



inspire
& be inspired

Hrvatsko udruženje profesora engleskog jezika
Croatian Association of Teachers of English

NEWSLETTER

HUPE Newsletter No. 19 • June 2018



Two palm trees are positioned to the left of the text. The word 'Hello' is written in a yellow, cursive script. The word 'Summer' is written in a large, teal, bold, sans-serif font.

Hello
Summer

26th Annual HUPE Conference

20-22 April, 2018

Valamar, Poreč

Croatia



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Editor's note

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the summer issue of our HUPE newsletter. *School's out for summer*, but before you go on your well deserved holidays, read the latest HUPE news.

Preparations for the 27th Annual International HUPE Conference are well underway and we invite you all to join us in Poreč, in April. In this issue, you can read about our partners' impressions of the 26th conference.

Our branches have been very busy and in this issue, you can read more about the workshops they have organised.

HUPE representatives attend international conferences on a regular basis. Read about five excellent conferences in the **International Conferences** part.

Are you looking for ideas on how to teach culture? Read Davorka Nekić's report on her project.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter on a more regular basis, please contact us. We would like to have you on board!

We are also pleased to announce that HUPE is issuing a call for article submissions for the next HUPEzine.

We invite you to send your stories, comments, or reviews to hupe.newsletter@gmail.com.

Do not forget to write your name, surname, affiliation/institution and address at the beginning of the text. Photographs are also welcomed, but make sure you send them separately from the text.

Have fun reading your newsletter.

Yours,
Dajana

THE 26TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 26th Annual International HUPE Conference – Take one
Jelena Mihajlov,
ELTA Serbia representative

As I was setting off for Porec, I couldn't help but worry about what it would be like. After all, it would be my first time attending a HUPE conference as well as my first time as a presenter. All that anxiety was dispersed at the first sight of the sea and the lovely town of Porec. Later on, from the registration until the last day of the conference, I was engrossed in the event. I found everything around me inspiring – the venue, the plenaries, the workshops, the social events, the sea, and the perfect weather.

HUPE put me in a difficult position - there were so many workshops and so little time to attend them all. So I had to choose very carefully. I think I had chosen wisely but I couldn't help but feel a sting of regret for not being able to attend more.

On the first day of the conference, I attended the workshop held by Gail Ellis who talked about helping children develop awareness of their learning process. She also read us a nice story "Knuffle Bunny". I thoroughly enjoyed the workshop. I could imagine what it would be like to be in her class.

The next day started with the plenary talk held by Luciana C de Oliveira who did not only share useful ideas on how to address the writing demands for all levels of education but she also helped me relax before my own workshop. It all went well and I sincerely hope the colleagues who attended the workshop will find my ideas useful.

On the last day, I only had enough time for one workshop and I decided to check out Ivana Kirin's "Photography 101". I found it quite informative with all the advice on how to take perfect photos and how to use them in the classroom.

Being a part of a large and welcoming community of English teachers at The 26th Annual International HUPE Conference was a priceless experience, especially for a newbie like me. I hope there will always be HUPE – take two or three for me in the future.

The 26th Annual International HUPE Conference

Sandra Vida
IATEFL Slovenia

Hupe has a new venue! Let's check it out, we thought. And we did. :)

Slovenians are always grateful when the HUPE conference, which we all love so much, moves closer to us, so Poreč sounded like an excellent idea. When we arrived, we knew this was it. A fantastic venue, great food, the sea and the familiar faces in the crowd all hinted that this would be an event to remember.

With an interesting lineup of speakers and promising social events, the program looked superb. The thoughts that Penny Ur shared with us at the conference are still sounding in my head. Penny is always a joy to listen to, with her down-to-earth logic, which is all deeply rooted in research. I like the fact that she does this because, as practising teachers, we need to make decisions on a daily basis and often face criticism which would make anyone wonder and rethink. But if we want to remain firm in our stance towards the public, good research and informed decisions will always help us defend our position and our profession.

Those of you who regularly attend conferences will know how after a time, it gets harder to find workshops that bring something really new, but I was in for a pleasant surprise again. Daniel Starski's "Silent lesson" proved to be just that. The whole lesson was done in silence. I couldn't have imagined it. Everybody was working, paying attention to each other and to the teacher, but at the same time not uttering a sound. The instructions were written on a screen and we worked in pairs or small groups writing out the dialogues. Not only did it prove to be refreshing but we also produced a great amount of writing, dialogues and discussion, all observing the silent rules of turn-taking, respect and even listening. The idea was born after teachers in Poland refused to talk for an hour in protest, but perhaps it is something every one of us should try, especially with a group that struggles with discipline.

Nevertheless, a conference is never just the workshops or the plenaries. It is much more than that and I was really pleased when I found one that was being "upgraded" to a conference, gathering and a festival because that is essentially what it is. (If you don't know what I am talking about, try finding "SKA 2018: ELT Gathering, Festival, and Conference").

In this day and age when knowledge is easily accessible through Google, the HUPE conference was, in addition to being a conference, also a great gathering of like-minded people and a festival of soul sisterhood. We should be thankful that we live in a region where ELT gatherings are many and accessible and where those who want to stay connected, can do so online and meet occasionally at events like the HUPE conference.

During the breaks, we were able to take a lovely walk along the shore all the way to the beautiful city of Poreč. This time of year there weren't many tourists and the weather was absolutely perfect so we tried to enjoy the sun as much as possible. The evening entertainment was not short of fun either, with Friday's stand-up and Saturday's disco dancing where everyone got an opportunity to show their best moves and party on until the wee hours of the morning.

I am grateful for the opportunity of having been the representative of my association at your event, dear HUPEttes, for the warm welcome and the care you provided, but above all for the knowledge that I have you within reach in case, I need you.

26th Annual HUPE Conference

by Branka Dečković

This has been my fourth HUPE Conference, and I enjoyed it as much as the first time I attended one which was in 2013. It was also my first international conference ever, which is one more reason for it to be special for me. I am going to tell you about the things that I like about the HUPE conference.

The place – It is always located somewhere exotic. The 2013 conference was in Opatija, as well as the following two, in 2014 and 2015. The place is magical. It is by the sea where you can take strolls, enjoy the fresh air and watch the sunset. Also, all HUPE conferences are organized in hotels or resorts, so that all of the participants are at the same place, for the plenaries and workshops as well as for all the coffee breaks, meals, and social evenings.

Networking - Certainly, everyone comes to these conferences to attend the talks and learn new things. But I can tell you that sometimes, if not often, you learn more from talking with people, old and new, while networking, than in all the plenaries and workshops. I like this sense of belonging to a group of like-minded people, and everyone is really nice, friendly and supportive. This year the conference was in Porec. If you haven't visited it so far – well... it's high time you did. I will say no more.

The people - The first time I came to the conference, I didn't know anyone. Now - there are so many familiar faces and many friends. We also meet at other conferences and events. I went from drinking coffee on my own at coffee breaks to - missing coffee because there are so many people who I meet and talk to at coffee breaks, that, by the time I get the coffee, the break is over, and it's time to go to the next session. Of course, I skip a session here and there to have a chat with a friend (and enjoy the sun and the sea).

