

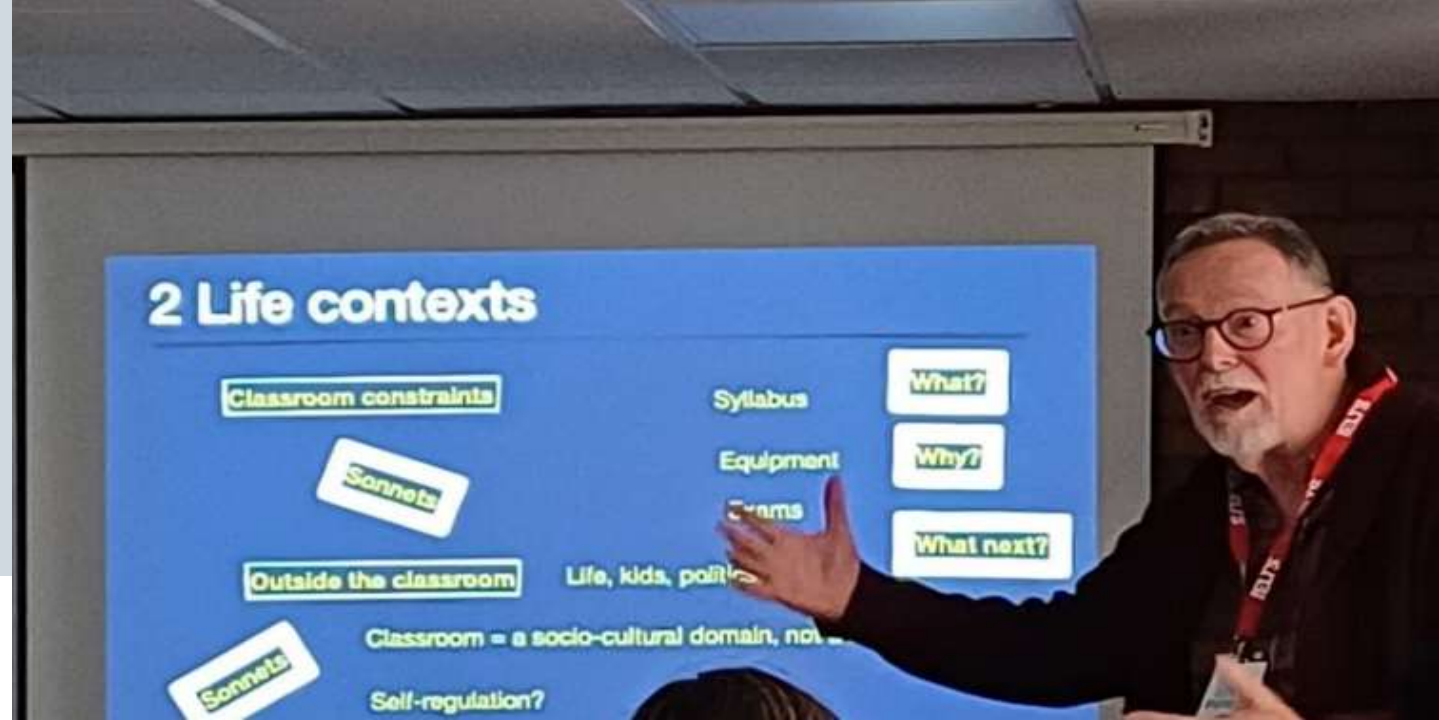
LATEFL 2024
57TH
CONFERENCE
BRIGHTON

EXPLORING INNOVATIONS IN LANGUAGE TEACHING: INSIGHTS FROM THE IATEFL CONFERENCE 2024

IATEFL is a registered charity supporting teachers and local teaching associations throughout the world. The International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL) conference and exhibition is a beacon of innovation and collaboration in the field of English language education. In its 57th annual gathering, held in Brighton from 15th to 19th April there were almost two hundred thirty-minute sessions and professional development activities daily and in some cases the sessions lasted more depending on the topic, presenting different fields of teaching and learning. The speakers were educators, researchers, policymakers, industry professionals, publishers, writers, university teachers, PhD students converged to explore cutting-edge practices, exchange ideas, and envision the future of language teaching. The exhibition was outstanding where delegates could browse the latest ELT resources, materials, career opportunities, services, publications from international course providers, publishers and digital innovations.

Zarina Subhan: Elt teacher educator,
speaker, writer, Freelance

Alan Maley: Freelance consultant, Efl
author, speaker




EMBRACING INNOVATION: THE CONFERENCE THEME

Under the overarching theme of ‘Embracing Innovation in Language Teaching,’ the conference spotlighted the imperative for educators to adapt and innovate in response to evolving educational landscapes and learner needs. With the **rapid advancement of technology** and the increasing **diversity of learners**, embracing innovation has become a cornerstone of effective language instruction.



