

- TESOL Kuwait
- TESOL Arabia
- KSAALT
- TESOL Turkiye
- TESOL Spain
- TESOL Morocco

TEFL Kuwait Special Interest Groups are ‘on fire.’ Here’s an example: TEFL Kuwait SIGS will be taking center stage, each featuring a ‘Grass Roots’ presenter from their membership, -- a journey to the center of SIG creativity, where new ideas are shaped and shared. The following SIGs and their facilitators will be enlightening us in this year’s TEFL Kuwait All Virtual International Fall Conference:

1. Non-Native English-Speaking Teachers, NNEST – Ms. Rana Khan
2. Neurolinguistics -- Ms. Anna Machura
3. Reall English Arts for Language and Life -- Ms. Tasneem Dalal
4. Special Education -- Mr. Tom Santo
5. English for Specific Purposes -- Dr. Anastasia Khawaja
6. Blended Learning -- Ms. Chadia Mansour

## **TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative**

7. Math -- Dr. Fatemah Al Muwaiziri
8. ELT Through Film -- Mr. Fayyaz Malik
9. Language Learning with Generative A.I. – Ms. Laya Moghadam
10. Student Forum for Innovative Research – Our Students

One thing I love about TEFL Kuwait – it's free, right in step with futurist predictions that education itself is going that way. Moreover, teachers need PD certificates; TEFL Kuwait provides them for all events, for free.

Founded on the eve of the pandemic, this was all a dream: global and Kuwait-based educators joining hearts and minds in TEFL Kuwait at a time when education was in a global tailspin. We took the risk, ventured into the storm, a fledgling organization flying against the elements with zero visibility. Glad we did!

Heartfelt thanks to presenters, participants and the visionary TEFL Kuwait leaders who have made the dream real, and best wishes for a wonderful Fall Conference!

Peace and light,

Alison Larkin Koushki  
President-Elect, TEFL Kuwait

# **TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative**

## **Message from the Membership Chair:**



**Ms. Shannon Parks, Senior Instructor, American University of Kuwait, Kuwait**

Dear Friends in TESOL and TEFL,

Welcome to our annual fall conference! As TEFL Kuwait's Membership Chair, I am excited to see so many passionate educators registered for this event. As we kick off this academic year, I want to emphasize the important role each of you plays in shaping the future of education around the world. This year, we will focus on innovation and collaboration as we face new challenges in education. Let's share our diverse experiences and inspire each other to creatively engage our students. I want to especially encourage each of you to join or start a Special Interest Group (SIG). Your talents and insights are indispensable and is what enriches our teaching community!

We hope you will enjoy the conference and carry a valuable experience with you.

Best wishes,  
Shannon Parks  
Membership Chair - TEFL Kuwait

# **TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative**

## **Message from the Conference Chair:**



**Ms. Oshin Danish, Senior Instructor, AlYamama University, Riyadh, KSA**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of TEFL Kuwait, I am honored and delighted to welcome you to TEFL Kuwait's Fall Conference 2024 – Language Teaching and Education to address 21st Century challenges in teaching. In this ever-changing world, the only constant is learning and here we learn. This year's conference aims to enlighten us with various techniques and strategies to address the challenges faced by teachers in the 21st century, as a call to action. With this virtual conference, we aspire to provide you with some of the best strategies possible to address these challenges. Your interests, presence and participation mean we're one step closer.

It has been a pleasure to be given the opportunity by Madam President – Ms. Rana Khan, to be a part of the TEFL Kuwait Committee and to be serving as the Conference Chair.

As proud partners of IATEFL, we at TEFL Kuwait welcome you.

