

Workshops & Cultural Talks

Monday 14th Julv

10.00-11.00 **Unseen America**

Room 312 (London)

America's perception abroad is heavily influenced by pop culture, Hollywood and politics. Underneath that, however, lies an incredibly complex, multifaceted country. This talk will explore lesser known parts of American society.

10.00-11.00 Cricket

Room 314 (New York)

Cricket is a bat and ball game, played by two teams of eleven players. It was developed in England, the earliest international match being played between England and Australia in 1882. Although some rules might be quite complex and esoteric the basic premise remains: the team scoring the highest number of 'runs' wins the match. The evolution, regulations, nuances and some controversies of this intriguing sport will be explained. Questions invited.

10.00-11.00 **Comedy Roasts: An American Tradition**

Room 315 (Sydney)

Have you ever mocked your colleagues? Would you ever insult your boss? Are you bold enough to ridicule a politician? These actions are the focus of comedy roasts in the USA where being subject to mockery, insults and ridicule can be a great honor. We will explore the history of comedy roasts and how they have evolved.

10.00-11.00 **George Orwell**

Room 316 (Toronto)

George Orwell was one of the greatest English writers of the twentieth century. This talk will shed some light on the man and his work.

11.30 - 13.00 Letting The Cat Out of the Bag

Room 312 (London)

Using Drama Activities in the EFL classroom - Aims, Methods and Techniques

11.30 - 13.00 Making teaching in large classes manageable and useful

Room 314 (New York)

Whether teaching sixteen or sixty students, the teacher needs to be able to organise activities in the classroom, and any activity should be useful for students' learning. This workshop will explore how teachers in large classes (40 or more students) can make a range of learning activities more manageable; and how teachers can take more common activities and exercises and adapt them to make sure students learn effectively from them. Participants in the workshop will analyse what makes learning useful, what can help to make a large class manageable, and will exchange best practice suggestions and techniques.

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Michael Dudoff

David Melhuish

Paul Baker

Hugo Teixeira

Martin Crane

David Sansom

Joanna Radwanska-Williams



Sarah Feather





Tuesday 15th July

10.00-11.00 Locked in the arms of a crazy life

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The poetry of Charles Bukowski, and what it teaches us about the REAL America. Bukowski's poetry is written in a very simple style which makes him ideal to use in the EFL classroom to investigate both language and ideas.

10.00-11.00 The Culture of Canada

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Do you know which country Justin Bieber is from? Where was basketball invented? Canada is the world's second largest country but one of the youngest and least know cultures. With a vibrant music scene, a massive love of sport, a strong film industry and a thriving world of literature in two languages Canada is more than maple syrup and ski slopes. Come find out why!

10.00-11.00 Word Games in English

Room 315 (Sydney)

Word games are incredibly popular in English-speaking countries: crosswords, hangman, anagrams, word searches, Scrabble, and many others. Why are they so popular? How do you play them? How are they useful for your English? Here is your chance to play lots of word games, and at the same time find out how to use them, how to find them, and how to make them for yourself.

10.00-11.00 Britain's bountiful larder

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From Arbroath smokies and Cornish pasties to Welsh bara brith. What are they? Where do they come from? A hands-on workshop learning about and matching regional British food to its home towns/regions.

11.30 - 13.00 Techniques for building vocabulary

Room 312 (London)

Whilst grammar is important, a lack of vocabulary may result in complete failure to convey a message. Language learners require multiple encounters with words. The most important factors in helping to increase students' vocabulary are the number of times and contexts that the learner has to retrieve these words. An effective teacher can influence this through thorough planning and innovative and varied classroom activities.

11.30 - 13.00 **Needs Analysis**

Room 314 (New York)

Needs Analysis is an important, but much under-utilised tool in ELT. This workshop will examine the methods and timing of needs analysis and highlight some potential difficulties.

11.30 - 13.00 IELTS

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Why is IELTS important? Why is it difficult? What can you do to help your students pass? This workshop will introduce participants to the most popular English language test worldwide - IELTS. We will discuss what makes it so popular, why students find it so difficult, and ways in which you can help your students achieve the grade they require.

11.30 – 13.00 Making Materials Relevant and Personalized
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Room 316 (Toronto)

How to adapt materials to suit your students and to increase the students' involvement and learning.

11.30 - 13.00Preventing the Prevention of Language Learning

Room 317 (Cape Town)

Many teachers emerge from training courses as better teachers, but does this necessarily make their students better learners? In this workshop, we will explore some of the factors that prevent learning from taking place, and together we will explore ways of removing these from your teaching.

Corinna Bramley

David Melhuish

Paul Baker

David Quartermain

John Moulton

Jeremy Phillips

David Sansom

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Dave Hill





Thursday 17th July

10.00-11.00 Famous Authors who were English teachers abroad: Why They Left and What They Found Room 317 (Cape Town) Dave Hill

Can you name a well-known writer who was also an expatriate teacher of English language and literature? James Joyce is just one. Quite a large number of famous teacher writers have traveled widely to enhance their own personal contributions to world literature. What can we learn about their lives? The answers will shed light on the value of reading, writing and traveling for teachers, and provide historical perspectives on colliding cultures during times of great change.