FACTS & FIGURES: TOOLS

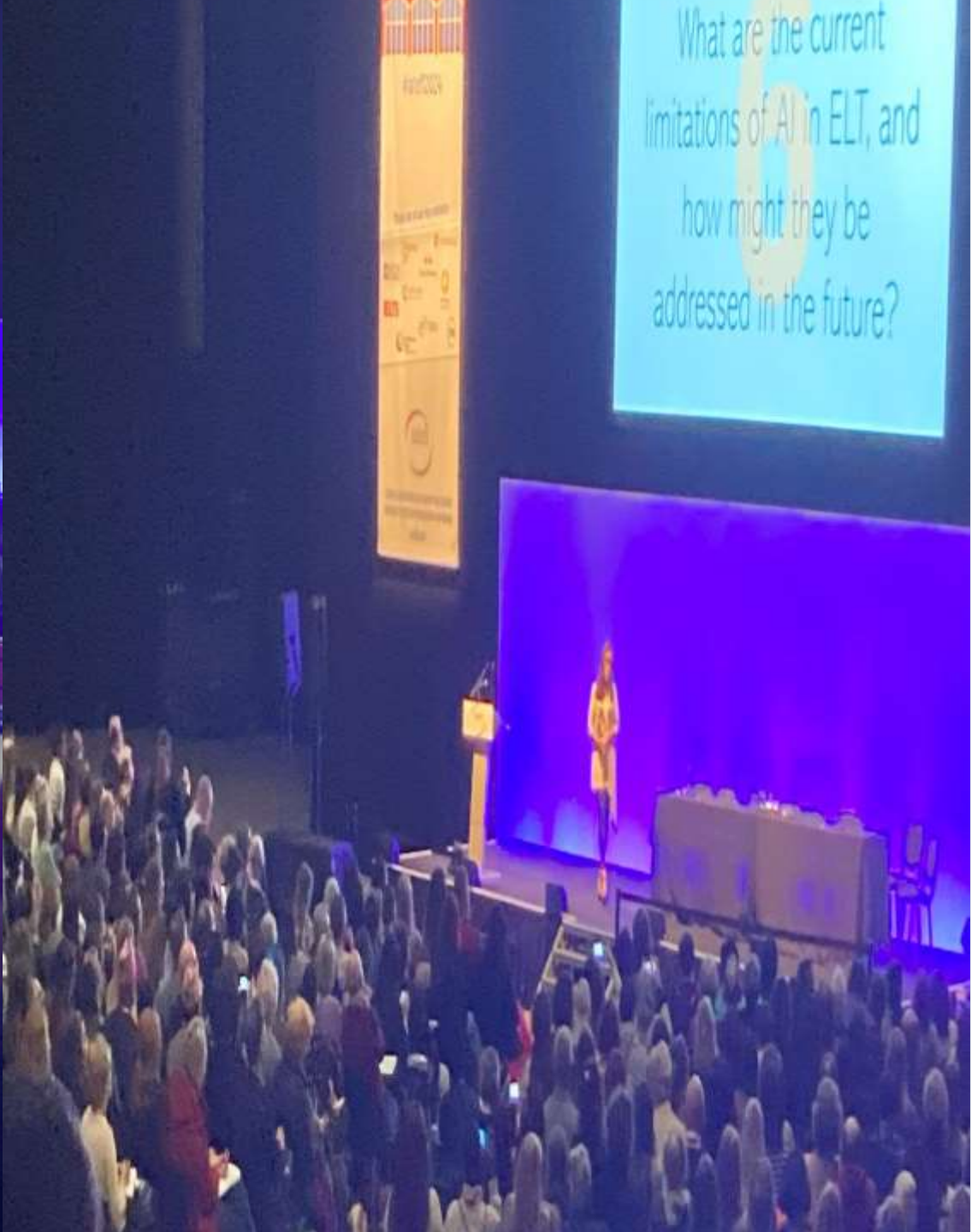


THERE'S AN AI FOR THAT

12,261 AI tools for 15,348 tasks and 4,846 jobs

12,261 AI tools
for 15,348 tasks
and 4,846 jobs





KEYNOTE ADDRESSES: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF LANGUAGE EDUCATION

Renowned experts in language teaching delivered keynote addresses that set the tone for the conference. Speakers delved into topics such as the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in language learning, the role of virtual reality (VR) in creating immersive language experiences, and the importance of inclusive pedagogies in catering to diverse learner populations. These thought-provoking sessions sparked discussions on how educators can harness technology and pedagogical innovations to enhance learning outcomes.

Keywords of our times

Action
Oriented
Approach

Learning
Scenarios

Plurilingual
competence

Pluricultural
competence

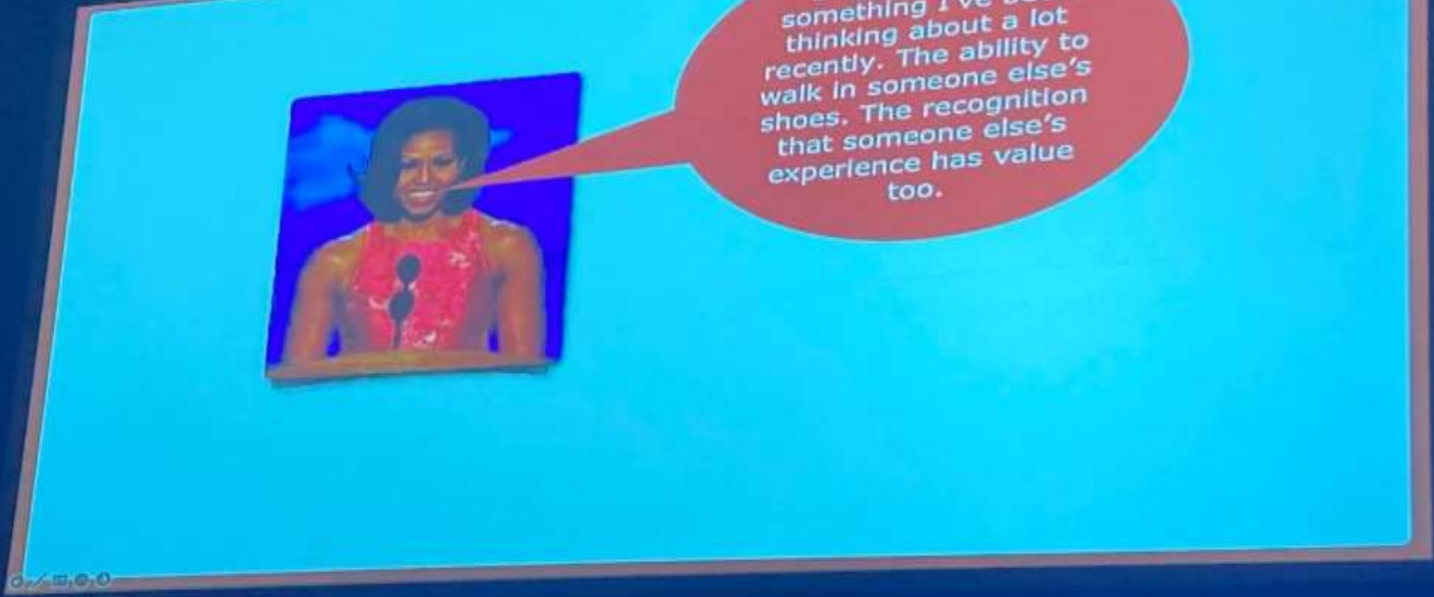
Mediation



EXPLORING EMERGING TRENDS:

