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Hrvatsko udruženje profesora engleskog jezika
Croatian Association of Teachers of English

NEWSLETTER

HUPE Newsletter No. 6 • January 2015



23rd Annual HUPE Conference

Solaris Beach Resort, Šibenik

24-26 April 2015

Dear colleagues, partners and all HUPE friends,

we are happy to announce that our 23rd Annual HUPE Conference will take place at Solaris Beach Resort near Šibenik, 24 - 26 April 2015. As always, we plan to offer you many opportunities for both professional and personal development. We are preparing a rich programme consisting of plenary sessions and numerous workshops for you to choose from. Finally, let's not forget about our social events - a fun way to round off a day.

Plenary speakers are: Evelina Miščin, Deborah Healey, Philip Warwick and Gwendydd Caudwell.

Your speaker proposal forms, if you are interested in taking part in such way, should be submitted by January 31, 2015. The registration form is available at www.hupe.hr BUT for all the English teachers in Croatia it is necessary to submit your registration at www.ettaedu.eu as the HUPE Conference 2015 is listed in the Agency's Catalogue of professional development.

All the other necessary information is available at www.hupe.hr so keep yourselves updated!

Hope to see you in Šibenik!

Your HUPE Executive Committee



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Branche reports

HUPE SLAVONSKI BROD BRANCH

Mirta Kos Kolobarić, president
hupe.slavonskibrod@gmail.com

The second HUPE Slavonski Brod Branch meeting in this school year was held on November 22, 2014 at 9.30 a.m. The venue was Secondary School of Economics in Slavonski Brod.

This time 15 teachers altogether attended the meeting and I am sure they enjoyed every minute of it.



Our first speaker was Ms Suzana Mihelčić Jelinić, who presented the results of an EU project *Forward 13*, which her school had coordinated. Since Ms Mihelčić Jelinić works at a vocational school, the mobility of their teachers to Sevilla in Spain was designed in such a way as to enable them to compare and contrast the two systems of education in our countries and see how Spanish authorities have organized vocational education of students.

We were impressed by the schools and other educational institutions we could see in the photos. We discussed various ways in which our Spanish colleagues deal with everyday problems: truancy, absence from school, lack of students' motivation, etc.



We also enjoyed a brief cultural overview which included food, drinks and famous sights.

The second workshop was *The Box of Christmas Wonders* run by Ms Mia Šavrljuga from *Profil*, and was timed perfectly. This way we got numerous activities which are ready to use and which will save us time when preparing Christmas lessons for our students. And, the box of wonders it really was – we tried out a dozen of activities, with at least two dozens more left to us on the handouts to try out on our own.

Mia's festive attire in Christmas colours and antlers on her head reminded us that Christmas is just around the corner.

Ms Marina Hadžiomerović ran the third workshop: *Feel Good Songs*. She presented some old and some new songs which can boost our self-esteem, which can teach us to accept ourselves as we are and to learn to love ourselves (which is extremely important for our teenage students), and finally, to feel good in general. The activities included pronunciation techniques, vocabulary tasks and some grammar tasks, in which we learned why we say *I feel good* instead of *I feel well* when we describe our mood.

The last item on the agenda was my report from *IATEFL Hungary Conference* held in Veszprem in October this year. I presented lots of useful and interesting activities all of which include the usage of digital gadgets and which might make our students more motivated and engaged.

Our next meeting will be held on January 30, 2015 at Ekonomsko-birotehnička Secondary School starting at 5 pm. The workshops are:

1. Ana Radočaj: Holidays and learning stations
2. Mirta Kos Kolobarić: How 2biz? Iskustvo s mobilnosti u Irskoj
3. HUPE Conference
4. Razno

Looking forward to seeing you all again!



