

Forging Ahead:

*Changing Landscapes and
Strong Foundations*



IH Milan Annual Conference

Friday 15th October 2021

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Milan & San Donato

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Morning Sessions

9.00 – 9.15	Welcome
	<p>Sarah Stats <i>Deputy Director IH Milan & San Donato</i></p>
9.15 – 10.00	<p>Antonia Clare Be a Flamingo in a Flock of Pigeons: Teaching the Syllabus in Creative Ways <i>Sponsored by Pearson</i></p>
10.00 – 10.45	<p>Niall Curry How to Integrate Life Skills into your English Language Teaching <i>Sponsored by Cambridge University Press & Cambridge Assessment English</i></p>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break <i>grab a cup of coffee and visit our sponsors</i>
11.30 – 12.00	<p>Simona Stambazzi Storytelling in the YL Classroom: Narudin and the Tiger <i>IH Milan & San Donato</i></p>
12.00 – 12.30	<p>Daniel Tse Reflections on Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning <i>IH Milan & San Donato</i></p>
12.30 – 13.00	<p>Veronika Balkind Spark Teenagers' interest by using Song Apps and Lyrics in the Classroom <i>IH Milan & San Donato</i></p>
13.00 – 14:00	Lunch



Afternoon Sessions

14.00 – 14.45

Marek Kiczkowiak

English as a Lingua Franca and the Myth of the Native Speaker

Sponsored by Delta Publishing

14.45 – 15.30

George Heritage & Victoria Peña

Write up there! From B2 First to C1 Advanced

Sponsored by Cambridge University Press & Cambridge Assessment English

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee break stretch your legs and meet our sponsors

16.00 – 16.45

Katherine Stannett

Teaching the Whole Student: Cultivating a Positive Mindset in Hard Times

sponsored by National Geographic Learning

16.45

Closing

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Sarah Stats - *Deputy Director* **Welcome**

The past 18 months have at times felt as if the fast forward button has been continually depressed. A constant state of flux has sometimes made it feel like we're on a treadmill with no 'stop' button. Revisiting our core principles, teaching and otherwise, can help us realise that we have the tools to adapt and to navigate the sometimes blurry future ahead of us. We hope that this year's conference will do just that while inspiring and reinvigorating your teaching!

Bio: *Sarah Stats has been in ELT since 1997 and has taught in Poland, the United States, Germany, the Netherlands and Italy. She joined IH Milan in 2001 and was Director of Studies at the City Centre school for 7 years. She then took time out to concentrate on her young family and travel the world. She returned to Italy and to IH Milan in 2018 where she is now Deputy Director. She holds an MA in TESOL and is keenly interested in understanding student learning processes and preferences to more finely tune IH Milan products and practices.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



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Antonia Clare **Be a Flamingo in a Flock of Pigeons: teaching the Syllabus in Creative Ways**

Our desire as teachers to be creative and to encourage our learners' creativity are prime motivating factors in our own professional self-development and self-renewal. Yet there is often a tension perceived between 'being creative' in our lessons and the demands of standardised curricula and

testing. In this interactive talk, Antonia will explore reasons why it is so important to resolve that tension - to teach the syllabus in creative ways. The workshop will also offer practical ideas to help you become that flamingo in your teaching.

Bio: *Antonia Clare is a teacher, trainer, international conference speaker and author. Her special interests include the use of video and new technologies in ELT, creativity and the psychology of language learning. She has taught and trained around the world, and co-authored bestselling coursebook titles including Total English and Speakout (Pearson). She is currently a freelance writer and consultant trainer with NILE. Her latest publication is The Creative Teacher's Compendium - An A-Z guide of creative activities for the language classroom, published by Pavilion ELT.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Niall Curry

How to Integrate Life Skills into your English Language Teaching



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Teachers understand the importance of helping their students develop life skills, as well as school subjects. But how can they do this when there is no extra time for it?

This talk shows how life skills or competencies can be integrated into English language learning activities without taking up additional classroom time and resources.

It also shows how the Cambridge Life

Competencies Framework helps teachers understand better which skills they are developing and how they can build those up gradually over time.