Best wishes,  
Oshin Danish  
Conference Chair - TEFL Kuwait

# **TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative**

## **TEFL Kuwait Board Members, Special Interest Groups & TEFL/ TESOL Partners**

### **Board Members:**

President: Ms. Rana Khan

President Elect: Ms. Alison Larkin Koushki

Membership Chair: Ms. Shannon Parks

Conference Chair: Ms. Oshin Danish

Treasurer: Mr. Albert Kurtishi

Newsletter Editor: Dr. Nawal Mebitil

Technical Advisor: Dr. Azzam Esam Alobaid

Member At Large: Ms. Laya Moghadam

Member At Large: Dr. Mansoor Ali Darazi

Member At Large: Ms. Selma AlQasri

Member At Large: Ms. Shoboo Maktoobi

### **Special Interest Group Chairs:**

Blended Learning SIG: Dr. Chadia Mansour

ESP (English for Specific Purposes SIG: Dr. Anastasia Khawaja

NNEST (Non-Native English Speakers in TESOL) SIG: Ms. Rana Khan

REALL (Read English Actively for Language and Life Skills) : Ms. Tasneem Dalal

Special Education SIG: Mr. Thomas Santo

Neurolinguistics SIG: Ms. Anna Machura

Language learning with Generative AI SIG: Ms. Laya Moghadam

ELT Through Films SIG: Mr. Fayyaz Malik

Mathematics SIG: Dr. Fatma AlMuwaiziri

### **TESOL & TEFL Partners:**

Ms. Rana Khan: President, TEFL Kuwait

Dr. Reem AlQenai: President, TESOL Kuwait

Dr. Christine Coombe: President, TESOL Arabia

Dr. Lhoussine Qasseras: President, TESOL Morocco

Ms. Fatmah Azzam Ali: President, KSAALT

Ms. Sinem Atamsoy Kousar: Past President, Board Member, TESOL Turkiye

Ms. Annie Altamarino: External Liaison Officer, TESOL Spain

### **Conference Committee:**

Conference Chair: Ms. Oshin Danish

Co Conference Chairs: Ms. Yasmeen Rida

Co Conference Chairs: Ms. Selma AlQasri

Program Chair: Dr. Azzam Alobaid



# TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative

## Our Plenary Speakers:



### **Dr. Gabriela Kleckova, Past president TESOL International Association, USA**

Dr. Gabriela Kleckova, Ph.D. started her professional career as a lower secondary school English teacher. She currently chairs the Department of English at the Faculty of Education, University of West Bohemia, the Czech Republic where she also teaches second language teacher education courses to pre-service and in-service teachers. She frequently presents at national and international ELT conferences, conducts workshops for English language teachers, and provides her expertise to various educational and governmental institutions. Her professional interests include visual design of ELT materials, teacher education, innovation in education, and leadership. For TESOL's 50th anniversary, she was named one of 30 emerging leaders shaping the future of the profession. Gabriela Kleckova served as TESOL International Association president for 2021-2022.

### **Session Title & Abstract:** “Navigating the Dynamic Landscape: Adapting to Change in Second Language Teaching and Learning”

We live in a complex, disruptive, and fast-changing world. The field of English language teaching and learning is marked by omnipresent and rapid evolution. Moreover, language learners' needs constantly change. Amidst all this, we are often expected to innovate, perform our best, and align with the most recent educational trends. We mediate between an enormous number of demands of the profession and face the challenge of creating adequate language-learning opportunities for our learners. In this talk, I look at the current state of the field and discuss how, as individuals, we can navigate these dynamics and endure, safeguarding both our emotional and intellectual energy and our well-being.

# TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative

## Our Plenary Speakers:



### **Dr. Gabriel Díaz Maggioli, Past President, IATEFL, UK**

Dr. Gabriel Díaz Maggioli is an educator and researcher in language teaching and teacher education. With over 40 years of experience, he has been fortunate to contribute to the professional development of teachers in the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. Gabriel has authored numerous books and articles on language teaching methodologies, teacher leadership, and professional growth. He sat on the Board of Directors of the TESOL International Association (2006-2009) and was President of IATEFL (2020 - 2024). He is an Academic Advisor to the Institute of Education at Universidad ORT Uruguay. Gabriel's work is characterized by his commitment to empowering educators to become effective professionals, leaders, and advocates for their profession.

**Session Title & Abstract:** “What if there were an effective framework for language teaching?”

All over the world we hear complaints about students not learning English, despite the efforts of their teachers. In this presentation, I will explore six key concepts from general education that can empower language teachers in promoting their students' learning. Participants will learn about these six key factors for developing language lessons that promote active learning, student engagement, teacher mediation, and outstanding pedagogy. The six factors focus on students' various emerging learning needs and help teachers respond by teaching at the point of need.

# TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative

## Our Plenary Speakers:



### **Dr. Youcef Hdouch, Professor of Linguistics & Discourse Analysis, Ibn Tufail University, Morocco**

Hdouch Youcef is a professor of linguistics and discourse analysis. Currently, he is the Head of the Department of English Studies, based at the Faculty of Languages, Letters and Arts, Ibn Tofail University, Kenitra, Morocco. He is also the coordinator of the research team on discourse analysis of the laboratory Language and Society. He is also a member of the Educational and Islamic Sciences Studies, a research team of the Danish-Arab Academy. As a researcher, he is interested in the multidimensional functions of language: structural, social, political. He is the author of many books and articles on Amazigh phonology, and political and advertising discourses. He has participated in the conception and coordination of many Tempus and ERASMUS PLUS projects: SWING, PACES, INSIDE, Dial@angués. Currently, he is the coordinator of Virtual Tabadul, an exchange program with Florida International University, funded by the Stevens Initiative and sponsored by the U.S State Department.

### **Session Title & Abstract:** “Virtual Tabadul: Creating Language-learning Community through Virtual Reality”

My presentation describes a multi-institution project that explains the design and development of Virtual Tabadul, an Arabic and English foreign language exchange program amongst 1,200 U.S. and Middle East and North Africa (MENA) college-aged youth over a three-year period, utilizing the latest theoretical and empirical advancements in the fields of applied linguistics to maximize second language acquisition. We did so by embedding virtual exchange in virtual reality spaces for Arabic and English, following a task-based language teaching approach. The exchange program is a unique experience that showcases how we designed and developing a new method to help those working at the pedagogical and technological edges of virtual exchange to bridge obstacles to innovation.

# **TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024 – A Joint Initiative**

## **Our Plenary Speakers:**



**Dr. Alice Savage, Teacher Trainer, ELT Writer, TESOL Teacher, at Lone Star College North Harris in Houston, Texas.**

Dr. Alice Savage has over 30 years of experience in ELT. The author of several multi-skilled, reading, and writing coursebooks, she has also branched out to more creative endeavors, including one-act plays for English learners, extensive reading novels, and teacher support books. Alice holds an MA in English language teaching from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont, and she teaches ESOL at Lone Star College North Harris in Houston, Texas.

### **Session Title & Abstract: Using Drama in the Classroom**

Drama offers an opportunity to simplify the complex dynamics of real conversations. There is engaging content in the story line, useful vocabulary in fixed expressions, and rich pronunciation opportunities in character motivation. The presenter taps into all three with activities for using scripts and ideas for writing original material.