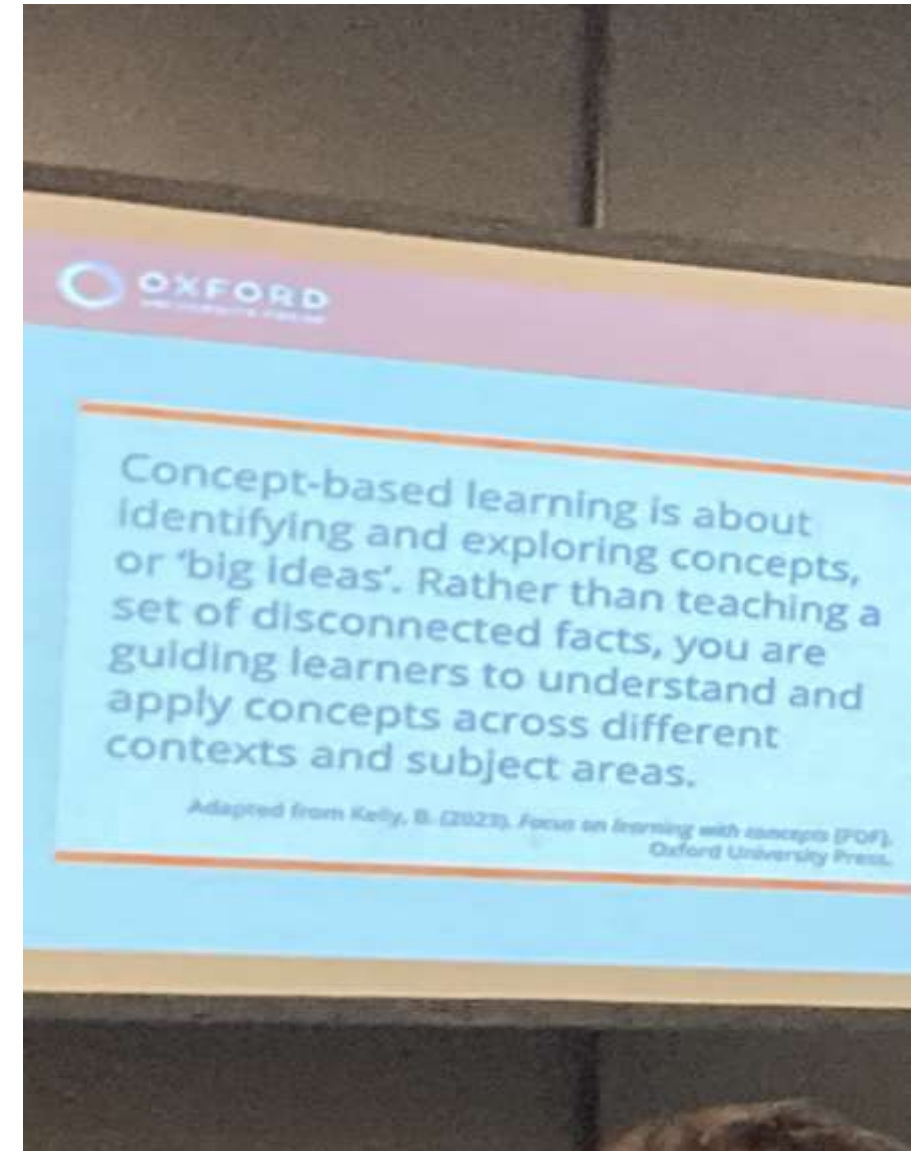
Throughout the conference, participants engaged in sessions exploring emerging trends in language teaching. Technology integration emerged as a prominent theme, with presentations on using **AI-powered language learning** platforms in listening, writing, speaking incorporating gamification elements to increase student engagement and language acquisition.

Inclusive practices underscored the importance of catering to different learning styles and fostering an inclusive learning environment based on empathy, acceptance, respect, fairness and no judgement. Empathy was strongly highlighted and teachers can achieve it by being curious about students, observing them, finding out who they are and what they like. Remembering their names and what they like is a strong start especially for students who are afraid of learning a language or have a negative experience and empathy fosters a sense of safety, belonging and community. It is vital for teachers to remember what it is like to be a student, **go to our students' heart**, understand them more to make their journey of language learning effective and memorable.



Students' **wellbeing literacy** was also pointed out and it is what we can be and do with wellbeing language for the purpose of wellbeing. It is an important capability for learners to thrive in education and personal life. Teachers are like conductors who must find out what students know, what they need to know and promote learning in an environment based on positive emotions and relationships. Learners should be engaged in activities which make their learning meaningful and feel they achieve something. Teaching topics like dealing with emotions, stress, building confidence and generally topics they can relate to can help them unveil feelings and thoughts to feel lighter and happier.

Students do not know what they want to know, so teachers can promote **concept-based learning** based on mindset, scaffolding and transfer. Asking different questions for different purposes can make learners think and wonder and they in return can understand concepts to apply in different situations. Concept-based learning enhances creativity, critical thinking, improves social skills, develops problem solving skills, resilience and can make learners more autonomous.



Multimodality sessions on multimodal approaches were also discussed, meaning the use of more than one mode of communication in the classroom like visual, linguistic, aural and spatial to promote learning. Posters, videos, films, projects, debates are attempts of representation and forms of communication which enable them to promote critical thinking, cultivate skills of survival and these can be achieved through multimodal literacy.

Multimodal Literacy

- What is happening in the short film?
- What is your immediate reaction to the short film?
- What feelings does the short film invoke in you? Why?
- What memories or experiences does the short film stir in you?

(Lim & Tan-Chia 2023)

ommunication skills?

All the trends and practices mentioned above, which can be used in a language learning environment, can have no validity, unless **measurement** takes place. Collecting data from students in terms of evaluation of language learning and reporting the evaluation results, are essential measurements of learning, which lead to learners' and teachers' development. It was commented that educators tend to collect data and although they evaluate them, they do not report the data and this does not promote improvement or change of wrong practices and methodologies .