Bio: *Niall Curry is a lecturer in Academic Writing at the Centre for Academic Writing at Coventry University. He has been actively engaged in both teaching and research for many years and his teaching covers a range of topics in applied linguistics and language pedagogy. His research crosses many fields, including language teaching and learning, digital pedagogy, English medium instruction, corpus linguistics, and academic discourse. He is a co-editor of the Journal of Academic Writing and he holds a PhD in corpus and contrastive linguistics from the University of Limerick.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Simona Stambazzi **Nasrudin and the Tiger – 5** **activities to teach English** **through storytelling.**



Using the traditional Turkish folk tale of Nasrudin and the Tiger as an example, in this workshop we will learn some hands-on activities to include storytelling in our everyday lessons. Learn how to make your

lessons more engaging and fun for your students, use stories to enhance your students' listening and speaking skills, while at the same time including activities to work on accuracy and language learning.

Bio: *Simona is an English teacher at IH Milano & San Donato. She has always been passionate about stories. After discovering storytelling, she started experimenting with it in and outside the class, trying to bring more creativity into language learning.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Daniel Tse

Reflections on Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning

Teaching and learning have undergone a period of sweeping changes which was almost unthinkable in the last decade. As we are standing at the crossroads where learning can take place both synchronously and asynchronously, how can teachers best use lesson time to maximise language

learning? In search of answers, I shall reflect on my personal observations and explore some implications for lesson planning and choice of activities.

Bio: *Daniel went into ELT in 2019 and started teaching at IH Milan & San Donato the same year. He works with Young Learners, teens, and adults across the full range of CEFR language levels. He views language as something which exists everywhere around us and lays great emphasis on developing learners' communicative competence in his teaching. Prior to ELT, Daniel trained as a classical musician and delivered outreach workshops for a number of major performing arts in the UK.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Veronika Balkind **Spark Teenagers' interest by** **using Song Apps and Lyrics** **in the Classroom**



Do you remember the day when apps invaded our lives? Exactly, neither do I, because it's not a matter of just one day. Whether we like it or not, we need to embrace the fact that YouTube and TikTok have become our reality and that's what the near

future holds for us. In this session we will see how to implement some of those 'procrastination' and 'distraction' apps in the classroom with teens. We will look at some engaging listening tasks, as well as some fun pre-and post- listening activities. If you are into teaching English through music, too, then I hope you will take a chance to try out some of today's activities in your Monday class.

Bio: *Veronika has been in TEFL since 2014. She has worked in Manchester, Moscow, Genoa, and she's been living in Milan for 5 years. She has experience teaching all age groups, CLIL, Cambridge and IELTS classes. She enjoys having fun with VYL and teaching high school students. Veronika is also passionate about rock music and occasionally organises her English-speaking rock events on a voluntary basis, both face-to-face and online.*

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



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Marek Kiczowski **English as a Lingua Franca** **and the Myth of the Native** **Speaker**

There is a persistent belief in ELT, an ideology if you will – often referred to as native speakerism, that ‘native speakers’ are better teachers. They are better because they have superior knowledge of the language. A wider vocabulary. Better pronunciation. They are

more fluent. They are unique sources of cultural knowledge. Their teaching methodology is better.

However, do these arguments about the superiority of ‘native speaker’ teachers hold any water in a world where English has become a global lingua franca? In this talk I will debunk some of these myths about ‘native speakers’, and argue that all teachers, whether ‘native’ or ‘non-native’, should be evaluated for their pedagogical skills and professionalism, rather than for a language they unwittingly picked up as children. To do so, I will refer to appropriate research and literature, as well as my own experience as an English teacher, teacher trainer and language learner.

Bio: Marek Kiczowski is the founder of TEFL Equity Advocates & Academy, where he helps English teachers tackle native speakerism, promote equality and teach English for global communication. He’s written numerous peer-reviewed research papers, co-written a teaching methodology book *Teaching English as a Lingua Franca: The Journey from EFL to ELF* and a 7-level course book *Voices for National Geographic Learning*. He runs his own company, *Academic English Now*, where he helps PhD students write excellent theses and research papers for high-impact journals.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



George Heritage & Victoria Peña

Write up there!