Professional development – The variety of workshops and talks, together with the plenaries, offers teachers the opportunity to learn many new things. It is not easy to decide which talk/workshop to attend but, once you have decided, there is always something you can take away with you. It might be something you like which sparks your curiosity so you want to find out more about it or try it out. It might also be something which you don't think is really your cup of tea. In any case, you will walk out of the room with something new.

This year, I really enjoyed Gail Ellis' plenary and workshop about *Teaching our Learners How to Learn*, and storytelling with children. I am teaching kindergarten at the moment, and there were some useful activities and suggestion from her. Also, Penny Ur's plenary about *Research That is of Interest to the Teacher* was really inspiring and thought-provoking. As for the workshops, I got some really great ideas from my colleagues - Marinko and Ivana - who gave a workshop titled *Understanding the Sea you Swim in – a Guide to Media Literacy*. Later on, Ivana had one more workshop on using photographs in our lessons. Again, there were many interesting ideas and looking at things from different perspectives.

I'm looking forward to next April and a new HUPE conference :)

Branka Dečković is an English teacher. She has been teaching for 14 years. She teaches all age groups, from kindergarten to adults, but her favourite age group are teenagers. She is interested in using authentic materials in the classroom, alternative methods of assessment, and teacher research.

The 26th Annual International HUPE Conference

János Ujlaki
IATEFL-Hungary

The 26th International HUPE Conference took place on 20-22 April, 2018 in Porec, Croatia.

The theme of the conference was *"Inspire and be inspired"*, which, I think, truly fulfilled the needs of the participants. Over 500 teachers and ELT experts attended the conference where more than 60 speakers shared their views and ideas on various topics in ELT.

The five plenary speakers delivered great talks, but for me, the most outstanding was Penny Ur and her talk about research for teachers. The talks and workshops covered a huge variety of interests, such as media literacy, literature and drama techniques, boosting speaking, motivational strategies, digital technology and creativity. The participants were able to gain really good ideas to use in their teaching. The plenaries and the workshops were well attended and the speakers received good feedback. There was a panel discussion on the topic *"English as a Lingua Franca"* with great experts in ELT.

The venue, Valamart Hotels & Resorts, was a perfect choice to organize the conference. The hotel is located in the holiday resort of Porec and the view from the hotel as well as its surroundings was picturesque. The hotel offered wellness services, sports facilities and fabulous gourmet experiences (Istrian, Croatian and International cuisine). All the speakers and participants stayed at the hotel, so everyone was close to all the events. Most of the conference events took place at the Diamant Hotel, while some workshops took place at the Rubin Hotel, which is only a short walk from the main venue. The service of the hotel was superb; the staff took good care of everything.

The city of Porec is a stunning place to visit with its Italian and Croatian roots. It is located in the Istrian peninsula, so the view and closeness of the beach are magnificent. HUPE organized a guided walking tour of the city during its annual AGM, so the non-members could spend their time well. We saw some remarkable architecture, the city strives to preserve its heritage in its original form. It was not easy to reach Porec by public transport in April as it is not the summer season, so HUPE organized coaches for the participants to get there.

Social events were organised too, these included stand-up comedy with British and American comedians, a theatre performance and a retro disco. During these events, participants got more of a chance to make new friends as well as to enjoy the entertainment.

Communication with HUPE before the conference was excellent, thanks to the friendly and supportive staff.

In conclusion, I highly recommend that everyone visit the next HUPE conference which is going to be organized at the very same venue on 12-14 April, 2019.

HUPE Experience

Daniel Starski
IATEFL Poland representative

If you're reading these words I guess you have to be an ESL teacher, either based in Poland or in any country affiliated with IATEFL. What it also means is that you're eligible for representing your organization at any conference within the network of partner organizations. So why do so few people do this? Is it because of a lack of time? Or maybe you are not a great fan of moving around?

Ever since I remember, I've always hated travelling. The very fact of spending time to get somewhere for a brief moment and then getting back to my ordinary life made me sick. Still, I can say I've had my fair share of sightseeing, visiting three continents and seeing foreign lands at least once a year ever since I was 15. So why on earth would I, of my own free will, decide to join IATEFL and represent it at the HUPE conference in 2018 in Porec, Croatia?

Surely it was not accessibility. Yes, ferries do run a few times a day from Venice, but... not in April. The case is similar to the trains. Planes from Warsaw to Pula are really expensive and Zagreb is around 300 km away. Friends? I knew only one person from HUPE and it was only from one session in Bielsko Biala. So maybe I had some extra time on my hands and had no idea of what to do with it? Well, I was in the middle of matura examiners' training, with two senior classes to prepare for the exam. I was also responsible for a few projects at school and was trying to organize next year's school trip with my own class. That being said, you might think I was nuts to go anywhere.

I think that the main idea behind being an IATEFL member (at least in Poland) is the experience. Sharing, learning from one another, but also the possibility to be the coach (even if you don't think you're experienced enough) and being appreciated for what you do. I believe that this was the main reason why I sent out my application in the first place. That one very thought was the tipping point.

The procedure is quite simple – send in a speaker's application form (with a note that you're going to apply for rep), then forget you've done that and, at that very moment, receive confirmation of your acceptance. Then contact Marta Bujakowska or whoever is responsible for the grants in your organization, follow their guidelines (which is basically 2 documents) and wait. Of course, chances are that you'll be rejected as there might be some other people applying that are more active in IATEFL than you are. Still, it does not cost anything – you just inform the partnering organization that you didn't get the grant. That's it.

Going back to HUPE itself. To make a long story short – it was unique. I got to the Ljubljana airport on Thursday, stayed overnight at my friends' and headed out with her on Friday (I learned that she'd be going as well after I got accepted). 200 km later I entered paradise. Set on the Istrian coast of Croatia, Porec is something like an upgraded Kołobrzeg. To make it even better, the entire conference was in the Valamar Resort – a true 4-star enormous area of peace.

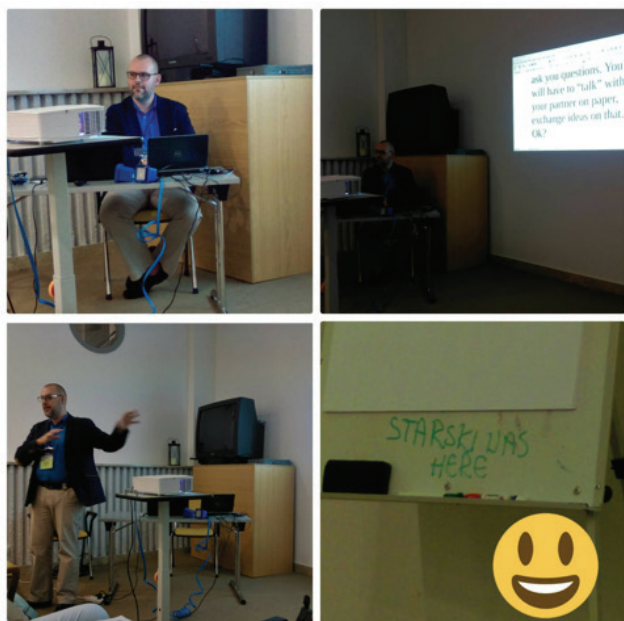
With breathtaking views of the sea, heated outdoor swimming pools with jacuzzies and delicious meals (when a rep, you have the accommodation and meals included),

there was simply nothing to miss. At this point, I was shocked that I was the only one that applied. But wait, there's more. The conference!