Innovative pedagogical approaches took centre stage, with educators sharing strategies for implementing task-based learning, flipped classroom models, and project-based learning. These approaches emphasize active learning, collaboration, and real-world application of language skills, empowering learners to become active participants in their language acquisition journey and obtain skills for their future survival. The conference provided a platform for researchers to present their latest findings and insights into language acquisition, assessment, teacher development, and educational policy.

B

From empirical studies to theoretical frameworks, research presentations offered valuable insights that bridge the gap between theory and practice, informing evidence-based approaches to language teaching and learning. In terms of teaching and learning these included the importance of using resources like literature (poetry), philosophy and research-based evidence when writing a composition or doing problem solving tasks to promote learners' critical thinking and expand their knowledge. There was strong emphasis on collecting feedback by learners for checking their understanding and there was special attention to formative assessment including games, exit slips or quizzes. It was also highlighted that teachers enhance students' writing skills and reflection by discussing with them on the corrected piece of work and making suggestions in terms of vocabulary, ideas or expression. It was also noted that teachers' self-reflection based on the collected feedback can lead to their professional development and student' learning.

BEST PRACTICES AND COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Participants also had the opportunity to exchange best practices, share success stories, and engage in collaborative discussions. This facilitated connections among attendees, fostered a sense of community and collaboration that extended beyond the conference walls. From grassroots initiatives to international partnerships, educators explored collaborative opportunities aimed at advancing language education on a global scale.

CONCLUSION: A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

As the IATEFL Conference 2024 drew to a close, attendees left inspired and equipped with new ideas, strategies, and connections to bring innovation in language teaching. The conference served as a testament to the collective dedication of language educators worldwide to embrace innovation, foster inclusive learning environments, and empower learners to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

In the spirit of continuous improvement and collaboration, educators are poised to harness the transformative power of innovation to shape the future of language education, ensuring that learners of all backgrounds have access to quality language instruction that equips them with the skills they need to succeed in the 21st century.

Maria Diakou

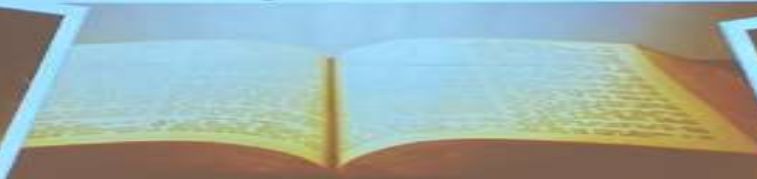
Brighton2024



Empowering Educators: Technology Innovation in Multicultural Language Learning

Dr Maria Diakou

Wednesday, 17 April 2024, 10:20
Empress, The Grand Hotel, Brighton



GREETINGS-GRATITUDE

I would like to thank P.A.E.T for giving me this great opportunity and honour to attend the 57th iatefl conference and gain knowledge, make new friends and have a memorable experience. I love Benjamin Franklin's words: 'Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn' and a quote by Socrates': 'The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing.'

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Brighton 2024

Conference Programme

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NEW FRIENDS: ASSOCIATES FROM TURKEY, GREECE
KAZAKHASTAN, POLAND, BARCELONA, FINLAND





JEAN THEUMA THE ASSOCIATES' COORDINATOR

She made all the associates from different countries to feel welcome and comfortable. Her sweet smile, positive mood and activities helped associates to share thoughts, experiences, problems and make suggestions.