10.00-11.00 British History

Room 314 (New York)

Did you know that London (the city) is much older than England (the country)? What happened in 1066? Who is the current head of state of New Zealand, and why? Brush up on the fascinating history of Britain!

10.00-11.00 History of the English Language

Room 315 (Sydney)

This workshop provides a short look at the evolution of the English Language from the time of the Anglo-Saxons to the age of the Internet

10.00-11.00 Table Manners

Room 316 (Toronto)

This talk provides a crash course in western dining etiquette, using practical exercises and role plays to cover areas such as seating, understanding place settings, ordering and general social protocol.

11.30 – 13.00 Data, processes, diagrams and maps

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This workshop will deal with strategies and language used to describe data and illustrations used in business and science-related writing. This is also essential to succeed in IELTS writing task I.

11.30 – 13.00 Teaching methodologies: A hands on approach

Room 314 (New York)

There are many ways to teach a language, each with its own strengths. What method do you use? How does it compare to other popular methods? Using case studies, we will look at how different approaches are used in the classroom. Then we will create a map of teaching methodologies to better understand how they relate to one another and how they might suit learner needs differently.

11.30 – 13.00 Writing in the classroom and beyond

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Writing work doesn't have to be boring or "practice-based" to be useful for language learning. Find out how to make English writing activities more interesting and more useful for your students.

11.30 – 13.00 Dictation - updating an old friend

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As a more integrative approach to foreign language teaching and learning is favoured by most methodologists, dictation is regaining its former popularity. Indeed, research in the classroom shows it to be a valuable technique for language teaching -- and for testing students' competence in the language they are trying to learn. However, dictation is not just for testing spelling and punctuation!

John Moulton

Joanna Radwanska-Williams

Sarah Feather

Hugo Teixeira

Corinna Bramley

Jeremy Phillips

Michael Dudoff





Friday 18th July

10.00-11.00 American Cult Movies

Room 312 (London)

What is a cult movie and how can they be classified? What do they tell us about American culture and society? This talk will explore a selection of iconic movies that have left their mark on society.

10.00-11.00 Educating Rita

Room 314 (New York)

Educating Rita is a classic movie from the 1980s. It still provides a number of poignant lessons about the British educational and class systems.

10.00-11.00 Murder! Agatha Christie and the English detective novel.

Room 315 (Sydney)

The biggest selling novelist in the English language, Agatha Christie is famous for her murder-mysteries, in which the detective must find out who the murderer is. Books and films such as 'Murder on the Orient Express' and 'And then there were none' have been translated into many languages and are still popular. But why is she so popular? How did she write so many books? And how does the detective solve the mystery? Find out more about one of the UK's most successful cultural icons.

10.00-11.00 British Political System

Room 316 (Toronto)

Both the US and the UK are Western democracies, but do you know the differences between them? Starting from the historical context and up to the present, find out the details about Britain's unique political system.

10.00-11.00 Idioms, Phrasal Verbs & Rhyming Slang

Room 315 (Sydney)

Here's something right up your street! A look at what idioms, phrasal verbs, and rhyming slang reveal about the English, and why it's so important to include these in your English lessons.

11.30 - 13.00Effective use of video in the classroom

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By harnessing and exploiting this flexible and valuable teaching resource, students are able to retain extra information, understand concepts more rapidly and become more enthusiastic about what they are learning. Video is used to enhance visual memory. This medium should be manipulated to meet the specific instructional needs of the lesson to make a powerful language teaching tool.

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Room 316 (Toronto)

In this workshop, we will explore activities that can be used to develop learners' speaking fluency skills. You will take part in practical tasks that involve using iPad functionality and apps to create animated stories and audio visual slideshows. We will reflect and share ideas on how you can utilise these in your own context. No previous experience of using iPads in classrooms is necessary.

Dictation - updating an old friend 11.30 - 13.00

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Corinna Bramley

Rosie McLaughlin & Richard Davis

Jeremy Phillips





Friday 25th July

10.00-11.00 Photography in the American West

Room 312 (London)

The western United States has a great tradition of photography. Photographers like Ansel Adams, Edward Weston and Richard Avedon did some of their greatest work there and continue to influence artists around the world today. We will explore some of the greatest works of photography produced in the American West and try our hand at their techniques.

10.00-11.00 MOOCs : Online learning can be fun and motivating

Room 314 (New York)

A look at massive open online courses (MOOCs) and what makes them so popular all over the world. From professional development courses (such as applied linguistics) to general interest courses like science fiction literature to specialized areas of study like forensic psychology and beyond, we'll look at how massive online courses work and why so many people enjoy them.

10.00-11.00 Food: From the British Fry-up to Afternoon Tea

Room 316 (Toronto)

In this talk participants will be introduced to an overview of British cuisine, its history, and what people are eating in Britain today. We'll also be taking a closer look at the great British institution of afternoon tea, and how to prepare some simple classics.

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