The program itself is organized very similarly to the IATEFL conferences. So, you have your plenaries, evening entertainment and annual general meeting. To be honest, I have not asked how many people were there, I would guess somewhere between what we had in Bielsko and Budapest, so a few hundred. Still, the speeches were conducted in three different



hotels, so you did not have the feeling of being overwhelmed by the number of people. What was different from what we have in Poland was that participants had to stay at the resort. It seemed like a good idea and it made it easier to take advantage of all the options given by the conference.



As a rep, I have to say that I got a fantastic slot for my speech – Saturday evening, the last session of the day. Everything was provided as I requested, the room itself seemed to be tailored for such an experience. As it was to be a live lesson with a following discussion, I limited the participants' number to 30 people and locked the door a minute after the beginning. I got half of my maximum, which made it even closer to what I usually do at school. People were actively involved and I had a feeling that they left the session with some new ideas and enjoyed it as much as I did.

I also took part in quite a few speeches, but since I prefer more direct contact, I focused on the workshops, rather than the plenaries. I particularly remember Photography 101 by Ivana Kirin. It is certainly in the TOP 3 of all the workshops I've attended so far (which is around 50). The speaker went through all the basics that allow each user to take more control over a camera (it doesn't matter if you have a "professional" SLR or the one on your cell phone). She also gave us quite a few ideas how on how to use tech

in teaching and suggested fantastic reading material on the subject.

Talking about technology, I've also seen Steve Lever's speech on Gamification. The speeches' title might be misleading though – it was not simply yet another sales speech on another fantastic book we've just published (Steve works for one of the publishing houses). The speaker shared ideas on class organization, setting its dynamics around some common goals and creating teamwork. I also learned how to manage huge crowds – in the first 5 minutes, the organizers had to bring additional chairs for around 20 extra people, with probably 50 already inside. Personally, it was very educational for me to see the ease with which Steve was working with the audience.

As I said, I usually prefer workshops as a source of inspiration for future lessons – that's why I also distinctly remember Janos Uljaki – IATEFL Hungary representative delivering a speech on Motivating the unmotivated. It was a fantastic perspective, as we both teach mostly maths oriented students and we encounter similar issues on the way. Janos gave me some ideas that I already use. My students particularly enjoy the one on using music when describing emotion and practicing tenses.

When it comes to the socializing part – I have to say that Valamar has both pluses and some downsides. Clearly, the venue itself, with the swimming pool and the beauty of the surroundings is more than teachers could expect. Having all the basic needs catered for, one can spend a bit on afternoon meetings. It is generally easy to make new friends there or meet up with some familiar ones (mostly from South-Eastern Europe). Personally, I've made a few new friends (both European and American) and I will keep in touch with them for sure. As for the evening entertainment, HUPE organized it really well – stand up, city tour around Porec and a disco. Still,



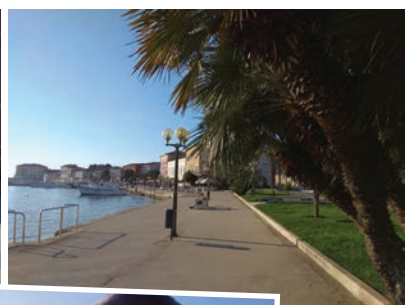
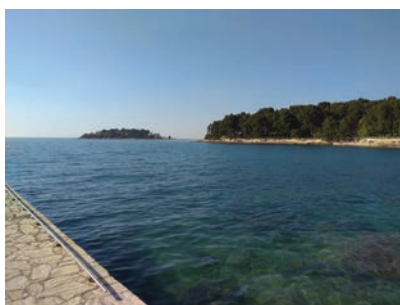
I think that the stand up could have been organized somewhere else, the main speakers' hall was not the best place for this particular event.

So far, I hope that you feel it's quite tempting to apply for representing IATEFL Poland at conferences, particularly in Croatia. However, keeping in mind the hospitality of the organizers, this particular trip would imprint on my memory without a very personal aspect. Quite by chance, it turned out that a friend of mine was going to the conference as well. Making a long story short, I was invited by her and her family to stay on for Thursday and Sunday. This coincidence, all thanks to the very idea of being a representative, left me with a new, very personal and close friendship. It is impossible to express my gratitude to those people who shared with me their few days, helped me and cared for my needs. I also ended up learning more than I could about Slovenia (yes, while going to Croatia). Thank you.



I could go on like this for a few more pages, but even if you're still reading, you're probably close to closing the file. So let me say it this way – please, do not apply to any representative positions. Maybe then I'll have more opportunities :) The experience is magical, as simple as it gets when it comes to organizational aspects. From every trip I bring a vinyl, to remind me of the places I've seen. I can honestly say that the one I bought in Ljubljana is among my favourites, both for the magic of Willie Nelson and the memories it brings. I'll leave you with a few more pictures of the places I've seen so that you'll start packing.

Thank you IATEFL Poland, thank you HUPE, thank you my friends for this wonderful time.



HUPE Conference Report

by Tea Horvatić, Primary School Strahoninec

teahorvatic@gmail.com

The 26th Annual International HUPE Conference was held in Poreč from 20 to 22 April 2018. The three-day programme contained five plenaries, 63 workshops and talks, social programmes including stand-up comedy, a play, dancing and coffee breaks filled with raffles and opportunities to network with fellow colleagues.

The Friday sessions started after the official opening with a plenary by professor **Anna Martinović**, from the University of Zadar. The talk "Once upon a time there lived a language teacher" covered the evolution of a language teacher keeping up with the trends in modern language teaching, the methods and techniques they use and the challenges they face. The speaker compared implicit and explicit teaching to the different ages of students, giving feedback and motivating them, the varieties of English today and use of mother tongue (L1) in the classroom, as well as the fluency and accuracy that communicative language teaching nurtures.

The participants were encouraged to reflect on their own teaching practice and were motivated to continue to grow professionally and personally.

The workshop by **Gail Ellis** from the British Council, Paris, was based on using picture books to develop metacognition. Ellis loves using picture books in her teaching. There are many reasons why they are a great tool for teaching English, as they offer meaningful context and authentic language (Klippel, 2006) and they are part of a shared social experience, encourage literacy development and phonological awareness (Ellis and Brewster, 2014). Ghosn (2002) finds picture books motivating, as they tell stories and have universal themes. When planning a storytelling lesson, a teacher should include four stages:

1. **Plan** – teaching vocabulary and pre-reading activities.
2. **Do** – story-telling and while-reading activities.
3. **Review** – after-reading activities.
4. **Share** – the story is shared with parents and home-involvement is very important at this stage.





Stories are excellent for cross-curricular learning and they develop metacognition (knowing about knowing) defined by Brown (1978), as well as the awareness of how one is learning, which includes self-regulation.

The workshop was carried out as a storytelling lesson, by reading the picture book by Mo Willems “Knuffle Bunny” and following the four stages described above. The activities carried out in the workshop are described in a book by Ellis and Brewster (2014) *The Storytelling Handbook for Primary English Language Teachers* that can be downloaded online from the British Council site.