**TEFL Kuwait Fall Conference 2024**

**Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> September**

**9.00 am - 5pm Virtually on Zoom**

*Note that the time slots are in Kuwait time. To find out what time they are in your time zone, please go to <https://www.timeanddate.com/>\**

<p><b>9:00 AM</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Zoom Room Opens</b></p>					
<p><b>9:00-9:15</b> Welcome</p>	<p align="center"><b>Welcome: Main Room</b></p> <p align="center">TEFL Kuwait Presidents - Ms. Rana Khan and Ms. Alison Koushki TEFL Kuwait Conference Chair – Ms. Oshin Danish TEFL Kuwait Membership Chair Ms. Shannon Parks</p>					
<p><b>9.15 AM – 9.30 AM</b> TESOL/ TEFL Partners speak and welcome</p>	<p align="center">Dr. Reem AlQenaie -TESOL Kuwait, Dr. Christine Coombe - TESOL Arabia Ms. Fatmah Azam Ali - KSAALT, Ms. Sinem Atamsoy Kosar - TESOL Turkiye, Ms. Annie Altamirano - TESOL Spain, Dr. Lhoussine Qasserras - TESOL Morocco</p>					
<p><b>9:30-10:30</b> Plenary</p>	<p align="center"><i><b>Virtual Tabadul: Creating Language-Learning Community through Virtual Reality</b></i> <b>Dr. Youcef Hdouch</b></p>					
<p><b>10.30 AM – 11.00 AM</b> TESOL/TEFL Partner Session</p>	<p align="center"><b>Room 1</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Unlock the Science behind Reading with Effective Strategies for Grades 1-3</i></p> <p align="center"><b>TEFL Kuwait</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Room 2</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Integrating Storybird into the Writing Classes with Practical Implementation</i></p> <p align="center"><b>TEFL Kuwait</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Room 3</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Building Reflective Practice into our Routine</i></p> <p align="center"><b>TESOL Spain</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Room 4</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Using AI to Foster Critical Thinking and Problem- Solving Skills</i></p> <p align="center"><b>TESOL Kuwait</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Room 5</b></p> <p align="center"><i>The 6I Framework to Leverage GenAI in ELT Classrooms</i></p> <p align="center"><b>KSAALT</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Room 6</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Enhancing Academic Success: The Role of EAP Teachers in English Medium Programs</i></p> <p align="center"><b>TESOL Turkiye</b></p>
	<p align="center"><b>Ms. Iman Hamdan</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Ms Eda Sarac</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Ms. Teresa Bestwick</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Ms. Ann Newman</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Ms. Aisha Aslam</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Dr Erkan Arkin</b></p>

<b>11:00 AM- 11:15 AM</b>	<i>Coffee Break</i>				
<b>11.15 AM – 11.45 AM</b>  <b>SIG Featured Sessions</b>	<b>Room 1</b> <i>From Screen to Skill: Using Movie Subtitles to Improve LSRW – Proficiency - Ms. Maria Bhutto</i>				
	<b>Room 2</b> <i>Research Literacy for Language Teachers - Dr. Christine Coombe</i>				
	<b>Room 3</b> <i>Lessons with Substance: How Trauma-Informed Approaches in Addiction Medicine Can Shape the Classroom</i> <b>Dr Tom Santo Junior</b>				
	<b>Room 4</b> <i>Addressing the Quality of Education in Mathematics in Kuwait - Ms Moneerah Salem AlAzmi</i>				
	<b>Room 5</b> <i>AI Assisted Blended Instruction in Blended Learning -Dr. Marine Milad &amp; Ms. Fatema Fayeز</i>				
<b>11.45AM – 12.45 PM</b> <b>Plenary</b>	<i>Navigating the Dynamic Landscape: Adapting to Change in Second Language Teaching and Learning</i> <b>Dr. Gabriela Kleckova</b>				
<b>12:45 PM -1:15 PM</b> <b>TESOL/TEFL</b> <b>Partner Session</b>	<b>Room 1</b> <i>D&amp;I Policies Between Research and Practice: Implications for the Language Classroom</i> <b>TEFL Kuwait</b>	<b>Room 2</b> <i>AI in Language Learning Assessment: A Reflection</i> <b>TEFL Kuwait</b>	<b>Room 3</b> <i>Mental Illness: Subjectivity in Shahd Alshammari's Notes on the Flesh and Lauren Slater's Lying</i> <b>TESOL Kuwait</b>	<b>Room 4</b> <i>Tall Tales and Tiny Temperatures</i> <b>TESOL Spain</b>	<b>Room 5</b> <i>Teaching Leadership Through Language: How ELT Can Develop Future Global Leaders</i> <b>TESOL Morocco</b>

	<b>Mr. Ash Jibrin</b>	<b>Dr Rasha Abdulraheem</b>	<b>Ms Farah Al Yaqout</b>	<b>Mr. Harry Waters</b>	<b>Ms. Oumaima Ait Jiji</b>
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<b>1:15 PM- 1:45 PM</b>	<i>Coffee Break</i>				
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<b>1.45 PM – 2.15 PM</b>  <b>SIG Featured Sessions</b>	<b>Room 1</b> <i>Films &amp; Fluency: Video Based Approach - Dr. Said Mohammed Khan</i>				
	<b>Room 2</b> <i>Overcoming the Challenges in an ESL Classroom - Ms. Natasha Feghali</i>				
	<b>Room 3</b> <i>Enhancing Academic Writing Proficiency in the Age of AI- Ms. Banani Roy Chawdhary</i>				
	<b>Room 4</b> <i>Applying the Theory of Multiple Intelligences in the Learning and Teaching Process: A Guide for Teachers and Learners - Prof. Hammoudi Abdelhak &amp; Dr Houda Khabcheche</i>				
	<b>Room 5</b> <i>Cultivating Critical Thinkers Beyond AI in Education- Ms. Judy Wren &amp; Ms. Jennifer McCoy</i>				

