

Eduverse

NEWSLETTER

1 Year
ANNIVERSARY
pp. 23-38

3 CULTIVATING
SUSTAINABILITY
IN EDUCATION

8 BRINGING JOY BACK TO EDUCATION
THE ART OF
IMPACTFUL FEEDBACK

13 UNLOCKING THE
POWER OF PBL
A PATHWAY TO 21ST-CENTURY EDUCATION

ASK THE EXPERTS

Exploring
FREELANCE WRITING
WITH ONE OF THE MINDS BEHIND "HARMONIZE"
EXCLUSIVELY WITH ROB SVED

TECH TIPS AND TOOLS

A TOOL TO
BUILD YOUR OWN AI CHATBOT



A boutique consultancy
offering creative solutions
to educational needs

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF ALL

**"Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to change
the world."**

Inspired and guided by the words of the world-famous iconic Nelson Mandela, Pro.Ed was borne of the belief that high quality educational expertise can transform a society for the better. We are obsessed with providing cutting edge educational services for our clients with the idea that they will bring out the best in their learners.

At Pro.Ed, we also believe that high-quality education is for everyone, not only for the privileged. Pro.Ed CSR activities offer frequent free of charge opportunities for all people to access the latest and most practical educational expertise to promote education equity and a culture of learning in society.

By providing a deep reservoir of educational expertise and experience, we aim **for the betterment of all.**

Eduverse

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to EduVerse Newsletter
the educational newsletter powered by Pro.Ed Education Solutions!

In this dynamic era of learning, staying ahead requires a constant thirst for knowledge and an openness to exploring new frontiers. That's why we created EduVerse Newsletter — to serve as your guide through the vast universe of education, where ideas collide, perspectives intertwine, and possibilities abound.

With a dedicated focus on the needs and aspirations of educators, we curate a diverse range of articles, tips, and best practices to support your teaching journey. From cutting-edge pedagogical strategies to engaging classroom activities, we are here to equip you with the tools and inspiration you need to ignite curiosity, foster creativity, and cultivate lifelong learners.

So, whether you're a teacher seeking new teaching techniques or an education enthusiast looking for fresh perspectives, EduVerse is here to accompany you on your educational odyssey. Join us as we embark on this exciting journey together—let's dive into the EduVerse and unlock the infinite possibilities of education!

Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc
Editor-in-chief



- Editor-in-chief: Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc
- Editorial Manager: Gülbin Özdemir
- Content specialist: Nguyen Tran Phuong Uyen (Columns in charge: Teaching Techniques, Lesson of the Month, and Tech Tips and Tools)
- Designed by EduVerse Design team

CULTIVATING **SUSTAINABILITY** IN EDUCATION

Dr. Pham Huy Cuong

As the world has witnessed rapid breakthroughs in science and technology, global issues, such as climate change, carbon footprint, biodiversity, pandemics, resource shortages, poverty, inequity and inclusivity, persist and continue to deteriorate. Instead of resting on past achievements and comfortable living conditions, it is important to be aware of the ongoing challenges facing humans. At the forefront of sustainable development, education takes a significant role in shifting current mindsets and practices through the formal curriculum and hands-on activities. In its Berlin declaration, UNESCO (2022) propounds that education for sustainable development (ESD) is “the foundation for the required transformation, providing everyone with the knowledge, skills, values and attitudes to become change agents for sustainable development.”

In other words, one of the primary goals of education is to empower individuals with knowledge and competencies for sustainable development by integrating key sustainability values into teaching and learning. It is evident that sustainable development is not the sole responsibility of international organizations or governmental bodies. Each individual is viewed as a change agent in this process and is held accountable for the shared mission of resolving global and local concerns.



SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION

As ESD aims at equipping learners with the ability “to take informed decisions and responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society” (UNESCO, 2014, p. 2), the integration of sustainable development principles and practices into teaching and learning is essential. This helps learners understand the interconnectedness of social, economic, and environmental systems, and fosters a holistic approach to identifying, analyzing and resolving these problems. Crucial determinants of the success of ESD lie in, as Žalėnienė and Pereira (2021, p. 101) note, learners’ perceptions of sustainability as “a critical aspect of their education” and the positive impacts of the inclusion of sustainability principles in the curriculum on their knowledge, views, awareness and attitudes towards sustainability.