The second workshop on Friday was about media literacy and was held by **Marinko Uremović** and **Ivana Kirin**, fellow teachers from Croatia. They analysed the social media that students use, such as YouTube, Instagram and Snapchat and how they can be incorporated into the classroom. As everyone is exposed to a multitude of media messages, students need to be taught how to use social media and how to recognize fake news, as well as other media literacy skills. The presenters demonstrated some of the stereotypes that are part of fairy tales and what messages they give to children, but also some of their modern counterparts, such as „sheroes“, modern Barbie dolls – heroes, made to honour the famous scientists, artists or engineers of the 20th century or Roal Dahl’s „Revolting Rhymes“ and „Goldilocks and the Three Bears“. One of the interesting ideas for class activities was rewriting the popular stories and spotting the fake news. They also presented a project in which students had to create their own TV channel and come up with the logo, names of the shows, TV programme and peer-evaluate it. The presenters suggested using the webpage <https://www.commonsense.org/education/> for additional resources when teaching media literacy.

On Saturday morning, the first plenary talk was given by **Luciana C de Oliveria**, a professor at the University of Miami. She talked about teaching writing at the elementary level and about the genre approach to writing (Martin and Rose, 2008; de Oliveira and Lan, 2014). The important factor to consider in writing is the social purpose of writing itself. Next, the participants created a collaborative story in three stages:

1. **Brainstorming in groups** – the ideas to include in writing, positioning and the description
2. **Sharing ideas** – the teacher writes the ideas on the board, adding information, using nouns and adjectives, verbs and adverbs etc.
3. **Writing together as a class** – collaborative writing

In the workshop by **Jelena Mihajlov** from the private language school in Belgrade, the participants learned some games that she uses in language teaching. The focus was primarily on young learners, but some of these can be used for older students, as well. Examples of the activities used were presented through learning the Persian language, so the

participants got the chance to feel like students do when they learn a language for the first time. Some of the presented games included using flashcards, games for practicing grammar, Chinese whispers and mime.

The next session contained the twenty-minute talks and I had to present the Erasmus+ project from my school **“Step into Future”** where there is the opportunity for teacher mobility abroad for the purpose of professional development. The goal of this project is to discover new teaching methods, use ICT in the classroom and encourage creativity in the students. In the English lessons, I incorporated using Micro:bits, the digital platform Loomen by CarNet for e-learning, Ozobots and coding and various ICT tools and apps. You can read more about our project on the webpage: <https://facebook.com/erasmusKA1strahoninec/>.

The afternoon plenary, held by **Mike Mayor**, was about the Global Scale of English, a new framework to inform teaching. The scale was developed at Pearson from CEFR research and “can do” statements and was extended with a set of learning objectives to address the needs of more learners. The speaker presented the scale and the objectives and compared it to CEFR and the number of hours students need to learn English in order to advance to a higher level. Not only does the GSE have more levels (such as pre-A1, A2+, B1+), but it also gives a highly reliable scale that has been examined all over the world by a remarkably high number of teachers. The GSE and the online resources are freely available to teachers. They can help you to organize and plan your teaching, and you can print out the skills and resources like worksheets that can be filtered based on age, skill or topic. You can register and find out more at this web address: <http://english.com/gse>.

It is hard to point out the best workshop, but one of the best was concerning speaking skills and it was Penny Ur’s workshop “Getting them to talk in English”. She presented many ways of encouraging speaking, starting from dialogues, making chain sentences, accumulating and recalling vocabulary, creating dramatic conversations and the use of scaffolding to aid students. She gave many examples of guessing games, yes/no questions, conjecturing (where there are no right answers and we can choose the right one), games like “Find someone who...” or using doodles in the lessons to encourage speaking. Other fantastic ideas that she presented were reverse guessing games where the class has to help one student to guess the word from the board, picture dictations for the teacher or for the students, describing and saying things about pictures and more. All of the activities usually have simple language, include collaboration and are game-like. The examples of such game-like activities are: „Make a sentence in the Present Continuous without the letter L!“ or „Say as many sentences as you can about a picture!“ Many of the activities from the workshop can be found in Penny Ur’s books, such as Discussions and more, Penny Ur’s 100 teaching tips and others.

On Sunday, Mia Šavrljuga held a workshop on Clever Cubes which were recently given to schools by Profil-Klett. The idea behind them is a neverending class story. The cubes are easy to use for all the skills and all the activities are being published in the Profil-Klett repository for teachers. Some of the activities that were the most fun in this workshop were creating a collaborative story based on using a noun, a verb and an adjective from the pictures on the cubes, telling the world’s shortest / happiest / scariest story in six words or writing a dictagloss. The participants had a try with a dictagloss where the groups created a collaborative story and told them to three volunteers who were not in the room at the time of the making of the story. When they entered the room, they were told the story by the whole group and then had to retell it again. Everyone had a laugh and we were certain that students would have fun with this activity in the classroom likewise.

The final plenary was given by Penny Ur and it was about research of interest to the teacher. The speaker reviewed the research of various authors and gave her opinion: „Academic research is a minor but significant contributor to teacher expertise“. Throughout her teaching practice, she always tried to keep up with the research papers and see whether the findings were true in classroom practice. This is the reason why she encourages teachers to read the research and use the good models and techniques in the classroom, give feedback and grow from that as a teacher.

The HUPE conference ended with a closing ceremony on Sunday afternoon when everyone went “back to reality”, but left filled with many excellent examples for classroom practice, ideas for new projects for the rest of the school year and energized with a breath of fresh air from Istria as well as new contacts to be continued online or onsite in next year’s conference. I was happy to be part of this amazing experience.

HUPE BRANCHES

HUPE Karlovac

HUPE – Branch Karlovac ran its fourth meeting in the school year 2017/2018 on **Thursday, 29 March 2018 at 12 00 a.m. in Industry and Trade Vocational School, Domobranska 2, Karlovac**

The workshop was organised in cooperation with the British Council and HUPE and run by Stephen Hindlaugh, a teacher with more than thirty years of experience. His experience includes working in the learning support department of a secondary school in the UK as well as being a tutor for the British Council's online Special Educational Needs course and delivering face-to-face SEN workshops in Croatia.

A part of such rich experience was shared with teachers of English last Thursday through the workshop Gifted and Talented Learners. Although the workshop lasted for 4 school periods, it was very interesting and insightful. It helped teachers make their teaching more inclusive and more effective with students with special needs

Teachers first investigated the different types of gifted and talented learners and considered the issues these learners face in class. Then we considered a range of effective strategies for helping gifted and talented learners to reach their full potential, making all parties in the learning process more satisfied /gifted and talented learners, a teacher and the rest of the class/.

In the end of the meeting all participants entered a prize draw to win an additional SEN online module of their choice. The prize was won by a new HUPE member

According to the feedback, all participants were more than happy with this workshop and hope to see more such well done workshops in cooperation with British Council.

The meeting was attended by eleven teachers and two students.

Dubravka Lapčić,
HUPE-Branch Karlovac Preside
Industry and Trade Vocational School
Karlovac



RIJEKA BRANCH MEETING REPORT

The third HUPE Rijeka Branch meeting was held at Gradska knjižnica Rijeka, – American Corner in Rijeka on March 15th, 2018. Seventeen members attended the meeting.