<b>2.15 PM – 2.45 PM -</b>  <b>Concurrent sessions (TEFL/ TESOL Partners) 5 sessions</b>	<b>Room 1</b>	<b>Room 2</b>	<b>Room 3</b>	<b>Room 4</b>	<b>Room 5</b>
	<i>Curriculum Project: UNSDG #10: Reduce Inequality within and among Countries</i>	<i>Teacher Well-Being: Simple Hacks from an Enthusiastic Amateur</i>	<i>Gamification in ESL: Enhancing 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Skills</i>	<i>The Role of the Internet of Things in Mastering English Language</i>	<i>Joyful Lead-ins for Successful Classrooms</i>
	<b>TEFL Kuwait</b>	<b>TESOL Turkiye</b>	<b>TESOL Morocco</b>	<b>TESOL Arabia</b>	<b>TESOL Kuwait</b>

	<b>Dr. Maria Alejandra</b>	<b>Dr. Fatoş Uğur Eskiçirak</b>	<b>Dr. Lhoussine Qasserras</b>	<b>Dr. Mahmoud Sultan Nafa</b>	<b>Dr. Saud Buhamdi</b>
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2.45 PM – 3.15 PM	<b>Coffee Break</b>					
3.15 PM – 4.00 PM  Plenary	<b><i>Using Drama in the Classroom - Dr Alice Savage</i></b>					
4.00 PM – 4.30 PM - Concurrent sessions (TEFL/TESOL Partners) 6 sessions	<b>Room 1</b>  <i>Creating more Effective Classroom Materials</i>  <b>TESOL Spain</b>	<b>Room 2</b>  <i>Teacher Well-being &amp; Mindfulness: The Road to Successful Teaching Career</i>  <b>KSAALT</b>	<b>Room 3</b>  <i>Applying Hermeneutic Practices to English Language Teaching</i>  <b>KSAALT</b>	<b>Room 4</b>  <i>Language Learning in the Age of AI: The Essential Role of Social- Emotional Skills</i>  <b>TESOL Turkiye</b>	<b>Room 5</b>  <i>Differentiation: How to Teach Mixed-Ability Classes</i>  <b>TESOL Morocco</b>	<b>Room 6</b>  <i>Teacher Well-being Through Emotional Intelligence</i>  <b>TESOL Arabia</b>
	<b>Ms. Katherine Bilsborough</b>	<b>Ms. Fatmah A. Ali</b>	<b>Ms. Tamara Alfie</b>	<b>Ms. Beril Ayman Yücel</b>	<b>Mr. Ben-yamine Ouhri</b>	<b>Dr. Naziha Ali</b>
4.30 PM – 5.30 PM  Plenary	<b><i>What if There Were an Effective Framework for Language Teaching? Dr. Gabriel Diaz Maggioli</i></b>					
5.30 PM- 5.45 PM Closing	<b>Closing Remarks</b>					





## **Concurrent Sessions**

### **10:30 AM – 11:00 AM – TESOL/TEFL Partner Session**

#### **Room 1 (TEFL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Iman Hamdan

**Session Title:** Unlock the science behind reading with effective strategies for grades 1-3.

**Abstract:**

This session explores theoretical models like Scarborough's Reading Rope and practical approaches to phonemic awareness, phonics, and orthographic mapping. Empower students to become skilled readers by integrating research-based techniques into your classroom.

**Email:** eman.hamdan@aca.edu.kw

#### **Room 2 (TEFL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Eda Sarac

**Session Title:** Integrating storybird into the Writing Classes with Practical Implementation

**Abstract:** In this presentation, the speaker will talk about how to implement the application of storybird into the writing classes at the Preparatory School of Piri Reis University. The students have a real chance to practice and produce creative writing materials. In addition to that, I will display authentic students' material written by my learners.

**Email:** saraceda1923@gmail.com

#### **Room 3 (TESOL Spain)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Teresa Bestwick

**Session Title:** Building Reflective Practice into our Routine

**Abstract:** Although reflection is a core principle on teacher development courses, in our day-to-day practice we often don't give it as much explicit attention. In this practical session, we'll look at some easy-to-implement ideas for us to reflect on our own practice and to build reflection into our lessons as well.

**Email:** tesolspainpublications@gmail.com

#### **Room 4 (TESOL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Ann Newman (Past TESOL Kuwait President)

**Session Title:** Using AI to Foster Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills

**Abstract:** Artificial Intelligence enhances critical thinking and problem-solving skills in language learners. The session will explore incorporating AI-powered interactive exercises, introducing natural language processing (NLP) tools to analyze student-written essays or responses, using AI chatbots or virtual debate platforms, and assigning group projects to solve real-world language challenges.