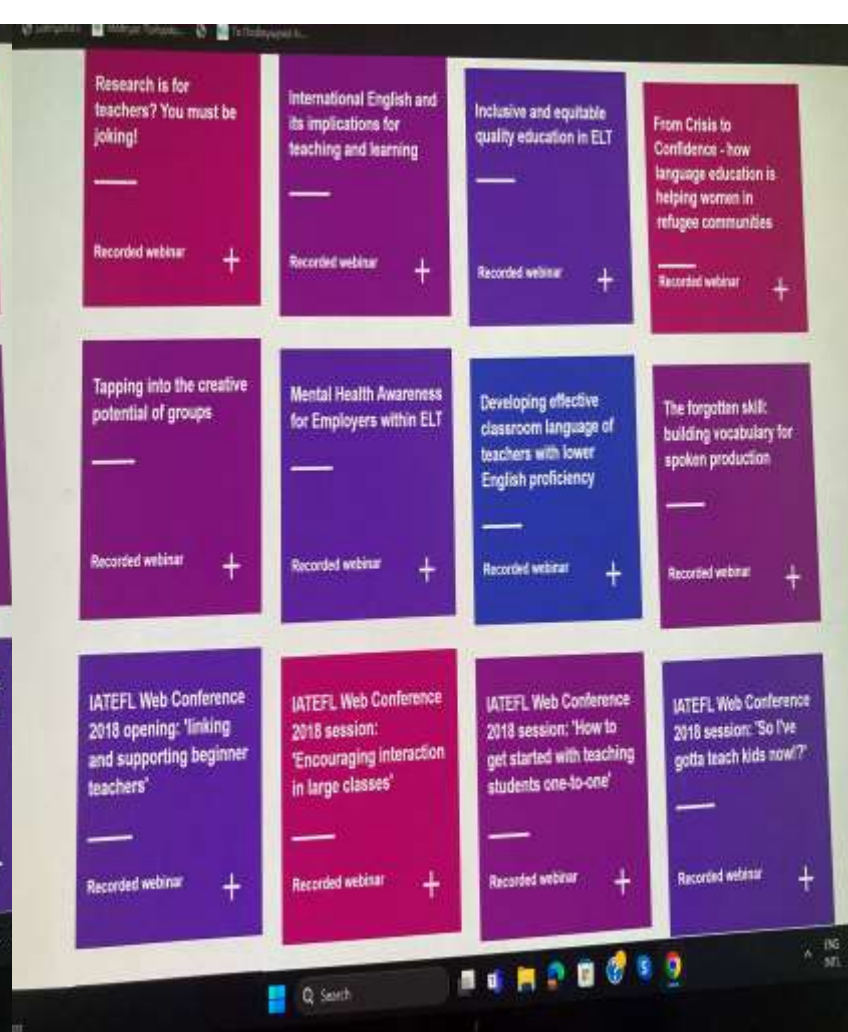
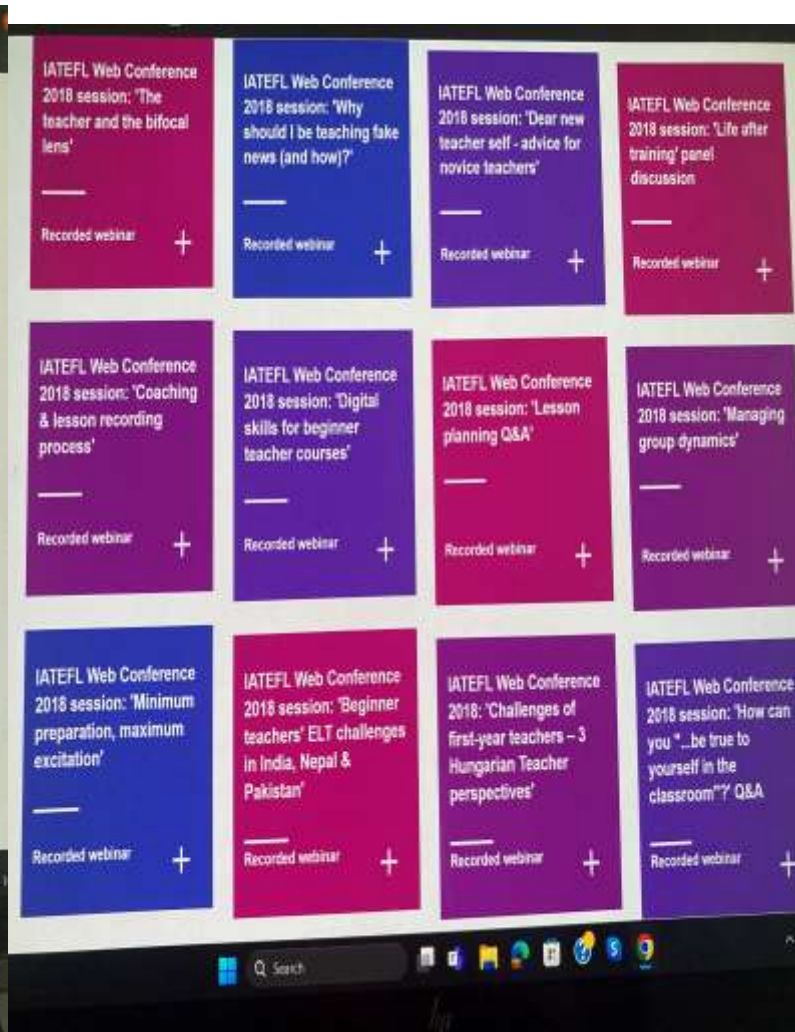
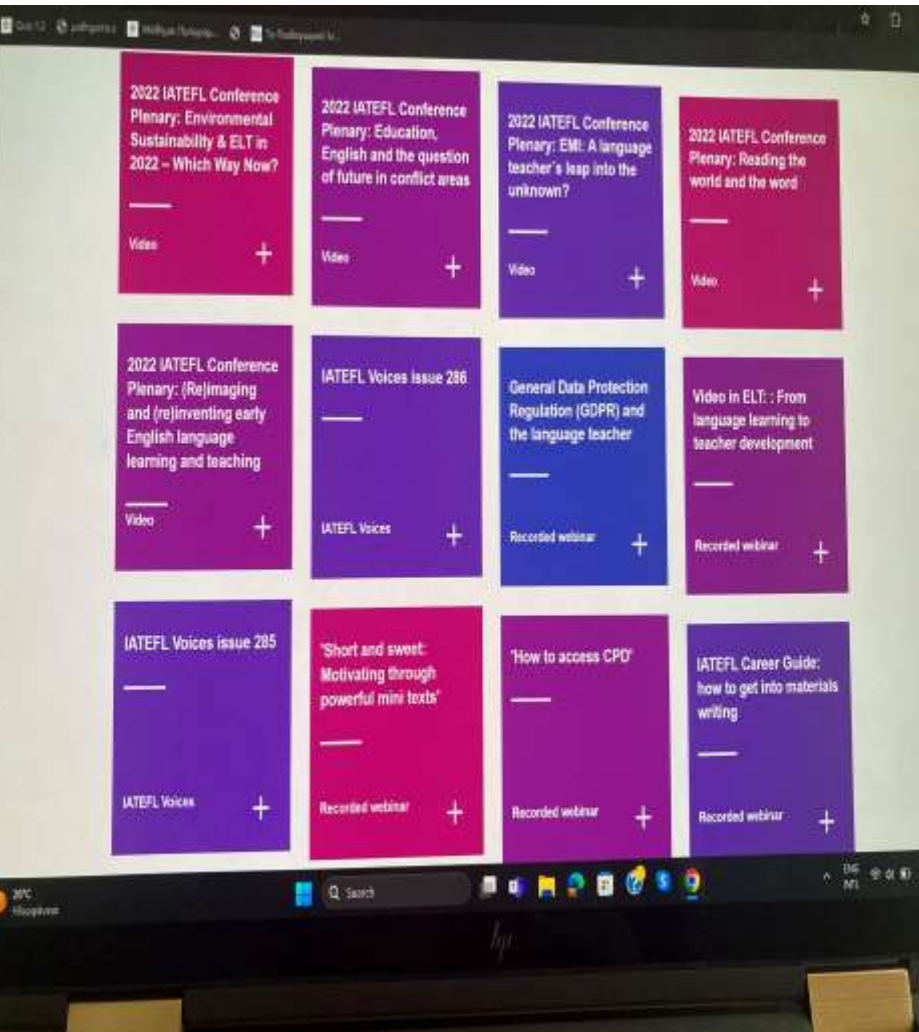
CHEERS TO NEW FRIENDS







YOU CAN WATCH 2024 PLENARIES AND IATEFL WEBINARS ON YOUTUBE



Teamwork: a magical mixture of life competencies

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Voices Issue 298

IAEFL Voices +

IAEFL Conference 2024 Plenary: Disrupting the commonplace: embedding critical literacy within language education

Video +

IAEFL Conference 2024 Plenary: Teaching English and teaching other languages: what's new?

Video +

Web Conference 2016 session: 'A World Englishes view of hiring practices and teaching: really?'