To this end, Holst (2023) points out a number of actions to be undertaken, including a redesign of education policies, the curriculum, teaching and learning approaches as well as the learning environment. This is a rather demanding endeavor as it involves stakeholders at different levels from those in the decision-making role to those responsible for the day-to-day implementation and delivery of the program. ESD also requires the tight collaboration among multiple players and the development of strong global and local networks to prioritize prominent issues, drawing on current practices to deploy the course of action for specific educational settings (Shulla et al., 2020). Educational institutions can thus form partnerships with community organizations, businesses, and government agencies to address local sustainability challenges collectively and provide students with real-world experiences.

SUSTAINABILITY COMPETENCIES

Education should aim for changing learners’ mindsets and behavior that are conducive to positive impacts on the ecosystem. This requires creating a viable environment for their proactive involvement in participatory and experiential learning that incur shifts in their perspectives, thinking and ability to act. An overview of contemporary literature on ESD reveals five core competencies for sustainable development as follows:

1 Critical reflection

As learners are exposed to diverse learning experiences and incidents in their life, it is important to enable them to critically reflect on real-world issues as a way to utilize their skills and knowledge in practical situations. Activities such as reflexive accounts, learning journals, and discussion groups offer them opportunities to revisit the events that occurred, opt for the significant ones, and attach personal meaning and perspectives to them. This competency is essential for sustainable development as it allows learners to set priority and choose whatever problem that has a more personal effect or relevance for their own pursuit.





2 Systemic/Systems thinking

This provides a holistic approach to understanding real-world problems by examining the interrelationships and interaction among elements encompassing an existing problem. Through project-based learning or the analysis of case studies and critical incidents, learners can become aware of the complexity of the issue under investigation and come to the realization that a system is more than just the sum of its individual parts and that the behavior of the system as a whole is influenced by the relationships among its components. This competency is closely linked to sustainable development because it allows learners to thoroughly analyze a problem and understand the interconnected relationships among various factors.

3 Participatory or experiential learning

This skill highlights learners' proactive engagement in the learning process through activities such as field trips, community engagement or service learning, rather than being passive recipients of knowledge. The learning journey is characterized by learners' experiences, perspectives, and expertise that shape their personal constructions of meaning of the world surrounding them. These elements also allow them to contribute, share, and co-create knowledge with teachers, peers, and social others. This competency is valuable in offering learners with the opportunity to engage in the ongoing process of learning, decision-making, and action-planning for a more sustainable future.

4 Innovative thinking

This skill refers to learners' ability to devise novel ideas, approaches and solutions, address challenges, and bring about changes to current situations. It requires a diversion from conventional thinking patterns and embarkment on exploring new possibilities and perspectives. Learners can develop innovative thinking through role-plays, problem-solving activities, problem-based learning and real-world scenarios. Innovative thinking is essential for sustainable development as it enables them to identify existing global issues and propose feasible solutions. It involves questioning contemporary practices, systems, and assumptions and seeking alternative approaches that are more environmentally friendly, socially equitable, and economically viable.

5 Collaborative learning

This is an essential skill that calls for learners' active involvement in group or team work to achieve common learning goals, share knowledge, and generate new understanding collectively. It is situated in the social nature of learning whereby knowledge is co-constructed through on-going negotiations and constructions of meaning with social others. Collaborative learning is an indispensable aspect of sustainable development as it fosters empathy and cultural understandings by connecting learners from different sociocultural and ethnic backgrounds. Engagement in collaborative projects enable learners to develop an appreciation for diverse perspectives, cultural contexts, and social dynamics, informing their formulation and implementation of sustainable solutions that are inclusive, equitable, and respectful of local knowledge and practices.



EDUCATORS' ENGAGEMENT IN ESD

Educators make both overt and covert contributions to incorporating sustainability principles and concepts into the curriculum, shaping learners' mindsets, behavior and attitudes toward sustainability and provide them with the tools they need to address complex global and local challenges. By fostering the development of key competencies for sustainable development among learners, educators can empower them to become agents of positive change in their communities and beyond. Educators' engagement in ESD covers a broad range of activities as in the following:

1 Curriculum development

Educators are directly involved in designing the curriculum and deciding on the extent to which sustainability values, knowledge and skills can be intergrated into learning materials, how such content should be delivered and the methods of knowledge transmission. These components are vital to inculcate learners' understanding and abilities to address the complexity of world issues and foster a sense of responsibility towards the environment and society.