**Email:** cherylannnewman@hotmail.com

### **Room 5 (KSAALT)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Aisha Aslam

**Session Title:** The 6I Framework to leverage GenAI in ELT Classrooms:

**Abstract:** The 6I Framework to leverage GenAI in ELT Classrooms: Students who use AI tutors with no safeguards may become over dependent on the tools and perform worse when access is removed (Bastani, Bastani, Sungu, Ge, Kabakçı, & Mariman, 2024). Hence, there is an immediate need to design and implement frameworks that could ensure ethical practices while leveraging GenAI tools in classrooms, without undermining learners' critical thinking and creativity. The innovative 6I Framework for integrating Generative AI in the classrooms is proposed to have filled the gap. This presentation links the effectiveness of GenAI with educational best practices, offering a roadmap for educators to leverage GenAI more ethically, unlocking its transformative potential. Bastani, H., Bastani, O., Sungu, A., Ge, H., Kabakçı, Ö., & Mariman, R. (2024). Generative AI can harm learning. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4895486>

**Email:** [ieltsnuggets@gmail.com](mailto:ieltsnuggets@gmail.com)

### **Room 6 (TESOL Turkiye)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Erkan Arkin

**Session Title:** Enhancing Academic Success: The Role of EAP Teachers in English Medium Programs

**Abstract:** This presentation explores the pivotal role of English for Academic Purposes (EAP) teachers in supporting content instructors in English medium programs. We will discuss effective collaboration strategies, innovative pedagogical approaches, and the impact of language support on academic success, addressing both challenges and opportunities in higher education.

**Email:** [erkarkin@gmail.com](mailto:erkarkin@gmail.com)

### **11:15 - 11:45 - SIG Featured Sessions**

#### **Room 1 (ELT Through Films)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Maria Bhutto

**Session Title:** From Screen to Skill: Using Movie Subtitles to Improve LSRW Proficiency

**Abstract:** Movie subtitles have great potential as a teaching tool. In a proper context, subtitles significantly enhance input in LSRW (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing) proficiency. This innovative approach integrates visual and auditory stimuli, offering an immersive experience that aids comprehension and fluency. Subtitles enable learners to synchronize spoken language with written text, enhancing listening skills by reinforcing word recognition and pronunciation. Additionally, reading proficiency improves as learners correlate dialogue with textual representation, expanding vocabulary and comprehension abilities. By bridging cinematic experiences with language learning objectives, transforms passive viewing into an active tool for skill development using movie subtitles effectively.

This presentation explores the incorporation of movie subtitles as a pedagogical tool in classroom settings through various interactive activities. It aims to provide primary teachers and high-school instructors with practical strategies and lesson plans to effectively utilize subtitles to foster language learning. The session will combine theoretical insights with hands-on demonstrations of how to adapt movie scenes and subtitles into engaging language exercises. Participants will gain

insights into the theoretical framework supporting this approach and leave with actionable strategies to implement in their own classrooms.

**Email:** [bhuttomaria308@gmail.com](mailto:bhuttomaria308@gmail.com)

### **Room 2 (Research in ELT)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr Christine Coombe

**Session Title:** Research Literacy for Language Teachers

**Abstract:** Research Literacy for Language Teachers: This presentation will explore several questions that are important to any language teaching professional: (a) What is research in language teaching and learning? (b) What are the types of research, and how can we define research, so it fits our own professional agenda (c) What does it mean to be research literate in our field? And (d) how can teachers become more research literate? In the process of addressing these four questions, we explore the literature on research literacy and share several ideas for how English language teachers can develop and continue developing their own research literacy skills.

**Email:** [ccoombe@hct.ac.ae](mailto:ccoombe@hct.ac.ae)

### **Room 3 (Special Education)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Thomas Santo Junior

**Session Title:** Lessons with Substance: How Trauma-Informed Approaches in Addiction Medicine Can Shape the Classroom

**Abstract:** Dr. Thomas Santo Jr., PhD, will be presenting on the integration of trauma-informed care into healthcare settings and how these principles can be adapted to educational settings. His presentation will focus on the importance of educator training in recognizing and addressing the impacts of trauma, fostering a more supportive and effective learning environment for all students, particularly those with a history of trauma. This approach not only enhances student well-being but also contributes to more positive educational outcomes.

**Email:** [t.santojr@unsw.edu.au](mailto:t.santojr@unsw.edu.au)

### **Room 4 (Math SIG)**

**Presenter Name:** Moneersh Salem Alazmi

**Session Title:** Addressing the quality of education in mathematics in Kuwait

**Abstract:** This study seeks to identify the treatment of the quality of education in mathematics and reveals the quality of education in mathematics in Kuwait, in addition to the problems facing mathematics teachers in Kuwaiti schools and the teachers' burdens that lead to them being distracted from what is required of them. The study explains the role of educational techniques. And how to benefit from mathematics lessons to solve some of the mathematics teacher's problems and give him more opportunity to focus on his work and raise the quality of mathematics education during the class session by harnessing special educational techniques for the mathematics teacher.

**Email:** [munira.salem.alazmi@gmail.com](mailto:munira.salem.alazmi@gmail.com)

### **Room 5 (Blended Learning)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Marine Milad & Ms. Fatema Fayez

**Session Title:** AI Assisted Blended Instruction in Blended Learning Abstract:

**Abstract:** With the use of modern technological advancements nowadays, a drastic shift can be clearly noticeable in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) approaches. This change can be attributed to various factors related to the way learners adopt blended strategies to attain learning and the way tutors adopt blended approaches to develop the teaching/learning processes. This research study investigates the differences between lesson plans developed by Arab Open University (AOU) student-teachers in the light of their own preferred teaching styles and the ones produced by Artificial Intelligence (AI). The study investigates the impact of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) on students' performance in enhancing the developed lesson plans. The data has been collected from previous studies and reviews of literature, the teaching styles inventory, and the in-class presentations of AOU students' lesson plans. The analysis of the lesson plans developed by AOU students, and the ones created by AI app (ChatGPT) has resulted in concluding that nearly all the artificially created lesson plans lack human factor and interactive practices that meet the learners' natural characteristic as being sociable, active, and curious. The researchers are suggesting a midway strategy that aims to aid the student-teachers in developing effective lesson plans by blending the learned TEFL teaching methods with AI tools such as ChatGPT.

