

Dear English Teachers,

We all understand the importance of technology and innovation in our day-to-day lives and the ways in which they are transforming the world. If this was not clear earlier, it is blindingly obvious now during the COVID-19 pandemic. Technology and innovation are indispensable for our response to, and recovery from, this crisis. However, equally important is our collaboration in this great effort. We in English manage to achieve the teamwork that makes this tie even stronger. If you did not attend the Zoom In – Zoom Out conference, you can still watch the recordings and visit the exhibition where I am confident that you will find new ideas, fresh energy and novel partnerships to sustain your efforts in support of English instruction and learning. Only through our collaboration with teachers from all over the country with multi-lateral experiences and willingness can we truly accelerate progress and reduce inequalities in English learning.

I would like to extend best wishes to all English teachers in Israel: Happy Easter, Passover and Ramadam Kareem.

Tziona

Dr. Tziona Levi,
Chief Inspector of English



Almost 1500 English teachers attended the Zoom In Zoom Out online English teachers' conference on March 3rd 2021. The event included teachers' presentations about innovative strategies, methods and tools that have helped them adapt to distance teaching and have proved successful in advancing their students' language achievements over the past year. Participants could choose to watch presentations that were suitable to the grade levels they teach, from elementary to Junior High school to High school and the Diplomacy major.

There was also time for teachers to browse the super-impressive virtual-reality poster gallery, the proud product of 20 teachers' efforts.

Smiles were rife when the song clip "Count on Me" was screened, expertly arranged by Howie Gordon, of Learn in Tune and digital tool fame. Comedian Benji Lovitt had everyone laughing as he entertained us with jokes and funny tales about everything from being locked in his Tel Aviv apartment with his dog in a period of quarantine to the confusion about which pupils in which grades in which cities were supposed to go back to school after lockdown.

The event was filled with acknowledgement and appreciation for English teachers nationwide. Thank you for allowing us to COUNT ON YOU!!!

Check out the Zoom In Zoom Out website for the virtual poster gallery and recordings of live sessions.



Bagrut Updates

You can read about all the Bagrut updates on the front page of [Stay Up To Date](#) under [Bagrut Examinations](#):

- [All COBE updates can be found by clicking here.](#)
- [Updated exam numbers \(Semel sheelon\) 2021](#)
- [Dates of the April and Summer Bagrut Exams](#)
- [Listening Files of the Bagrut Examinations 2021](#)
- [Dates for the 2021 COBE including summer; regular, pilot and simulation days](#)



For a lifetime of professional development
ETAI is YOUR professional organization! Participate! Join!

SPRINGING FORWARD - save the Date and check out the rich program:
[ETAI Spring Conference. March 23. 10:00-14:30.](#)

Fabulous program with both international and local speakers that will interest all teachers.



Visit the Site for Diplomacy and International Communication in English!

The month of February was one of intense activity for Diplomacy students and their hard-working teachers. While tenth graders were occupied with learning photojournalism and putting it into practice at the World Press Photo Summit Day Events, many of the eleventh graders were taking part in debating competitions and Model United Nations conferences, and twelfth graders have been implementing leadership projects, conflict resolution projects, and translation portfolios.

Diplomacy Major Leadership Projects

In the twelfth grade, as students complete their three years of study in this 5-point major, they are each required to plan and implement a leadership project. This could be workshops on the topic of human rights for other classes in their school, writing and publishing a regular Diplomacy newspaper, or planning and holding a Model UN conference, involving committees on different topics, writing topic guides, inviting guest delegates, chairing committees, and much, much more. Some of the Diplomacy students' leadership projects have been so impressive, and they make us incredibly proud. These students leave the major ready to become leaders and change-makers in their communities. We have no doubt we will one day hear about great things Diplomacy graduates are doing.



Click on the photo to be inspired by some leadership projects carried out by the first class of Diplomacy students, who graduated in 2018.