The agenda:

1 Stephen Hindlaugh (British Council): Engaging with special educational needs: Gifted and talented

We talked about the different ways we think that children are gifted and talented. The participants were introduced to some classroom activities and strategies, which help to engage gifted and talented children, make them feel valued and give them the appropriate academic challenge.

Thank you all for coming and hope to see you at our next meeting in May!

If you wish to join HUPE Rijeka, contact me at hupe.rijeka@gmail.com.

Nataša Žarkov
HUPE Rijeka



RIJEKA BRANCH MEETING REPORT

The fourth HUPE Rijeka Branch meeting was held at Gradska knjižnica Rijeka, ogranak Trsat – American Corner in Rijeka on May 26th, 2018. Fourteen members attended the meeting.

The agenda included:

1. Ana Inić: Translation in teaching
2. Vedrana Frlan: Writing tasks? Yes, please!
3. Nataša Žarkov: HUPE conference – news and update

The first workshop was held by Ana Inić, the teacher in Natural Sciences and Graphic Arts Secondary School. She talked about translation in teaching. The use of mother tongue in FL classroom was not welcome for years. However, in the past decade or two within the post communicative paradigm much attention has been given to translation. There are numerous studies which show that translation in language teaching can serve as a catalyst to language learning and students can benefit from it on a cognitive, pedagogical and functional level. The aim of this workshop was to present some key notions related to translation in language teaching and show practical examples which can be used in the classroom.

Vedrana Frlan, the teacher in Primary School Lokve, talked about writing tasks which can be a source of enjoyment, creativity and fun to students of all ages. This presentation examined some ways in which primary school students can derive more pleasure from their writing tasks. It offered many examples of successful and motivating classroom practice. It also encouraged the teachers at the meeting to have a go at a writing task of their choice and share their own most interesting ideas and tips regarding the topic.

Nataša Žarkov, HUPE Branch President, talked about 26th HUPE Conference held in April in Poreč.

Thank you all for coming and hope to see you at our next meeting in September!

If you wish to join HUPE Rijeka, contact me at hupe.rijeka@gmail.com.

Nataša Žarkov
HUPE Rijeka



SPLIT BRANCH MEETING REPORT

The fourth HUPE Split Branch meeting was held at Osnovna škola don Lovre Katića in Solin on March 16th, 2018.

The agenda included a 3-hour workshop titled *Understanding approaches to inclusive learning*.

The workshop was organised in cooperation with the British Council and run by Stephen Hindlaugh. Mr. Hindlaugh has been teaching for almost 30 years. His experience includes working in the learning support department of a secondary school in the UK. He has also been a tutor for the British Council's online Special Educational Needs course and has been delivering face-to-face SEN workshops in Croatia.

SEN –related and cognitive learning needs were the focus of the workshop. The teachers explored their own attitudes to inclusion and how to find out more about their learners so that they can decide how to help them in the classroom. They were introduced to ten approaches to inclusion which represent a framework for good practice in teaching and learning.

This was an active and interactive workshop in which the participants got a chance to reflect on their own teaching and how to move towards a learning –centred classroom.

After the workshop all participants entered a prize draw to win an additional SEN online module.

Thank you all for coming and hope to see you at our next meeting in May!

If you wish to join HUPE Split, contact me at hupe.split@gmail.com

Vanja Fazinić
HUPE Split



HUPE Varaždin

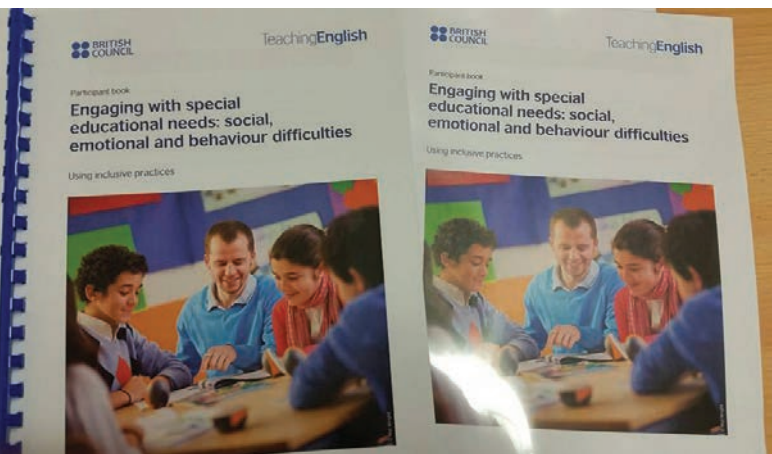
Workshop on Social, emotional and behaviour difficulties (SEBD) held on Thursday, 8 March at Srednja škola Ludbreg helped us to learn how to make teaching more inclusive and help our students with special needs learn more effectively.

We were guided through several group activities and gained useful strategies for managing not only students with SEBD but our own emotional and physical state as well.

Many thanks to our trainer Stephen Hindlaugh and Branka Žaja for making this invaluable workshop possible!

Ivana Pomahač

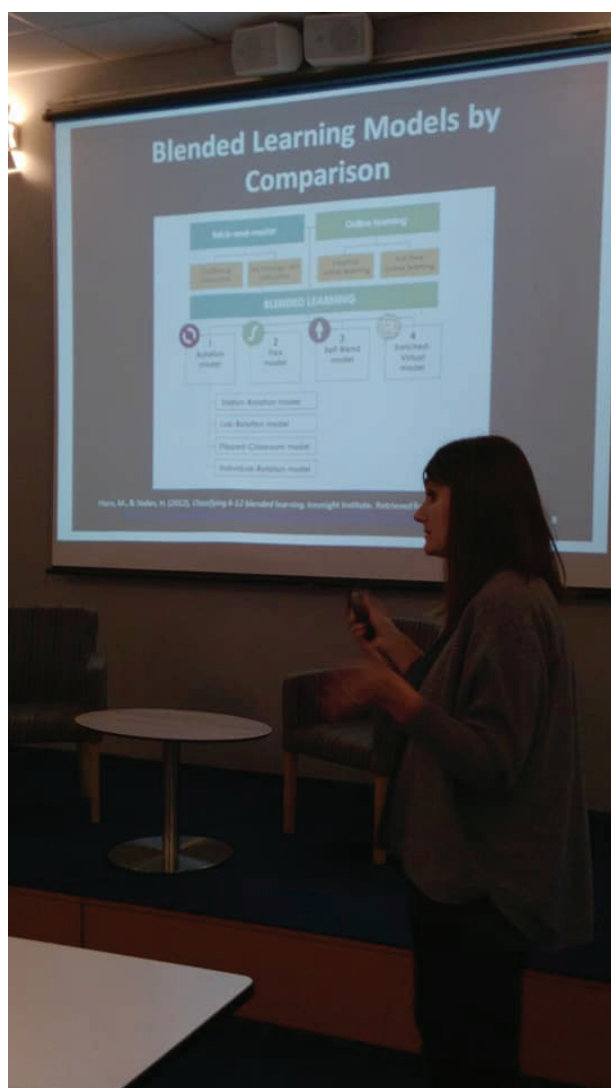
HUPE Varaždin Branch President



HUPE Zadar

HUPE Zadar branch meeting scheduled for the 16th March, 2018, was held in the Public Library Zadar at 5:00 p.m. Since this has been the last meeting before the Annual Conference in Poreč we decided to host Anamarija Štulina from the University of Zadar (Center for foreign languages). Anamarija presented a relevant topic of Blended Learning Challenge. The educational system in Croatia is currently witnessing a growing interest directed toward introducing the blended learning approach into traditional learning (the implementation of ICT technologies to schools). There are various reasons for, as well as multiple consequences of this interest. This lecture dealt with benefits and difficulties and also gave some recommendations to teachers who will possibly implement the approach during the experimental phase of the Curricular reform that is to take place in September. Professors Anne Martinović and Dino Dumančić also attended the meeting and announced their talks on the upcoming conference. The Annual Conference was a part of the agenda, too. Members who attended the meeting were given detailed instructions considering the organised transport that has been arranged this year as well as all other information about the registration, hotel and the conference itself.