**Keywords:** Blended TEFL Methods, Student-Teachers, Artificial Intelligence, Teaching Styles, Blended learning

**Email:** [ffayez@aou.edu.kw](mailto:ffayez@aou.edu.kw)

**Email:** [Marine@aou.edu.kw](mailto:Marine@aou.edu.kw); [Ffayez@aou.edu.kw](mailto:Ffayez@aou.edu.kw)

### **12.45 PM - 1.15 PM TESOL/TEFL Partner Session**

#### **Room 1 (TEFL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Mr. Ash Jibrin

**Session Title:** D&I Policies Between Research and Practice: Implications for the Language Classroom

**Abstract:** This pedagogy-oriented sessions sheds some light on Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) policies and ensuing issues in the language classroom. The session helps teachers and practitioners reflect in their experiences working with Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). Further, it will provide some strategies to help language teachers deal with daily issues in classrooms with PWDs.

**Email:** [amj78@bath.ac.uk](mailto:amj78@bath.ac.uk)

#### **Room 2 (TEFL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr Rasha Abdulraheem

**Session Title:** AI in Language Learning Assessment: A Reflection

**Abstract:** AI in Language Learning Assessment: A Reflection:

This presentation explores how AI can revolutionize language learning assessment. The presenter will show how to use Magic School and Gemini in formative assessment to enhance the teaching/learning processes via creating rubrics, adapting testing material and generate questions. Questions and sharing views are welcomed throughout the session.

**Email:** [rashaosman7777@gmail.com](mailto:rashaosman7777@gmail.com)

### **Room 3 (TESOL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Farah Al Yaqout

**Session Title:** Mental Illness: Subjectivity in Shahd Alshammari's Notes on the Flesh and Lauren Slater's Lying

**Abstract:** This presentation is a comparative study between two works of autobiographic fiction: Lauren Slater's Lying (2000), which is about the author's epilepsy diagnosis, and Kuwaiti author Dr. Shahd Alshammari's Notes on the Flesh (2017), about her diagnosis of, and how she lives with, multiple sclerosis. The two memoirs are studies of identity formation through disability and through the language surrounding disability: the languages both encompass disease as too medicalized and removed from personal experience to be able to describe disease.

**Email:** [f.alyagout@gmail.com](mailto:f.alyagout@gmail.com)

### **Room 4 (TESOL Spain)**

**Presenter Name:** Harry Waters

**Session title:** "Tall Tales and Tiny Temperatures"

**Abstract:** "Tall Tales and Tiny Temperatures" explores the power of storytelling across age groups to foster environmental awareness. This talk examines four stories tailored for different age groups and introduces engaging activities to deepen understanding and inspire action against climate change, emphasizing the role of narratives in addressing complex issues.

**Email:** [harry@renewableenglish.com](mailto:harry@renewableenglish.com)

### **Room 5 (TESOL Morocco)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Oumaima Ait Jiji

**Session Title:** Teaching Leadership Through Language: How ELT Can Develop Future Global Leaders:

**Abstract:** In an increasingly interconnected and globalized world, the ability to lead effectively is a crucial skill for future professionals. This presentation, "Teaching Leadership Through Language: How ELT Can Develop Future Global Leaders," explores innovative methods for integrating leadership training into English Language Teaching (ELT). It highlights how language education can be leveraged to cultivate essential leadership skills such as effective communication, decision-making, vision-setting, and conflict resolution. By incorporating leadership concepts into language lessons, such as through debates, simulations, and project-based learning, educators can enhance both students' language proficiency and their readiness for leadership roles. The presentation will also focus on developing practical classroom activities that promote leadership skills and fostering a supportive learning environment that encourages student engagement and growth. Additionally, it will explore strategies for professional development to help educators implement these approaches. Participants will leave with strategies for enriching their ELT programs and preparing students to thrive as global leaders.

**Email:** [oumaiaaitjiji@gmail.com](mailto:oumaiaaitjiji@gmail.com)

## **1:45 pm - 2:15 pm SIG Featured Session**

### **Room 1 (ELT Through Films)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Said Muhammad Khan

**Session Title:** Film integration in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classes

**Abstract:** Film integration in English as a Foreign Language (EFL) classes is a powerful way to increase student engagement and expedite language acquisition in our visually driven environment. In-depth analysis of film-based language education is provided in this webinar, "From Films to Fluency in EFL Classrooms: Techniques, Strategies, and Challenges," which equips teachers with the knowledge and skills to successfully include movies into their lessons.

The theoretical underpinnings of film use in language instruction will be discussed initially, along with the significance of authentic materials in improving communicative competence and theories of multimodal learning. The next part of the workshop will cover useful techniques for choosing suitable movies, keeping in mind factors like theme, cultural relevance, and language proficiency. Participants will learn how to create exercises that improve a variety of language abilities, including speaking fluency, listening comprehension, vocabulary acquisition, and cultural awareness, before, during, and after viewing. We'll highlight creative methods including character analysis, scene reenactment, and creative writing influenced by movies.