2 Delivery of sustainability content

Educators can employ a multiplicity of teaching methods, such as experiential learning, project-based learning, problem-based learning, and case studies, to raise learners' awareness of sustainability issues and make them proactively engaged in the process of analyzing and resolving these problems. They can also provide learners with hands-on opportunities for community engagement through field trips, corporate projects, voluntary work, or service learning activities through partnerships with local organizations or businesses. Ultimately, educators are responsible for creating an inclusive learning environment that encourages open discussions and inspires innovative solutions to sustainability problems.

3 Role modeling

Educators can set good examples for sustainability practices through their daily routines on campus such as energy conservation, recycling, reducing waste, and promoting responsible consumption. Through consistent demonstrations of sustainability, they show learners that sustainability-related activities are simple and easy to perform.



Dr. Pham Huy Cuong is Dean of the Faculty of English at the University of Economics and Finance, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. He obtained his PhD in Applied Linguistics from Massey University, New Zealand. His research interests include language learning motivation and emotion, teacher and learner agency, and lifewide adaptive language learning.



4 Interdisciplinary collaboration

As sustainable development is not confined to any specific discipline, it appeals to a concerted effort across different fields of study. Educators from different disciplines can work together to identify common areas in which they integrate sustainability across the curriculum and create interdisciplinary projects that address sustainability issues from multiple theoretical and practical perspectives. This collaborative approach inspires learners to develop a holistic understanding of sustainability drawing on their interdisciplinary knowledge and skills.

5 Promoting autonomous learning

One of the chief goals of education is to foster the development of learners' autonomous and independent learning. Educators can optimize opportunities for exercising their agency and autonomy through learner-led initiatives, independent research projects, student platforms, or community engagement activities. Through these commitments, they become proactively involved in different stages of learning and can make informed decisions and voice their ideas about sustainability issues.

ESD adopts a holistic approach to addressing local and global issues emerging from the interplay among various socio-economic, cultural, and ecological elements. ESD extends beyond international organizations and governments, reaching out to various stakeholders in the local communities. It aims to empower individual learners as change agents with sustainability competencies that facilitate critical reflection, experiential learning, systemic thinking, innovative mindsets, and collaboration in sharing knowledge and altering the world landscape. Educators also take an irreplaceable role in curriculum development, teaching, and community engagement that reinforce sustainability values in education. Governments and policymakers should therefore prioritize the integration of sustainability into education policies and frameworks as well as promote research and innovation in this field.

References

- Holst, J. (2023). Towards coherence on sustainability in education: A systematic review of whole institution approaches. *Sustainability Science*, 18, 1015-1030. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-022-01226-8>
- Shulla, K., Filho, W. L., Lardjane, S., Sommer, J. H., & Borgemeister, C. (2020). Sustainable development education in the context of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 27(5), 458-468. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504509.2020.1721378>
- UNESCO. (2014). UNESCO roadmap for implementing the global action programme on education for sustainable development. UNESCO. <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000230514>
- UNESCO. (2022). *Berlin declaration on education for sustainable development*. UNESCO. <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381228>
- Žalėnienė, I., & Pereira, P. (2021). Higher education for sustainability: A global perspective. *Geography and Sustainability*, 2(2), 99-106. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geosus.2021.05.001>



Bringing Joy Back to Education

THE ART OF Impactful Feedback

Roz Weitzman

In the bustling world of education, where the quest for knowledge intersects with the pursuit of joy, one vital element that often gets overlooked is feedback. As an ESL consultant to teachers with a habit of infusing fun into the learning environment, I've seen firsthand how impactful feedback can be in not only enhancing academic performance but also in restoring the joy of learning for the students and the teachers alike. When teachers are focused on the positives, the negatives seem to easily take care of themselves from time to time.

So, grab your coffee, settle into your coziest chair, and let's embark on a journey into the delightful realm of giving feedback that brings smiles to everyone in your path.



THE RATIONALE: WHY FEEDBACK MATTERS

Why bother with feedback, you might ask? Feedback is not just about pointing out errors; it's about illuminating the path to improvement.

Ah, feedback – the spice of life that keeps our academic adventures zesty! Why bother with it, you ask? Imagine you're the student on a grand quest through the treacherous terrain of higher education, armed with nothing but a backpack full of dreams and a trusty pencil. Without feedback, you'd be wandering aimlessly, like a lost puppy in a maze of grammar and pop quizzes.