Tips

- From the WhatsUp Project: [Fashion and Pollution](#)
- [12 Fun Speaking Games for Language Learners](#)
- [10 Teacher Picks for Best Tech Tools](#)
- [English from Home](#) – Your go-to website for hybrid teaching and learning!

SHOWCASE

[March Showcase!](#)

[Meet Nira Gilad](#), teacher and regional counselor.
Teaching Literature Online
Demonstrated on: All My Sons

[Ilana Lipman](#) from Yachad School in Modi'in has written a [blog entry](#) about teaching during Corona – thank you Ilana for agreeing to share.

Would you like to showcase your work?
Your staff? A special teacher? An English event in your school?
Complete this [short form](#) and we will contact you. Spread the word about something important to YOU!

COBE on MOODLE

We are excited to announce that, due to the need to help our learners get ready for COBE both from school and from home, we have developed a Template: Preparation for COBE in one single Platform: A Ministry of Education Moodle Platform!
The Moodle Template Practice for COBE makes it possible for students to practice all three parts of the exam. It is aimed at helping pupils get ready for the Computerized Oral Bagrut Exam (COBE) in a way that is similar to the ITest one. No less important, this template will enable you, teachers, to assess students' English-speaking abilities in a way that is similar to the ITest one. This Moodle course offers practice for COBE from home.

You can request as many Moodle Templates as you need with your pupils already enrolled! It is, of course, free of charge.

For more information, [click here](#).

Happy Moodling!

Youtube video: [Try Moodle for COBE All in One Platform](#)

[Smore newsletter](#)



Teachers in Elementary School are invited to celebrate with us the freedom to choose what, when, where, and how much to learn.

Join Kaveret, an online innovative digital environment, and gather hours towards Gmul Hishtalmut.

[View the courses](#)

[Register here](#)



**Special education?
Learning differences?
Neurotypical?
Neurodifferences?**

What is really in a name? There seems to be some confusion regarding the identification of the learners in our classrooms. Israeli education is becoming more inclusive, we often have the sense that the disparity and the gaps between the learners that we have in our classes has grown over the years, and particularly during this COVID 19 pandemic. The more we know about our learners who seem to struggle, the more we will be able to make a positive difference in their accessibility to this wonderful, yet often confusing language that we try to teach.

Like snowflakes, NO two children are alike. Each child teaches us something new, and different about people and they often teach us about ourselves. A name or a label of a child does not tell us WHO the child is, or what the child is capable of and it often does not tell us specifically what is difficult or challenging for that child to learn how to do.

When we are told that the learner in our class has specific challenges it is extremely helpful to collect as much on-going information possible, about that learner from the classroom teacher and the guidance counselor, or from the special education coordinator in our school. We know how to teach English, we know how to teach children, these people can give us additional information that can increase our sensitivities and our knowledge about how to do the best we can to reach our goals as EFL teachers.

*Our goals as English teachers for all learners –
is for our students to believe that they CAN learn English.*



We would like them all to believe in their ability to learn English.

They will be in English classes for many hours of their lives, and they will hear and see English around them for many years to come. Hopefully, we can help them to associate the letters and the sounds with positive memories and experiences.

Our goals as English teachers are for all learners is to increase their ability to understand what they hear- to be able to distinguish words one from the other and to comprehend a language that even today is becoming increasingly important for all walks of life.

Our goal as English teachers for all learners is to increase accessibility to print- by helping to demystify the letters and sounds, the patterns, and words that they see – almost every day.

Our goals as English teachers are to help all learners move forward – our job is NOT to look back and wonder what came before us, but to guide onward.

Our goals as English teachers are to remember that, there is never – everyone, there is never – all, there is never **can't** and there is never – **NEVER!**

Now more than ever we must believe in the future.... and the donation that we can make to the future, by helping our students believe in their abilities to learn. Nothing does that like English!

In this little corner we will try, each month to share teachers' ideas or tools that may be useful for some of you to help our students who seem to struggle, or who seem to need us more than others, reach these goals.