Along with these frequent obstacles, the webinar will cover copyright issues, time management, and customizing materials for a diverse student body. We'll discuss workable answers and industry best practices to deal with these issues. After attending, participants will have a toolkit of film-based teaching strategies at their disposal, enabling them to use the power of cinema to create dynamic, captivating settings in their EFL classrooms that encourage language fluency.

**Email:** [said.english@gmail.com](mailto:said.english@gmail.com)

### **Room 2 (NNEST)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Natasha E. Feghali

**Session Title:** Effective strategies for teaching English as a second language (ESL) to newcomers

**Abstract:** This presentation will explore effective strategies for teaching English as a second language (ESL) to newcomers. It will cover key methods such as immersive language environments, culturally responsive teaching, and differentiated instruction to address the diverse needs of ESL learners. Participants will gain practical insights into creating supportive and engaging learning experiences that foster language acquisition and confidence in new speakers. The session will include case studies, interactive activities, and a Q&A segment to address specific challenges and solutions in the ESL classroom.

**Email:** [natashafeghali@hotmail.com](mailto:natashafeghali@hotmail.com)

### **Room 3 (REALL)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Banani Roy Chowdhury

**Session Title:** The dominance of English as the primary language for international communication

**Abstract:** "The dominance of English as the primary language for international communication underscores its essential role in professional development. In schools where English is becoming

the main language of instruction, mastering academic writing is crucial for high school students. However, many students struggle with producing well-structured and comprehensive essays. This challenge is especially significant for those planning to study abroad, as they must meet high standards in exams like IELTS or TOEFL. Enhancing writing skills, particularly in using cohesive devices to create coherent compositions, is critical for second language learners. This presentation will highlight overlooked aspects of developing students' discourse and pragmatic writing abilities. Analyzing survey and interview results will help identify gaps and improve students' academic writing. Ultimately, this endeavor will empower English language teachers to guide their students toward improved writing proficiency and explore how Artificial Intelligence can assist in assessment and overcoming these gaps. The findings can help teachers identify weaknesses and support students in improving their writing skills. The presentation introduces a framework for understanding the factors contributing to writing proficiency and suggests effective assessment strategies.

**Email:** [bcbnani@gmail.com](mailto:bcbnani@gmail.com)

#### **Room 4 (Neurolinguistics)**

**Presenter Name:** Prof. Hammoudi Abdelhak & Dr Houda Khabcheche

**Session Title:** Applying the Theory of Multiple Intelligences in the Learning and Teaching Process: A Guide for Teachers and Learners

**Abstract:** This presentation explores Gardner's Multiple Intelligences Theory and its potential to enhance students' performance in EFL classes. It begins with a definition of the theory and discusses how it addresses students' preferred learning channels. The presentation also includes an inventory to help teachers identify students' predominant intelligences and guides them in planning lessons according to students

**Email:** [hamrafik@yahoo.com](mailto:hamrafik@yahoo.com);

**Email:** [houdakhabcheche@gmail.com](mailto:houdakhabcheche@gmail.com)

#### **Room 5 (Language Learning with Generative AI)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Judy Wren & Ms. Jennifer McCoy

**Session Title:** Cultivating Critical Thinkers Beyond AI in Education:

**Abstract:** The presenters will introduce a technique designed to promote critical thinking and analysis at key points in the research and writing process. Participants will learn how to integrate this technique into existing projects to foster student ownership, combat AI interference, and provide authentic assessment of student learning.

**Email:** [j.wren@squ.edu.om](mailto:j.wren@squ.edu.om);

**Email:** [Jennifer.mccoy@squ.edu.om](mailto:Jennifer.mccoy@squ.edu.om)

### **2.15 PM – 2.45 PM - Concurrent sessions (TEFL/TESOL Partners) 5 sessions**

#### **Room 1 (TEFL Kuwait)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Maria Alejandra

**Session Title:** CURRICULUM/PROJECT: SDG n 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries:

**Abstract:** Empower students to be aware of inequalities around the world, empathize with others and become global citizens through their rights and responsibilities. What are the needs that your curriculum is going to address? Awareness of the causes and consequences of different types of prejudice and discrimination and this affects society and the causes and consequences of global conflicts. How did you assess these needs? Ongoing monitoring the work of students in the classroom, their engagement, collaboration, participation in groups. Skills such as analysis, discussion, making judgements and evaluation will be assessed.

**Email:** mafumaroni@gmail.com

### **Room 2 (TESOL Turkiye)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Fatoş Uğur Eskiçırak

**Session Title:** 'Teacher Well-Being: Simple Hacks from an Enthusiastic Amateur'

serves on TEDSIG's executive committee and freelances in ELT training and publishing.

**Abstract:** Join me for a fun and relaxed session where I'll share my favourite well-being tips that keep me grounded as a teacher and teacher trainer. We'll dive into easy mindfulness tricks, energizing bioenergy practices to help you stress less, boost focus, and find more joy in teaching. No experience needed—just bring your curiosity and an open mind!