Anita Žepina, HUPE Zadar Branch President



HUPE Zagreb Branch meeting

The fourth HUPE Zagreb meeting was held on 8th June at Svijet jezika in Vodnikova Street.

There were two workshops on the agenda. The first one was Photography 101 by our colleague Ivana Kirin who works in Osijek. This workshop got fantastic feedback at the HUPE Annual Conference in April so it was a pleasure hosting it in Zagreb. Ivana taught us how to use our cameras successfully and how to make them useful in the classroom. Different ways of involving students and photos were discussed.

The second workshop was The Weather Report. I showed some activities in the classroom that make both students and teachers move more. After exploring those, we learned how to relax with the weather report. A lot of laughter and fun was shared and some new techniques were embraced.

If you wish to join us, let me know at hupe.zagreb@gmail.com.

Have a nice summer and see you in September.

Lana Duka Zupanc
HUPE Zagreb



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Lana Duka Zupanc

HUPE Zagreb

IATEFL HUNGARY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

As a representative of HUPE Croatia, I have had the privilege of attending IATEFL Hungary Conference in beautiful Budapest and it was on my birthday, which made it even more cheerful.

Conferences are much more than attending workshops. They give you a chance to meet old friends, and make new ones. It is wonderful to be given an opportunity to spend a weekend that enhances your spirit, helps you develop as a teacher, fills you up with ideas as well as reflections, and finally make you proud after producing a workshop in front of the colleagues that you have not met before. The plenaries were great, especially Linda Ruas' s on teaching / avoiding controversial topics in the classroom.

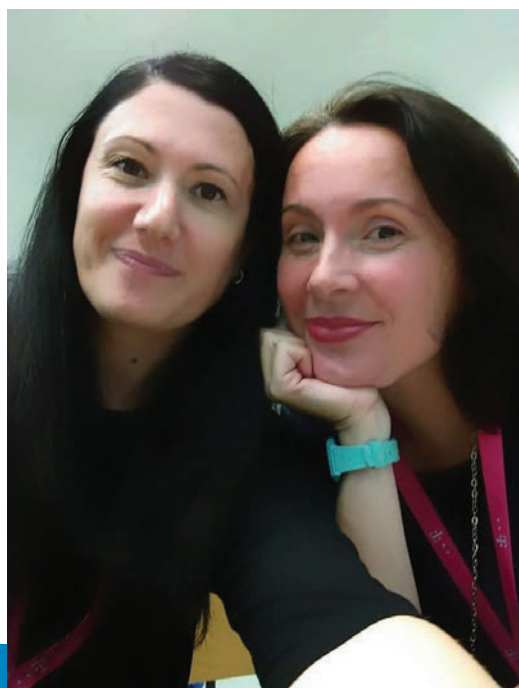
Having attended many workshops, I still managed to enjoy them all because they were all different, useful and wonderful in their own ways. I gladly volunteered to participate in Mark Almond's workshop which was about drama techniques in the classroom. I was challenged to try out different roles and enjoyed myself immensely.

I also liked Juan Uribe's workshop: Being affective is truly effective!, Krisztina Turi : The Gift of Voice, the Power of Words – it was brilliant, and I loved the fact that her daughter assisted her, it made me think how so many of us have influenced our kids by our love for teaching English.

I also need to mention a great workshop on using videos by Sanja Čonjagić and Sonja Josipović and finally, the most memorable plenary by Linda Ruas : The World in the Classroom; the Classroom in the World. It was about whether it is our role, as English teachers, to use critical pedagogy to encourage learners to question power structures and gender balance. Of course it is, it is also our duty and a challenge because we are the privileged ones – we really can talk about everything in our classroom, if we want to. It is not easy, but there is no way you can do this job without bringing the Now in the classroom.

I have also attended partners meeting and it needs to be said over and over again that Teachers Associations are the best associations and it is important that we support each other and share not only ideas and experience, but love and passion for what we do and who we do it for.

There are so many benefits of conferences and I cannot wait for another one, to learn and to share good vibes, knowledge and positivity.



25th International conference IATEFL Slovenia

Dubravka Blažić

HUPE Treasurer

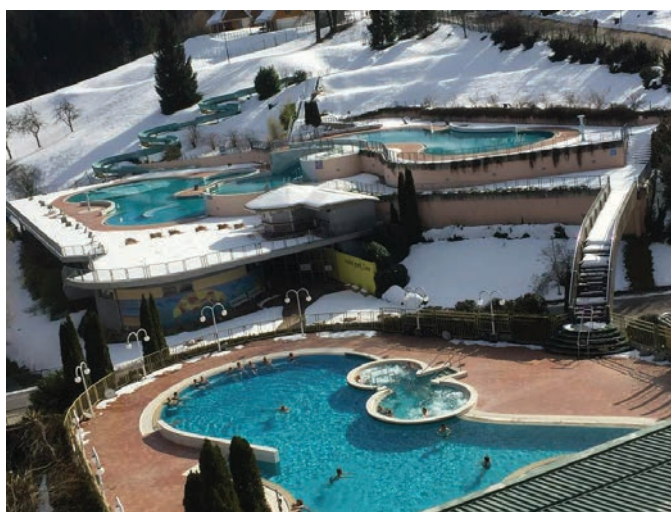
25th International conference IATEFL Slovenia titled *Imagine...* took place in a spa called Topolšica from 8th to 11th March 2018. The venue is in the heart of Slovenia, halfway between Maribor (83) and Ljubljana (82), 8 km from Velenje. Little is it known that Topolšica happens to be a place where the capitulation of The Third Reich was signed on 9th May 1945.

David Crystal, Penny Ur, Peter Dyer (from Pilgrims), Jen McArthur and Hugh Dellar were plenary speakers. David and his wife Hillary were also responsible for a social event when they performed a dialogue-play related to Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, telling us about the curses of the name in the theatre world. Penny Ur, charismatic as ever, spoke of using lesson time efficiently and stated that our favourite Hangman was actually a bad game because there is little language learning involved and too much time spent. In other words: do it to kill time! We were surprised by this revelation. Hugh Dellar talked about the curse of creativity while Peter Dyer addressed improvisation in the classroom: how to encourage speaking and creative writing by freeing our imaginative spirit. David Crystal told the story of English in 100 words and Jen McArthur's plenary was: Maps in the English language classroom: imagining the world.

Only five Croats attended the Conference, which is a pity, considering the quality of the conference and the fine balance between the laid-back atmosphere and useful professional plenaries and workshops. All of us gave successful workshops and also attended the well-designed programme.