RIJEKA HUPE BRANCH

Dora Božanić, president
Hupe.rijeka@gmail.com

The second HUPE Rijeka Branch meeting was held on 22 November 2014 at Dom Mladih Rijeka. It marked the beginning of collaboration between Bilingualism Matters @ Rijeka and HUPE Rijeka. The director of Bilingualism Matters @ Rijeka, Tihana Kraš, presented their activities to the attending HUPE members. Then a member of BM@Ri Nadia Mifka Profozić gave an interesting talk on the cognitive perspective of how tasks help students learn better offering theoretical models and practical examples.

The second second speaker of the day was Cody McClain Brown, the author of the bestselling "Chasing a Croatian girl: A survivor's tale", who talked to us about the differences between the Croatian and the US school system, but also about cultural differences. Through lots of laugh, we found out which English word was coined in South-Eastern Europe and all about the perils of *propuh*.

Finally, a new branch president was unanimously elected as the author of this text stepped down to focus on her work and studies. Davorka Nekić is the former-future branch president and will surely keep the branch alive and well, as well as represent Rijeka Branch members' interests in the Executive Board.

Best wishes to all!



HUPE Varaždin Branch

Vida Novak, president
hupe.varazdin@gmail.com

The first HUPE Varaždin Branch meeting in this school year was held on October 9th 2014 in I. OŠ Varaždin. The HUPE meeting was a part of the Education and Teacher Agency's meeting. 58 teachers were present at the meeting. The atmosphere and the enthusiasm of the teachers present at the meeting was great.

All the information about HUPE in general was given, about Conference in Opatija and about the upcoming HUPE Conference in Šibenik. The teachers were invited to become members.

Our guest was Dijana Mateša with her „Drama in the classroom“ workshop. We looked into two very effective drama conventions that can be used in English classroom on daily basis. The conventions are adaptable to different situations and goals, being at the same time fun to do for both students and teachers. The workshop started with a short drama ice-breaker. The participants did tasks to experience the two above mentioned drama conventions: hot seating and freeze frames.



Stela Pavetić had a lecture „Sigurnost djece na internetu“ and presented useful advice how to inform our students about many dangers online.

Our second meeting in the school year 2014/2015 took place on 11th December 2014 at II. Osnovna škola Čakovec in Čakovec.

16 teachers attended the meeting. They were informed with the latest HUPE Conference news. Our Newsletter and HUPEzine editor Ms Lidija Branilović presented the plenary speakers and all the information about the registration.

The first speaker was Sanja Božinović. Her lecture “In the Wonderful World of Words” discussed different reasons and ways of teaching vocabulary. It offered a number of ideas for introducing and practising vocabulary through fun activities, games and hands on materials. She shared her favourite ways and tools, discussing their advantages as well as possible problems and challenges.

Mia Šavrljuga had a “The New and Revised Box of Christmas Wonders” workshop during which teachers learned or were reminded of all the things that make Christmas. There were a lot of new fun activities, great interactive and downloadable suggestions and songs.



HUPE Zagreb Branch

Željka Jakušić Čejka, president
hupe.zagreb@gmail.com

The first meeting of HUPE Zagreb Branch in the school year 2014/2015 was held on Friday, 24th October 2014 at 7.00 p.m. at Centar za strane jezike, Vodnikova 12. The meeting was attended by 25 teachers.

Our first speaker was Ms Dijana Mateša who ran a workshop called Let's Drama. We all participated in two effective drama activities, Freeze Frames and Hot Seating, and discussed the ways they could be applied in various language learning contexts. We had fun making Freeze Frames that presented scenes such as teachers/ students on Monday morning.

Ms Ana Galac presented her project English in Town. We were all amused to see Zagreb through the eyes of tourists which her students pretended to be. Though she had had some difficulties motivating the students at first, not only they had a great time, they also insisted on repeating their little language field trip.