**Email:** fatos.eskicirak@bau.edu.tr

### **Room 3 (TESOL Morocco)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Lhoussine Qasserras

**Session Title:** Gamification in ESL: Enhancing 21st-Century Skills -

**Abstract:** This workshop explores how gamification can transform ESL classrooms by boosting key 21st-century skills such as critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication. Through practical examples and interactive activities, participants will discover effective strategies to engage students and enhance learning outcomes. Attendees will gain valuable insights and tools to incorporate gamification into their teaching, making language learning more dynamic and enjoyable.

**Email:** lhoussine\_qasserras@yahoo.com

### **Room 4 (TESOL Arabia)**

**Presenter Name:** Mr. Mahmoud Sultan Nafa

**Session Title:** The Role of the Internet of Things in Mastering English Language:

**Abstract:** The (IoT) presentation highlights the most practical techniques of using Internet of Things to enhance the efficacy of the overall educational process and the English language teaching and learning process. It demonstrates how using the Internet-based techniques can boost the effectiveness of education and the mastery of English language.

**Email:** Mahmoudsultannafa@gmail.com



**Room 5 (TESOL Kuwait)****Presenter Name:** Dr. Saud Buhamdi**Session Title:** Joyful Lead-ins for Successful Classrooms:

**Abstract:** Studies have shown that the most critical part of any classroom is the first 5-10 minutes. These “Lead-ins” set the tone for the rest of the classroom and when implemented mindfully and skilfully will transform student engagement, information retention and your relationship with your students. This session is designed to help you understand lead-ins, their benefits, how to plan and incorporate them in your lesson plans, etc and finally give real world examples of how I use them in my English class.

**Email:** [s.buhamdi@ktech.edu.kw](mailto:s.buhamdi@ktech.edu.kw)**4:00 PM – 4.30 PM - Concurrent sessions (TEFL/TESOL Partners) 6 sessions****Room 1 (TESOL Spain)****Presenter Name:** Ms. Katherine Bilsborough**Session Title:** Creating more effective classroom materials

**Abstract:** It’s easy to write materials but it’s also easy to get things wrong, or not as right as you might wish. This isn’t surprising. Very few educators receive training in materials writing. In this presentation, we’ll look at five ways you can improve your materials.

**Email:** [kathbilsborough@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kathbilsborough@yahoo.co.uk)**Room 2 (KSAALT)****Presenter Name:** Ms. Fatmah Azzam Ali**Session Title:** Teacher Well-being & Mindfulness: The Road to Successful Teaching Career:

**Abstract:** Stress management and self-care practices have become indispensable as educators negotiate the growing demands of their professions. Mindfulness techniques not only improve mental health but also enhance classroom dynamics by cultivating empathy and forbearance. Teachers can develop resilience, sustain motivation, and exhibit positive behaviors through professional development that emphasizes social-emotional learning. In the field of education, the prioritization of teacher well-being results in improved student outcomes, more effective teaching, and long-term career satisfaction.

**Email:** [mrsbakur@hotmail.com](mailto:mrsbakur@hotmail.com)**Room 3 (KSAALT)****Presenter Name:** Ms. Tamara Alfie**Session title:** Applying Hermeneutic Practices to English Language Teaching:

**Abstract:** Hans-Georg Gadamer, a German contemporary philosopher, stressed the importance of hermeneutics for the process of interpretation and understanding. At the center of this theory is the hermeneutic circle, which involves the movement between the parts and the whole. Incorporating hermeneutic practices into English language teaching can significantly impact not only the improvement of teaching practices but also the way learners view the learning process.

Hermeneutic practices in educational pedagogy can influence and inform the way we think about education and the world as a whole.

**Email:** [alfie.tamara@gmail.com](mailto:alfie.tamara@gmail.com)

#### **Room 4 (TESOL Turkiye)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Beril Ayman Yücel

**Session title:** Language Learning in the Age of AI: The Essential Role of Social-Emotional Skills

**Abstract:** In an era dominated by AI, integrating Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) into language education is of utmost importance. This session explores how fostering SEL skills enhances language learning. The participants will be introduced to strategies to empower learners in navigating both linguistic complexities and the emotional dimensions of an increasingly digital world.

**Email:** [beril.yucel@gmail.com](mailto:beril.yucel@gmail.com)

#### **Room 5 (TESOL Morocco)**

**Presenter Name:** Ms. Ben-yamine Ouhri

**Session title:** Differentiation: How to Teach Mixed-Ability Classes:

**Abstract:** This presentation focuses on practical strategies for teaching mixed-ability classes through differentiation. By adapting instruction to meet diverse student needs, educators can create an inclusive environment that supports all learners. Attendees will learn effective techniques like tiered assignments, flexible grouping, and formative assessments to enhance learning outcomes in varied classrooms.

**Email:** [ouhri82@gmail.com](mailto:ouhri82@gmail.com)

#### **Room 6 (TESOL Arabia)**

**Presenter Name:** Dr. Dr. Naziha Ali

**Session Title:** Teacher Well-being Through Emotional Intelligence

**Abstract:** The literature and media on Emotional Intelligence (EI) is quite full of the significance and the need to develop essential emotion recognition skills that support behavior & relationship management within our social context (Goleman, 2000; Bradberry, 2023; Gourani, 2016; Dhawan, 2015; Covey, 2006). Within education there is awareness of equipping educators with EI for learner well-being. However, there are insufficient conversations around reining the power of EI for educator wellbeing. This talk will focus on utilizing EI as an instrument that functions beyond learner wellbeing. A selection of strategies will be shared that will re adapt our inner and outer focus towards stress management and prevention of burnout.

**Email:** [nazihaali2005@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nazihaali2005@yahoo.co.uk)