IATEF has a new SIG (Special Interest Group): Global Issues. They work on saving the world, worry about human rights, tackle ecology issues, and require respect and tolerance. Fiona Mauchline had a presentation *What the Eyes See*, which was about prejudice. She finished it with a rather powerful film by Always Tampons. In this clip, a pretty girl is asked to run like a girl and she starts running in a funny way, emphasising her femininity. Later on, she realises she needs to run the way she naturally runs, not mocking the fact that she is a girl. We

were also shown pictures in which there were men in uniforms, powerful, evil, wearing helmets and on the opposite side of the photo there always was a lonely but strong woman who did not fear them. The conclusion is that one-sided activism is not good either: praising women on account of men is as sexist and as wrong as diminishing them: not all of these wild, tough men in uniforms are enforcing violence, some are actually nice guys who deserve our respect.





The social programme was great: we were supposed to come to a 70's flower power party wearing hippy flowery clothes and ribbons, and we got to dance to the music of the time. The interesting thing is the Slovenes got the idea for it from a HUPE 80's party. Inspire and be inspired.

Ana Galac and I were also invited to a roundtable discussion in which there were representatives of other teachers' associations from the area and we all gave our contribution to what such an association should be like.

Everyone's praise of HUPE made my heart go faster and something that Mark Andrews said at another conference was pointed out again: HUPE is not centralised, it has a network of branches. We proudly stated that this school year we established two new ones, now having 10 very active branches in a small country like Croatia! In short, everybody looks up to HUPE. It was mentioned that IATEFL Austria ceased to exist. It is a circle of life: while we thrive, somebody else disappears.

We also participated in a walk around the place and were taken to the Capitulation room, not far from the hotel. It is open 24/7 and by pressing a button, you hear about Victory Day (Dan zmage).

On Saturday night the social programme was Lip Sync, which was singing to music (playback), or rather opening your mouth and pretending to sing. It was surprising how Hugerians took a Croatian song (Crno bijeli svijet) and gave an inspiring performance.

IATEFL Slovenia did a great job, offering great workshops and plenaries but also providing a chance to relax. 20 student helpers lifted up the atmosphere and the energy level and everybody was so modest and helpful.

The conference did not finish with a plenary but with a cafe: reflecting upon the event over coffee and cake! Two teachers were 'waiters' with aprons and tea towels bringing menus, coffee and cake. As a starter, we referred to the social programme, the 70s party, as the main dish. We stated what the highlights of the conference were and what impressed us most. The dessert was: what am I taking to my Monday morning class. It was a great idea. Groups of teachers made posters with their observations.

I am going to finish with a slogan from billboards encouraging you to visit our neighbours: I feel **Slovenia**. I feel love.

Brighton 2018 – A Report from the 52nd IATEFL Conference

Sanja Božinović
HUPE President



Brighton was the venue for the 52nd International IATEFL Conference and Exhibition. I was lucky to be one of approximately 3000 delegates, ELT professionals from more than 100 countries, to attend the conference in April.

My participation started on Sunday, 8th April, at The Brighton Centre. I was a HUPE representative for the networking evening for the IATEFL staff, volunteers and associate representatives. The IATEFL SVA Networking Event is the perfect place to meet colleagues from IATEFL, the IATEFL patron David Crystal, and representatives of other IATEFL associates.

Monday, 9th April, was the day for pre-conference events. As the representative of HUPE, I participated in the Associates' Day. This year's theme was "Engagement with and between Associates". The Associates' Day was an excellent opportunity to present the work of HUPE, learn about how other teachers' associations work, and about their success stories and challenges. I met colleagues and we talked about future projects together, learned about different possibilities of collaboration and opportunities for continuing professional development for HUPE members.

The official programme of the conference started on Tuesday morning. The conference had a programme of around 500 talks, workshops and symposiums as well as a social programme for every evening. In addition, there was a large exhibition involving around 50 ELT-related exhibitors where teachers could see and buy the latest ELT publications, meet authors, and get promotional materials. There was also the IATEFL Jobs Fair, which, like every year, attracted a

number of teachers to use the conference as an opportunity to discuss job opportunities with various recruiters.

Every day at the conference started with a "How to..." session offering practical advice and guidance to teachers on how to give a presentation, how to write materials for ELT magazines, how to get published, how to move into school management, and many other topics. They were well attended even if they were always held at 8.15 in the morning.

The plenaries at 9.00, were the sessions most delegates not only attended but also discussed in detail over coffee breaks, in their blogs, and on social media. All of them were very good opportunities to stop and reflect on an aspect of our professional life, very different from one another and impossible to



compare but all full of intriguing questions. Thanks to the partnership of IATEFL with the British Council, all plenaries were filmed and can be accessed on the Teaching English website, for all teachers who could not be in Brighton and all of us who would like to get back and listen to them again. Lourdes Ortega talked about the importance of research, Dorothy Zemach on materials creation. Brita Fernandez Schmidt sent a powerful message about access to education for marginalised women. Barry O'Sullivan talked about the history of testing. A beautiful tradition at the IATEFL conferences is the last plenary – there is always an artist to hold the closing plenary. This year it was John Agard, a poet who read a selection of his poems and signed copies of books.

The IATEFL conference offered a wide choice of talks and workshops, poster presentations, forums, and book signing events, taking place from 8.15 - 18.15 in twenty-three rooms of the Brighton Centre and The Hilton Brighton Metropole Hotel.

Tuesday was the most difficult day to get organized and get the best out of the conference because I was one of the speakers. My talk on *The Importance of Improving Student-to-Student Interactions in the Classroom* was scheduled for mid-afternoon. I will never forget all the mixed feelings, from being overwhelmed and asking myself if the topic relevant to me will be of interest to colleagues from different corners of the world, to the feeling of pride after a fruitful discussion with colleagues from different teaching contexts who share the same passion for teaching and professional development. The talk went well and I was ready for the rest of the conference.

The number of interesting talks and workshops were so many that the only way to choose was to download the programme before the conference and start choosing before arrival. Then I double - checked my choices every evening for the next day. I managed to learn many new ideas that I plan to implement into my own teaching. I met a few authors whose books I had read. I started a plan or two on new projects. The most interesting experience was meeting people who I only knew online.

Of course, I had to miss a number of good talks and workshops. Fortunately, for all teachers who want to see more than is possible for humans at one time, as well as for those who could not attend the conference in person, many of the IATEFL conference materials stay online and can be viewed anytime. Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7or3SUT9MLpsLB-0W3bl5euzm1DBmgdS>

The conference was not only about learning together. There was a rich social programme every evening. Teachers from all around the world joined forces, formed teams and competed in a trivia quiz, shared stories, presented or listened to Pecha Kucha presentations, or to teachers performing love and protests songs, to name just a few.

In addition, attending the conference was a unique opportunity for all teachers to see Brighton as well as the rest of the beautiful county of Sussex, famous not only for English language centres but also for the beauty of its chalky hills and cliffs and peaceful English seaside resorts.

Next year the IATEFL conference is in Liverpool, 2-5 April, and I am sure it will be equally interesting, a great opportunity for professional development.

For all who think that the cost of travelling and attending a conference in the UK is too high for a teacher in Croatia, please check the information about scholarship opportunities at the IATEFL official webpage. There are quite a few.