We also talked about the future HUPE Branch meetings and the forthcoming conference in April 2015.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

22nd International IATEFL Slovenia Conference 2015

Terme Topolšica from the 5th to 8th March 2015

"Adopt, Adapt, Improve"

Plenary speakers:

Mojca Belak

Marjorie Rosenberg

Christine Coombe

Chaz Pugliese

Rakesh Bhanot

Mark Andrews

www.iatefl.si

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PW69nFBh8U&rel=0>

13th ELTA Serbia Conference

"A Taste of 21st Century Teaching"

Singidunum University, Belgrade, May, 15-16 2015

Plenary speakers:

Deborah Healey

Hugh Dellar

Paul Dummett

ELTA Serbia invites all participants to its 13th annual conference to share their ideas and experiences related to their challenges at this exciting moment in time as they all try to meet the needs of ever-changing learners.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Abstract submission deadline: **9 March 2015**

Early bird registration deadline: **23 March 2015**

BESIG Satellite conference 15/11/2014

Evelina Miščin, College of Business and Management Zaprrešić

This year's BESIG Conference was held in Bonn from 14-16 November 2014. The satellite broadcast was organised again at our College of Business and Management in Zaprrešić. There were eleven of us present the usual enthusiasts. The first presentation was given by Patricia de Griese and it was dealing with dos and don'ts of feedback. The next one was by Ian Badger 'It's a pony, Ian' understanding non-businessy English in a business world which emphasised the importance of authentic listening materials. He mentioned that the following was important for any listening material: topic, accent, cultural aspect, functional language, grammar and active listening techniques. It was followed by Claire Hart and her presentation 'So What's it like in your company'. Here, she wanted to show how materials from the company can be used in teaching, like floor plans, company website, intranet, interdepartmental meetings, flow charts, etc. Two remaining presentations were 'HOT (high-order thinking)' by Jennie Wright where she mentioned some of the tasks used to develop the skill of evaluating people whilst interacting. One of such tasks was called 'Anecdote that' where students have to invent an experience based on contextual evident. They have to listen to the person speaking and identify their basic beliefs about life and business with a partner they have to imagine the experience that led to those beliefs. The last presentation was by Mercedes Viola and her view of the future of business English training in the corporate world. I think that our discussions during and after presentations were the most valuable part of the Satellite conference. The next BESIG Summer Symposium will be held in Budapest on 20 June 2015.



24th IATEFL Hungary Conference Report

I was and still am extremely proud, glad and grateful to have had a chance to attend the 24th IATEFL Hungary Conference as the official HUPE representative. The conference was held in a beautiful town of Veszprem, south-west of Balaton Lake from 3rd to 5th October 2014.

I arrived late in the evening on Thursday, 2nd October. While searching for information on my accommodation, I entered the premises of the University of Pannonia, which was the venue of the conference. The size, as well as the façade of the building which was made of stone was really impressive, as were the other 2 buildings in which workshops and plenaries were held.

We were accommodated in a charming, family-run Élló pansion. Its cosy atmosphere and somewhat royal interior made me feel pampered after a five-hour drive. My husband (who came along and whose driving service was invaluable for me, since we set off on a journey after seven classes I had had at school that morning) and I immediately went for a short walk to the town centre. We enjoyed the peace and quiet of the evening, clean streets and squares, the charm of the houses and buildings built in an elegant, old style.

The conference started on Friday afternoon. It was a green conference, which meant that the amount of the paper used was reduced and it gave us an incentive to be more rational and aware of environmental issues. This year the title of the conference was English for a Change. And changes in ELT were discussed thoroughly indeed.

I was glad to have run my workshop Media literacy deconstructing advertisements on the first day of the conference, so I could feel more relaxed and freely enjoy all other workshops and plenaries. Right after my workshop session we had an organized sightseeing tour of Veszprem with a Hungarian colleague who demonstrated her vast knowledge of history, art, the town itself, and whose British English we thoroughly enjoyed. She showed us around the old city centre and we visited the old palace as well.

We had had just enough time to return to the official opening of the conference. Edit Komlósi, a full-time lecturer at the University of Pannonia in Veszprem, gave a plenary talk on emotional intelligence, entitled Which wolf do you feed? She mentioned some basic notions incorporated in the term emotional intelligence and she also presented her research results which could help us both in our professional and private lives.





After delicious dinner we saw a wonderful theatre performance which made us laugh to tears.