From B2 First to C1 Advanced



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This session will look at how students can develop their writing skills and the more important areas to consider and focus on when taking the step up to C1 Advanced from B2 First. We will consider the different stages of the writing process and explore the use of authentic

material and skills integration in face-to-face and online contexts. We will then move on to focus on two assessment criteria in particular – organisation and communicative achievement – and explore how to support students in understanding and developing these aspects of their writing. We will end with some ideas on how best to take advantage of digital platforms and thus foster learner autonomy and responsibility, hopefully shifting some of the critical burden from teachers to their students.

Bio: Victoria Peña has worked for Cambridge Assessment English since 2018. Prior to that, she taught English across all school ages for ten years, as well as preparing adults for Cambridge examinations. Since joining Cambridge Assessment English, she has been involved in creating content for teachers and collaborating in government bilingual projects. She holds a degree in Translation and Interpreting, an MA in Applied Linguistics, and a PhD focusing on the washback of proficiency exams.

George Heritage has worked at Cambridge Assessment English since 2013 following 10 years teaching in Latin America, Iberia and the UK to students of all ages and levels. He worked in the Assessment department in Cambridge for 3 years on a variety of exams and the Young Learners revision project and moved to the Madrid office in 2016. Here he has worked on various assessment projects with regional bilingual programmes, and designed and delivered training programmes for teachers across the world. He has a particular interest in the blended classroom and evolving approach to formative assessment.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Katherine Stannett **Teaching the Whole Student: Cultivating a Positive Mindset in Hard Times**

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Cultivating a positive mindset, learning to grow from failure and developing a sense of self are just some of the crucial skills our students need, particularly in these challenging times. In this talk, I will be looking at how we can use our unique

position as language teachers to encourage our students both to study well and to live well.

Bio: *Katherine Stannett is an author with over twenty years of experience. She spent two years in Japan in the 1990s, teaching English to a wide variety of students in many different settings. She is the co-author of several successful secondary series and has also written articles, songs and raps for many popular EFL magazines. Most recently, she has written two levels of the new National Geographic Middle School series, 'Impact' and one level of the new National Geographic Primary series, 'Look'. She has given presentations and run workshops in many countries around the world, including Poland, Kazakhstan, Portugal, Honduras, Brazil, Spain and Slovenia and also conducts webinars from her home office in the UK.*

Our Services for Schools & Teachers



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CONTACT:

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Teacher Training Courses

- › **CELTA** (*Certificate of English Language Teaching to Adults*)
A globally-recognised course for people who want to become English teachers. CELTA is now offered both face to face and completely online.
- › **DELTA** (*Diploma in teaching English to speakers of other languages*)
A course for experienced teachers of English who want to take the next step in their careers. IH Milan & San Donato will be offering both Module 1 and Module 2 in 2021/2022.
Please contact the teacher training department for more information.
- › **TKT CLIL**: this course is for teachers in primary and secondary schools who want to teach their own subjects in English.
Please contact the Cambridge exams department for more information.
- › **ONLINE REFRESHER COURSES FOR PRACTISING TEACHERS**: a brand new initiative launched this academic year, the ORCPT (Online Refresher Courses for Practising Teachers) is a series of short online courses designed for teachers of English. The three hour modules can be taken individually or together with other modules.
- › **FTBE**: A course for teachers of business English accredited by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
 - Next course January 2022
- › **IHVYL**: the International House Certificate in Teaching Very Young Learners (IHVYL) is an in-service teacher training course and certificate designed to prepare teachers of English as a Foreign Language to teach children. The course will be offered on a part-time basis online from 8th November to 6th December, 2021.
- › **IHCYLT**: the IH certificate in teaching Young Learners and Teenagers (IHCYLT) is an in-service qualification for CELTA (or equivalent) trained teachers to develop their skills in teaching 2-16 year olds. This internationally recognised qualification is awarded by International House and moderated by Cambridge English Language Assessment. The course will be offered on a part-time basis online from January 2022.
- › **ON-DEMAND TEACHER TRAINING**: if you and your colleagues are looking for a course or seminar on a more specific topic, contact us and we will be happy to help you.



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