If you are not lucky to get the opportunity to go to Liverpool, there is always an excellent online coverage of the conference, a number of blogs with reports from the conference, and hope for better luck next year.

The IATEFL conference is a professional development event I recommend to all teachers, regardless of their age, years of experience in teaching and special interests within the field of language learning and teaching.

Links to the recordings:

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/events/IATEFL-Online/2018>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7or3SUT9MLpsLB-0W3bl5euzm1DBmgdS>

16th ELTA Serbia Conference

Nikolina Pranjić

HUPE Slavonski Brod

Although it was the beginning of May it wasn't very hot in Belgrade. Furthermore, it was a great experience and a privilege for me to be part of the conference, both professionally and personally. As a HUPE representative, I was invited to the Associates' Day on May 11, which was a chance to meet other associates coming from all over the world, but also the opportunity to present your association to other delegates. So, I took the chance to present HUPE at our meeting which took place at Jen MacArthur's home in Belgrade. On Friday, May 11, Dr. Olja Milošević, ELTA President, opened the Conference. Dr. Danimir Mandić, Teacher at the Education Faculty, welcomed us together with HE Mr. Denis Keefe- British Ambassador to Serbia and Jen MacArthur, Regional English Language Officer. It was a really difficult choice between all the talks and workshops given, so I will try to give a short overview of all those I attended and found the most interesting. Jen MacArthur had an opening plenary *Maps as Metaphors* where she explained how metaphorical maps can help us set our course and know where have we come from, and more traditional maps can be used in new ways to reinforce language learning objectives. The most interesting plenary talk (for me) was *Tricks with texts*, done by Alan Marsh, President of MATEFL. He gave some creative ways of applying „demand high“ to each and any reading text by combining approaches where texts are linguistic objects, where texts are sources of information or where we can see texts as springboards for learner production. His logo was "Let's bring reading back to life".

Vicky Ppageorgiou's workshop called *We love Project work* was very interesting. She talked about projects that bring our students back to the creative forefront as they encourage critical thinking and creativity. She presented photostories, Art projects and projects using technology. I was especially nervous on Friday, May 11, since I had the workshop *Using Lapbooks in the Classroom*. It was my first one at an ELTA Conference, and it was a relief that the room was not full, probably because the change of workshop was not announced. Another big challenge for me was to do it in only 45 minutes!

As I already mentioned, at the end of the first day, some of us were invited to Jen MacArthur's place where I met a lot of interesting people. The next day I attended Jen MacArthur's workshop *Exploring our Galaxy, Near and Far, through Picture Books*. She talked about how literature can capture the learner's attention in new and unexpected ways. We looked at high quality illustrated picture books for use with students of all ages to integrate science into the EFL class. Using picture books can spark both the teachers' and students' creativity to take them forays into CLIL to faraway places, on this planet, in this galaxy, and beyond. My impression of the ELTA Conference was complete after a walk through the city centre and dinner in Skadarlija street.



Report from the Fourth ELTAM Annual Conference - ELTAM Day in Podgorica, 5th May 2018-06-10

Lana Duka Zupanc
HUPE Zagreb

I was a very happy HUPE representative at the Fourth ELTAM Annual Conference - ELTAM day 2018 Minds Wide Open: Creating a Culture of Innovation in the Classroom at the Faculty of Philology in Niksic. It took place on May 5, 2018, briefly after the 26th HUPE Annual Conference. I was happy to see some familiar faces again and meet new colleagues.

Plenary sessions included Jen MacArthur from RELO (Regional English Language Officer) and Rob Dean from Pearson. After welcoming words, there was a very nice short film about ELTAM in 2017 and 2018, showing everything they do as an organization.

The first plenary was by Jen MacArthur Geography and CLIL. The reason why geography was chosen is simply because it sparks students' curiosity in the world around them, as well as the world far away. Geography is inherently interdisciplinary, making it a great source of materials for demonstrating CLIL techniques.

I had a workshop after the plenary and it went very well, so I was more than happy to continue learning and participating in everything the conference had to offer.

Rob Dean's plenary was *Nothing Stands Still for Long – Changing English*. This session looked into new elements



entering the language as well as old elements falling out of use. Examples of changing grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and usage were made and discussed.

I also attended two interesting and fun workshops. The first one was about *Writing Practice in the ELT Classroom* by Vojo Mrvaljevic and Gordana Milic, and the second one was *Don't Just Sit There. Get up and Move!* By Jean Linehan.

SOL – Sharing One Language had a raffle for their summer courses, and I was invited to help Kristina Sebek, their coordinator, choose the lucky winner.

After the ELTAM Annual assembly, I spoke to the ELTAM president Dragana Radoman and vice president Zorka Radonjic about collaboration between our teachers' associations.



A SNEAK PEEK INTO OUR CLASSROOMS

Davorka Nekić, prof.

Nikola Tesla Branch school, Moravice
ddnekić@gmail.com

Being ecologically conscious is great!

The 8th class pupils did a text on the recycled art represented by artists such as Strati, Dahlsen and Wilson from which they found out what kind of things can be used to make artwork. Driftwood, chewing gum, nails, toothpicks, and flip-flops are just some of them. After learning about the environmentally-friendly art they had an assignment to make their own recycled piece of art. Mirjam Golik made the Eiffel Tower using cardboard, Samanta Trbović made the Norwegian flag using toilet paper, cardboard and some watercolours. (If you are wondering why Norwegian...well, it's simple: her favourite music band comes from that county.) Danijela Milošević, Anja Rajnović and Roberta Vučinić used pasta to make their recycled pieces of art. Danijela made a unique pasta unicorn; Anja made an amazing black pasta cat while Roberta made a cardboard poster with a motivational message on it as well as a little green pasta alien. Valentina Alinčić made a fully functional pencil case by using a plastic 0,5 l bottle which she cut in half and then glued back together using a zipper. She made it look like a cute little panda. If you are wondering whether it works...yes, it does! And finally Vanja Vučinić's piece of art. She really likes Đuro (Remember that notorious seagull? If not, it's high time you buy her book and find out everything about him.) so she made artwork dedicated to that famous seagull. She made a wooden lighthouse which actually works with a small seagull figure in front of it. Wherever you go, there's Đuro!

By doing this project and creating their own eco-friendly pieces of art, the 8th class pupils showed that they are really environmentally conscious and aware that our planet belongs to us and it's up to us to protect it and keep it clean. Because it's ours and it's the only one we have!



26th Annual International HUPE Conference in numbers

Lidija Branilović
HUPE Secretary

507 participants attended this year's Conference in Poreč. They all came from 13 countries: Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Slovenia, the UK, the USA, Spain, etc.

There were 5 plenary talks and an interesting and important Panel discussion on English as a Lingua Franca.

During the three-day Conference, teachers from all over the world could participate in 63 workshops divided into seven 20, 45 or 60-minute long slots during the day, and which were held by 69 English language teachers.

HUPE organized three different social programmes - the Educational Theatre show, the dancing and the stand-up comedy, something for everyone.

Our four coaches brought over 200 participants from Slavonia, Dalmatia and the capital. That's one more thing Croatian and foreign teachers of English like about us - no need to worry about the travelling arrangements themselves. And, we are more than happy to provide it for you.

See you all in Poreč next April for the 27th Annual International HUPE Conference!