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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Teaching dialect-different students: pedagogical implications'

Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2016 session: 'ELF and the (possible) future of English'

Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2016 session: 'My priority for the next 50 years: an online cultural dictionary'

Recorded webinar +

How to get published in a refereed journal

Recorded webinar +

How to write for IATEFL Voices

Recorded webinar +

How to get involved in an IATEFL Special Interest Group

Recorded webinar

IAEFL Conference 2024 Plenary: Because you're all worth it!

Video +

IAEFL Conference 2024 Plenary: The AI factor have we figured it out?

Video +

How to write successfully for IATEFL Conference Selections - by Deborah Bullock

Online learning resource +

The Intercultural Classroom: Where Empathy and Learning Meet

Recorded webinar +

'40 things to do with a text'

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How can technology support and facilitate teacher development?

Recorded webinar +

Teaching pronunciation for English as a Lingua Franca (ELF)

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Visualising your thinking

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IAEFL Voices issue 281

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IAEFL Career Guide: CVs & LinkedIn tips that get results

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IAEFL Conference Selections 2023 Harrogate

Conference Selections +

'Cultivating Autonomy as a Discipline strategy in the Classroom'

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So... Let's debate!

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Web Conference 2017 session: 'Values education for children: issues, challenges and solutions'

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Web Conference 2017 session: 'Elvis is not dead: dealing with ethics and fake news in the lower secondary class'

Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2017 session: 'Developing learner autonomy in practice'

Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2017 session: 'Teaching for Social Justice: From social context to teaching content'

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IAEFL Career Guide: moving from teacher to teacher trainer

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IAEFL Voices issue 279

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"How to 'Gram online" presentation by Radmila Popovic

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Learner autonomy and its implications for the discourse of language teaching and learning
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Beyond traditional conferences to engage and connect educator'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Opportunities for professional development through teacher associations'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2016 session: 'What's so special about teacher associations in continuing professional development'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Teacher professional development in Ukraine: opportunities and changes'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Exploring your multiple identities and critical professional development in ELT'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Identity, discrimination and the non-native speaking professional in TESOL'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Exploring language teacher identity: topics for future research and reflection'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'Fools rush in...one language teacher's view of professional identity'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2016 session: 'The lives of English language teachers'
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Web Conference 2016 session: 'What on ELF: Helping our students become better international communicators'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2016 session: 'ELT and teacher education in a changing world: reflections on the legacy of Braj Kachru'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2015 session: 'I speak Brazilian English'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2015 session: 'EFL Pedagogy in difficult classrooms'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2015 session: 'Psychology in language learning: What's in it for teachers?'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2015 session: 'Interactive panel discussion - Teacher research in action'
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Web Conference 2015 session: 'Language teachers doing research: what, how and why'
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Web Conference 2015 session: 'Creativity and English Language Teaching'
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Web Conference 2015 session: 'Education for social justice: human trafficking and the next generation'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2015 session: 'Bring out the team-player in your learners'
Recorded webinar +

Web Conference 2015 session: 'Improv, confidence and making the passive active'
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Ten truths (and a lie) about EMI
Recorded webinar +

How challenging is it to promote change in the classroom
Recorded webinar +

The (second language) play's the thing
Recorded webinar +

'Critical media literacy: Analysing and creating text with teachers and teacher education students'
Recorded webinar +

'Alternative assessment in online teaching' with Maria Devou
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Tips for first time attendees at the IATEFL Conference
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Questioning - a magical tool to develop 21st century skills
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(IATEFL Annual General Meeting 2020)
Video +

IATEFL Career Guide: how to teach online
Recorded webinar +

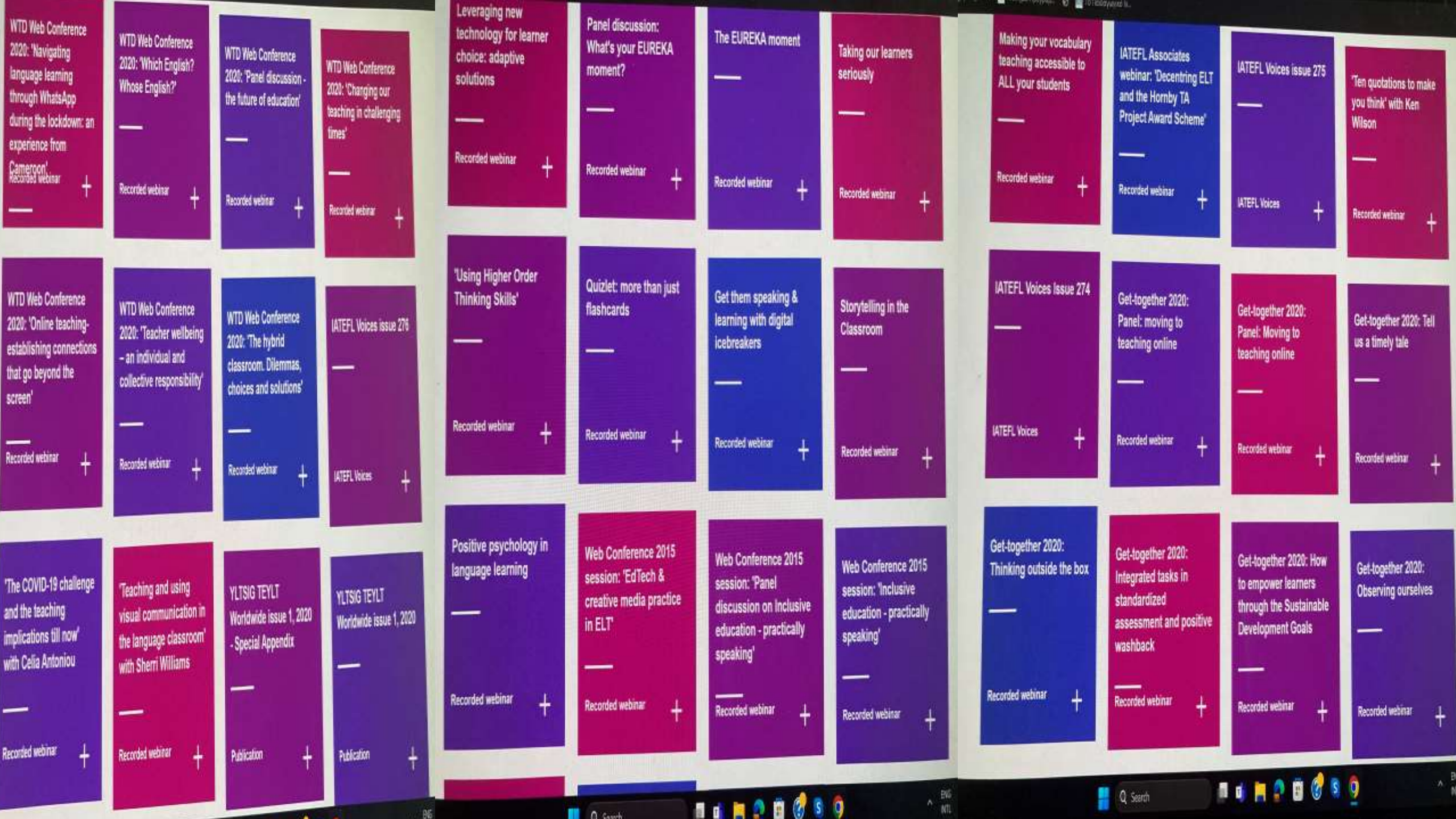
'Too PC for ELT' with Jemma Prior
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WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Staying safe online in the new school year'
Recorded webinar +