The following day started with a plenary by Carol Reed. Reflections on how to be a highly effective teacher. Ms Reed talked about the 21st century skills, some personal traits of successful and dedicated teachers and changes in modes of instruction. Ms Reed touched upon the goals teachers set for themselves and for their students, the tasks they assign, as well as the ways and necessity of getting feedback from our students and ACTING on that feedback. I am glad she pointed out that teachers should have high expectations of their students, which I absolutely agree with, although it might be a standard difficult to maintain at some points when our students exhibit a low motivation level.

Off we went to another workshop. This time it was I teach meme, by Nina Jerončič from IATEFL Slovenia. She showed us some funny ways of creating our own memes in order to facilitate grammar teaching and make it more engaging for our students. We had fun creating memes using various characters. Supercool ski instructor,

Advice mallard and Grammar guy. My favourite part was creating Archaic Rap memes. If you have time and you are curious enough, find some examples on the Internet. Fun is guaranteed!

Philip Saxon's workshop was entitled "Six Thinking Hats" the ultimate tool for communicative task design? Working in groups, we were trying to reach an agreement on various topics, each of us having been assigned a colour which determined our personality and reactions in this task: white colour for presenting bare facts, yellow for optimism, black for critical thinking, red for emotions, green for lateral thinking and blue for managerial skills. That was negotiation at its best!

Lea Sobočan from IATEFL Slovenia presented numerous useful activities in her workshop Tell it with technology. We were deeply engaged in all of them, trying out mailinator, short bursts, movie plot generator, plot generator, various creative writing prompts etc.

My absolute favourite was the plenary by Peter Medgyes. Since the title of talk was The dinosaur, Mr Medgyes appeared in the hall wearing a huge dinosaur head on the top of his head and a tail tied around his waist. Once again, he managed to thrill us all. In a very humorous way Mr Medgyes talked about himself (the dinosaur) in the world of constantly changing technology. He shared with us all of his painful ventures into the world of technology and digital gadgets, after the era of OHPs had ended. He reminisced the first personal computers, Word Perfect, Microsoft Office tools, and what not, all of which he had mastered only to be encountered with something new and new and new... He stressed the need of constant and lifelong learning process. Teachers must be up to date with technology, but I am glad that the general conclusion was that teachers CANNOT be replaced by it.

In her workshop Idiom vs Proverb, Jasmina Sazdovska discussed various reasons why idioms are frequently found in numerous textbooks, while proverbs have been unfairly neglected in almost all major textbooks.

Lindsay Clandfield's plenary English, Edtech and the language of change also dealt with education technology. He examined some key terms, buzzwords and invited us to think critically about the future model of education.

That was the conference programme for the second day of the conference. The social was reserved for Haiku competition and karaoke party. Our international team two Hungarian colleagues, Zsuzsa Lindner and Dora Kovacs Peterne and I managed to win the second prize in this competition a collection of illustrated haikus by Rakesh Bhanot.



The final day of the conference started with a workshop by Barbara Bujtas Four YouTube genres to bring the 'wow' factor in your classroom. Ms Bujtas presented ways in which hand-drawn videos, multi-path stories, click-on videos and prank videos can be creatively used in English lessons.

My second favourite was Literature and Culture SIG and workshop by Gabriella Baka. She created an amazing Prezi presentation on the latest Great Gatsby movie. I have already had a similar lesson with my students, but I must admit Gabriella's was much more technologically advanced and engaging than mine. Gabriella shared her materials with us and I can hardly wait to try them out with my students. She covered a wide range of aspects: puzzle stories, characters (in wordle), descriptions of homes, infographics, maps, colours symbolizing characters, fashion, avatars, movie sequences, art, music, hot seat activity...

As I have already said, this IATEFL Hungary conference was a green one, and the best way to end it was the closing plenary by Jane Petring Lotus leaves, woodpeckers and honey bees as agents of change. Ms Petring talked about biomimicry, i.e. the ways in which technology imitates the structures and processes found in nature in order to reduce the harmful effect of various products on the environment.