If you have something that you would like to share, please send it to me at akgvaryahu@gmail.com

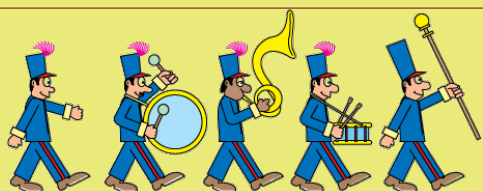
Thank you for being.

Aharona

FUN TIME



- [Read more about DINGBATS](#)
- See the answers from last time
- Try new ones



It's March and we English teachers are certainly marching on!

Approximately 1000 teachers attended our Marching On webinars at four different sessions in the past week! All of them are now better equipped with inspirational tools and teaching strategies to help them move forward while attempting to bridge gaps that were inevitably caused by the disruption to teaching during the period of school closures. Click on the links below to access the webinar recordings and the accompanying power points to the webinar presentations.

[Marching On for Elementary Teachers](#)

[Marching On for Teachers of Grades 7-10](#)

בס"ד

CORONA TIMES CHEMED NATIONAL WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS

NORTH



CENTER

Harel Levi
Noam Na'aman
Shoval Amzaleg
Ha'rav Maimon School

SOUTH

Shaked Yosef
Be'er Ganim School

Sapir bar Hama
Kfir Jedwab
Agam Hiersch
Moreshtet Zvulun School

Olivia Phillips
Bar Ilan School

Roi Bar
Barkai Recht
Torat Moshe School

HAIFA

Dvir Frank
Yonatan Ochana
Noam Pardes Chana

Shani Heller
Aharon Ha'roeh School

MANCHI

Yocheved Kestenbaum
Ashira Gotlieb
Elona Rausky
Chorev Girls' School

Avigail Greenberg
Gital Burstain
Tachkemoni School

Yehoshua Albeitz
Noam School

TEL AVIV

Einor Haminov
Lia Yonosov
Dizengoff School

Harel Tanenbaum
Emunim School

MECHOZ YERUSHALAYIM

Ohr Sason, Haleli Vishkovski, Harel Meir - Mamad Bet Choron

Renana Brice - Ahavat Yitzcha Girls' School

Yair Shayowitz - Ahavat Yitzchak Boys' School

Avishag Sorek - Masuat Neriya

Yedidya Shaulov - Orot Boys' School, Bet Shemesh

Leor Strosberg - Orot Boys' School, Bet Shemesh



THANK YOU FOR ENCOURAGING YOUR PUPILS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EXCITING COMPETITION. OUR AIM WAS TO ENCOURAGE SPOKEN FLUENCY, TO BUILD CONFIDENCE AND TO CREATE A RELAXED ATMOSPHERE WHERE PUPILS COULD ENJOY AND EXPRESS THEMSELVES IN ENGLISH. TOGETHER, WE BOOSTED YOUR STUDENTS' CONFIDENCE BY GIVING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW OFF THEIR SKILLS! IN OUR EYES... EACH ONE OF THEM IS A WINNER!

CONGRATULATIONS
to all our winners

Movieland Academy is a wonderful Ministry resource of hundreds of motion picture movies which can be viewed by teachers and students. These movies can be integrated into distant learning lessons, as well as frontal lessons in school. The site is organized by school subjects and by age groups, and some of the movie links in English offer extra language practice.

For example: Aladdin 2019 - Quiz Included (recommended for Eighth Grade).

Movies under "English" category offer subtitles in English
You can watch this instructional video on how to use this site

At the moment, Movieland Academy allows registered teachers direct access to its content library from home.

Registered teachers can allow students to watch a movie directly from home through a link. The service is free. To register click here.

Here are some examples of some new movies which were recently added to Movieland:

10 Things I Hate About You

A Few Good Men

Easy A

Ella Enchanted

Holes

Remember the Titans

To Sir, With Love