WTD Web Conference 2020: 'How to build a secure online environment to protect young learners and teens'
Recorded webinar +

WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Hitting home run from home - Keeping students 'school fit' during COVID'
Recorded webinar +



WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Navigating language learning through WhatsApp during the lockdown: an experience from Cameroon'
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WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Which English? Whose English?'
Recorded webinar +

WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Panel discussion - the future of education'
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WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Changing our teaching in challenging times'
Recorded webinar +

Leveraging new technology for learner choice: adaptive solutions
Recorded webinar +

Panel discussion: What's your EUREKA moment?
Recorded webinar +

The EUREKA moment
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Taking our learners seriously
Recorded webinar +

Making your vocabulary teaching accessible to ALL your students
Recorded webinar +

IATEFL Associates webinar: 'Decentring ELT and the Hornby TA Project Award Scheme'
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IATEFL Voices +

'Ten quotations to make you think' with Ken Wilson
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WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Online teaching - establishing connections that go beyond the screen'
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WTD Web Conference 2020: 'Teacher wellbeing - an individual and collective responsibility'
Recorded webinar +

WTD Web Conference 2020: 'The hybrid classroom. Dilemmas, choices and solutions'
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IATEFL Voices issue 274
IATEFL Voices +

'Using Higher Order Thinking Skills'
Recorded webinar +

Quizlet: more than just flashcards
Recorded webinar +

Get them speaking & learning with digital icebreakers
Recorded webinar +

Storytelling in the Classroom
Recorded webinar +

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Get-together 2020: Panel: moving to teaching online
Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Panel: Moving to teaching online
Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Tell us a timely tale
Recorded webinar +

'The COVID-19 challenge and the teaching implications till now' with Celia Antoniou
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'Teaching and using visual communication in the language classroom' with Sherri Williams
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YLSIG TEYL Worldwide issue 1, 2020
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Positive psychology in language learning
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Web Conference 2015 session: 'EdTech & creative media practice in ELT'
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Web Conference 2015 session: 'Panel discussion on Inclusive education - practically speaking'
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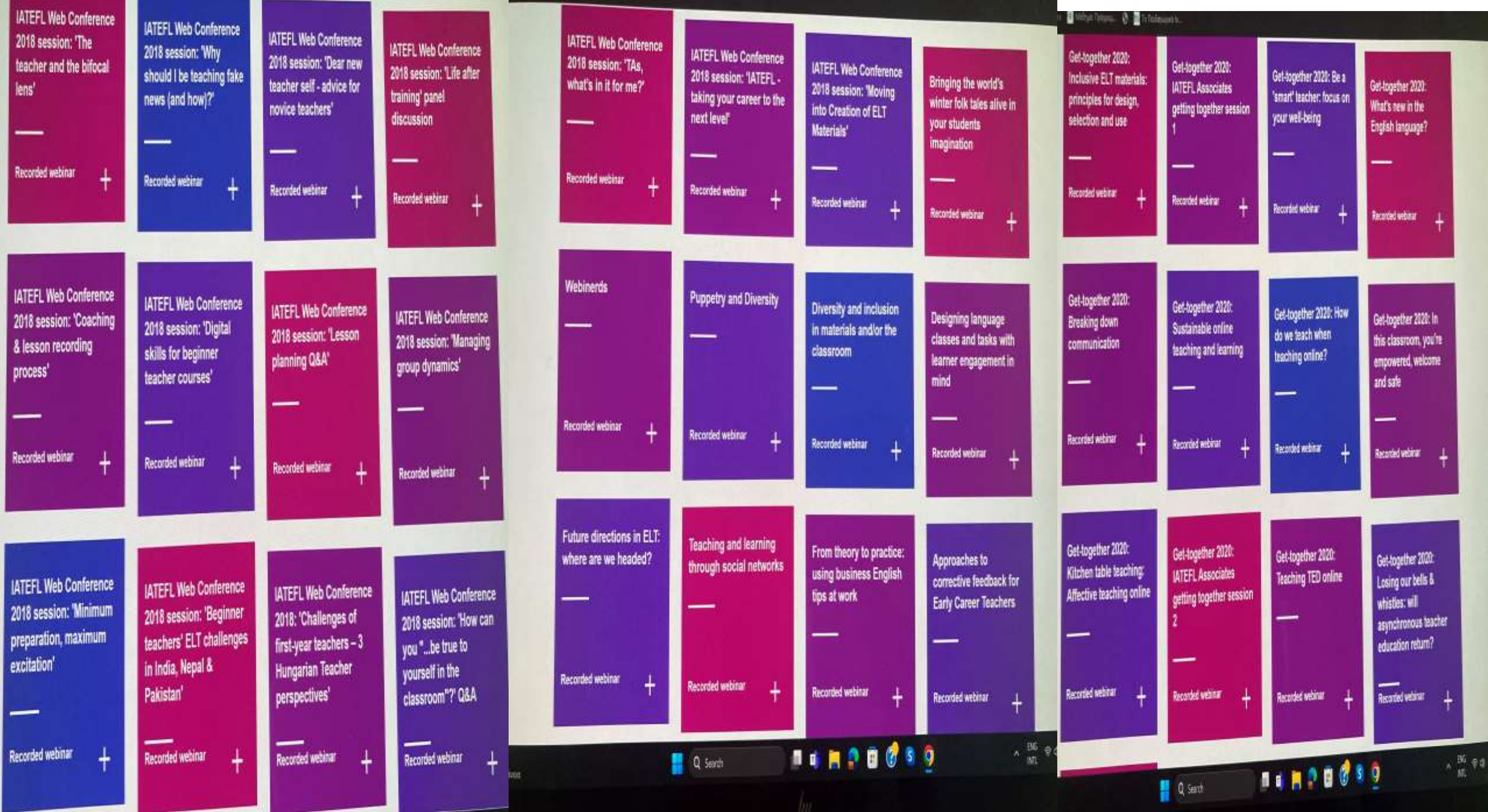
Web Conference 2015 session: 'Inclusive education - practically speaking'
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Get-together 2020: Thinking outside the box
Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Integrated tasks in standardized assessment and positive washback
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Get-together 2020: How to empower learners through the Sustainable Development Goals
Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Observing ourselves
Recorded webinar +



IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'The teacher and the bifocal lens'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Why should I be teaching fake news (and how)?'

Recorded webinar +

IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Dear new teacher self - advice for novice teachers'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Life after training' panel discussion

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'TAs, what's in it for me?'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'IATEFL - taking your career to the next level'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Moving into Creation of ELT Materials'

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Bringing the world's winter folk tales alive in your students imagination

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Get-together 2020: Inclusive ELT materials: principles for design, selection and use

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Get-together 2020: IATEFL Associates getting together session 1

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Get-together 2020: Be a 'smart' teacher: focus on your well-being

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Get-together 2020: What's new in the English language?

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Coaching & lesson recording process'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Digital skills for beginner teacher courses'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Lesson planning Q&A'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Managing group dynamics'

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Webinerds

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Puppetry and Diversity

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Diversity and inclusion in materials and/or the classroom

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Designing language classes and tasks with learner engagement in mind

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Get-together 2020: Breaking down communication

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Get-together 2020: Sustainable online teaching and learning

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Get-together 2020: How do we teach when teaching online?

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Get-together 2020: In this classroom, you're empowered, welcome and safe

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Minimum preparation, maximum excitement'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'Beginner teachers' ELT challenges in India, Nepal & Pakistan'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018: 'Challenges of first-year teachers - 3 Hungarian Teacher perspectives'

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IATEFL Web Conference 2018 session: 'How can you "...be true to yourself in the classroom"?' Q&A

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Future directions in ELT: where are we headed?

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Teaching and learning through social networks

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From theory to practice: using business English tips at work

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Approaches to corrective feedback for Early Career Teachers

Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Kitchen table teaching: Affective teaching online

Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: IATEFL Associates getting together session 2

Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Teaching TED online

Recorded webinar +

Get-together 2020: Losing our bells & whistles: will asynchronous teacher education return?

Recorded webinar +

'Literally Speaking' with Emily Bryson
Recorded webinar +

LTSIG newsletter April 2020
Publication +

IATEFL Conference Selections 2019
Conference Selections +

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Teaching English in a University Context
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Spontaneity: the elephant in the classroom
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Example of IATEFL Voices, our bi-monthly member publication
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IATEFL Voices guidelines
Publication +

IATEFL Voices Issue 269
IATEFL Voices +

IATEFL Voices Issue 270
IATEFL Voices +

IATEFL Voices Issue 271
IATEFL Voices +

IATEFL Voices Issue 272
IATEFL Voices +

'Getting Involved Matters: Developing Critical Citizenship in ELT'
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'Surviving burnout' presented by Carol Griffiths
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IATEFL Voices Issue 284
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IATEFL member update December 2021
Video +

'Lifting poetry off of the page' presented by Annie Altamirano
Recorded webinar +

'How to teach vocabulary' presented by Urs Kalberer
Recorded webinar +

IATEFL Career Guide: how to become a successful freelancer
Recorded webinar +

'Teaching speaking online' with Hugh Dellar
Recorded webinar +

IATEFL Voices issue 283
IATEFL Voices +

IATEFL Career Guide: adapting to ELT's new normal
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IATEFL Voices +

'Portfolios as an assessment activity' presented by Khanh-Duc Kuttig
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Questions about language
Recorded webinar +

The jazz of teaching and learning
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Enjoying personal and professional creativity
Recorded webinar +

IATEFL Conference Selections 2012
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IATEFL Conference Selections 2016
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IATEFL Conference Selections 2017
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History of IATEFL
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IATEFL Conference Selections 2018
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IATEFL Voices +

IATEFL Voices Issue 262
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Are you a fair tester?

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Running an association for language teachers: directions and opportunities

Publication



Good Language Teachers

Recorded webinar



Best of IATEFL's SIGs

Publication



How to webinar: 'How to give a presentation at an international conference'

Recorded webinar



How to webinar: 'Preparing for your first keynote talk or plenary'

Recorded webinar



How to webinar: 'How to prepare an effective IATEFL conference presentation'

Recorded webinar



How to webinar: 'How to write an effective IATEFL conference proposal'

Recorded webinar



How to webinar: 'Tips for first-time presenters at international conferences'

Recorded webinar



How to webinar: 'How to get the most out of the IATEFL conference'

Recorded webinar



What do English language teachers do all day?

Recorded webinar



Web Conference 2019 plenary: 'Panel and Q&A: Exploring our ELT Footprint'

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IATEFL Voices Issue 265

IATEFL Voices



IATEFL Voices Issue 267

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Developing an association for language teachers

Publication



What's hot in ELT?

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Gamification in ELT

Recorded webinar



IATEFL Voices Issue 263

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IATEFL Voices Issue 264

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IATEFL Voices Issue 268

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IATEFL Voices Issue 266

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