All in all, this was a wonderful and fruitful conference. All of the activities presented at the conference can be easily used in the classroom, which is what most of us expect to gain from any workshop. I will make sure that these activities are shared with my colleagues at our HUPE branch meetings. I also met some wonderful colleagues which I hope to see again at some conference.

I would like to thank Ms Nora Tartsay Nemeth, Ms Beatrix Price, Mr Frank Prescott and all other IATEFL Hungary organizing committee members, for welcoming us, patiently communicating with us over Facebook and e-mails and for enormous effort they had invested in this conference. It was worth it.

Mirta Kos Kolobarić



Exploring English - free British Council online course for learners of English

Our Exploring English course starts again on **Monday, 2 February**. The course is for people who are interested in finding out more about British culture and improving their English language skills. It is aimed at non-native English speakers who have studied English to around intermediate level (approximately B1 on the CEFR). To register, simply follow this link:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/explore-english-language-culture>

If your students want to learn more about British culture, they can also have a look at the free 'Britain is Great' materials on the LearnEnglish website. They can watch extra videos about a shopping trip in London, a visit to a Formula 1 circuit and a look behind the scenes at a film studio. They can also take part in language activities, which were not in the course.

If your students have a smartphone, they can also download our LearnEnglish Great Videos app. It has audio-scripts, so they can read along while they listen, and a glossary to help them learn and remember words.

British Council online courses for teachers of English

Moderated or self-access, British Council online courses for teachers of English offer a wealth of opportunities for professional development from the comfort of your own home. This February we've got three regionally organised online courses:

- 1) **TKT Essentials: Module 2&3 (moderated)**
- 2) **Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) Essentials (moderated)**
- 3) **Communicative Assessment (self-access)**

If you would like to attend one of the above online teacher training courses, please complete your registration by **Friday, 23 January** - the moderated courses start on 9 February and end on 3 May 2015. HUPE members continue to enjoy a 20% discount on the fee for these courses. Further information is available on <http://www.britishcouncil.hr/en/teach/online-courses>.

Learning Technologies in the Classroom

If you live in or around Zagreb, you may be interested to know you can still register for our Learning Technologies for the Classroom course. The course will be delivered as a combination of face-to-face training in Zagreb and online self-access learning. The face-to-face part of the course starts on 24 January and finishes on 21 February. Find out more at: <http://www.britishcouncil.hr/en/blended-learning-technologies-teacher-training-course> and register now!

Missed HUPE conference last year?

If so, then you have also missed a free copy of Jamie Keddie's Videotelling DVD provided by the British Council. This DVD introduces teachers to the use of storytelling for the development of learners' language skills. You will find all you need to take videotelling into the classroom. If you would also like a copy, just send us a message at English@britishcouncil.hr with your details (name, surname and postal address) and we will send you one (while the stock lasts).

We look forward to hearing from you!

Membership benefits

How can you get involved? How can HUPE membership benefit you?

- You can read and hear about the latest developments in ELT.
- You can get a free subscription to HUPE Newsletter.
- You can get IATEFL Issues from your local branch representative.
- You can attend HUPE annual conferences at the reduced membership rate.
- You can make contacts with teachers world-wide on a 1-1 basis and get advice and ideas on how to teach students from a different perspective.
- Teachers who are accepted as speakers at international conferences can apply for the Speakers Scholarship.
- You can stand for elections to one of the SIG committees or the HUPE Executive Committee.
- You can participate at HUPE Branch or SIG meetings and workshops.
- You can get teaching ideas for tomorrow's lesson.

HUPE has become IATEFL (International Association of Teachers of English) branch and is affiliated to TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages).

HUPE maintains contacts with The British Council and the United States Information Service and other international associations, and it will take advantage of any assistance it can provide in organising an event, making speakers available, etc. Through its Newsletter, web page, HUPE Yahooogroup, we let our members know what, when and where something is happening. We try to bring services and benefits to distant members as well as those who have easier access to participate in the activities.