BUT FEAR NOT!

Teacher feedback is your students' trusty GPS, guiding them through the twists and turns, empowering them to conquer procrastination and master complex concepts. But your feedback isn't just about pointing out your students' mistakes (although let's be real, we all make them – even the most seasoned scholars have their "oops" moments). It's about shining a spotlight on the learners' pathway to improvement, like a friendly tour guide showing the scenic route to academic awesomeness.

WHY WE JUST CAN'T GIVE ENOUGH OF THIS FEEDBACK FIESTA

01 Fostering growth

Imagine you're a mild-mannered student, just trying to navigate the jungle of higher education. But then, feedback comes along and – BOOM! – like a magic boost that helped you become even stronger in your studies! With each thoughtful comment, you feel yourself growing stronger, smarter, and more capable of tackling even the mightiest of quizzes and complex grammar. Who needs gamma radiation when you've got feedback as your power source?

02 Building self-assurance

Let's be honest, all students have their moments of self-doubt, where they feel about as confident as a kitten in a room full of rocking chairs. But fear not, my friends! Thoughtful feedback is like a superhero cape, reminding them of their true potential. With each constructive comment, they'll feel their confidence soaring higher. Soon, they'll be walking proudly down the halls, so confident that even the most experienced teachers would be impressed.

03 Cultivating a positive learning environment

Imagine a world where feedback can create a learning environment so positive and uplifting that even the most horrible of villains (we're looking at you, Procrastination Man and Stress Monster) would be powerless against it. People could use feedback like a trusty tool to overcome these challenges. By working together and supporting each other, they would create a positive and encouraging environment where everyone can learn and grow. This supportive teamwork would be so strong, it would make even the most successful teams jealous!

04 Real-time course correction

Imagine baking a cake, and halfway through, your students realize they have mixed up the salt and sugar. Without feedback, they would have to wait until the bitter end to find out their cake is a disaster. But with your continuous feedback, you can course-correct on the fly, saving their culinary masterpiece from ruin.



05 Open communication extravaganza

Feedback is the ultimate icebreaker, fostering open dialogue and building trust stronger than a bear hug. For students, it's like having a secret handshake with their professors, creating a collaborative learning environment where feedback is welcomed with open arms (and maybe a few high-fives).

06 Engagement and retention fiesta

Feeling valued and supported is like receiving a warm, fuzzy blanket on a chilly day. When students receive regular feedback, they feel like the star of their own academic TV show, fully invested in their growth and development. This sense of investment leads to higher engagement, and when students feel this way, they're more likely to stay in school and keep learning.

TECHNIQUES GALORE

Now that we are clear on why feedback is so important, here are some ways to offer it up on a silver platter:



01 The Kodak Moment technique

Ah, the Kodak moments of education! Just as capturing a perfect snapshot freezes a cherished memory, looking for that Kodak Moment freezes even the tiniest moments of brilliance in a student's learning journey. Don't wait for that huge moment of brilliance but look for even the smallest of occasions to offer up a word of praise. When you spot a student excelling, snap that mental picture and shower them with a compliment. It's like pressing the 'like' button on each one of their academic achievements, encouraging them to strive for more.

02 Praise, praise, praise

Who doesn't love a good pat on the back? Praise is the sunshine that nourishes the seeds of progress. Whether it's a simple "Great job" or a heartfelt "You're a rockstar," genuine praise fuels motivation and instills a sense of accomplishment in students. Message me and I'll be happy to send you a list of "100 Ways to Give Praise" in a PDF document.

03 The Sandwich technique

No, we're not talking about the students' lunch break here. The Sandwich Technique is all about sandwiching constructive criticism between layers of positivity. Start with a slice of praise, add the meaty critique feedback in the middle, and finish off with another slice of praise and a kind suggestion for Next Steps as the pickle on the side. Voila! You've served up a feedback sandwich that's both nourishing and delicious.



Roz Weitzman is an ESL Consultant, a certified Canadian teacher with 15 years in China, and on a mission to revive the joy in ESL teaching. Specializing in professional development for ESL teachers worldwide, her community is passionate educators, from diverse backgrounds. She's offering live and online workshops for schools and universities, also through a membership site. Her continuous focus is on empowering ESL teachers with fresh ideas, fostering excitement, and celebrating their successes. For Roz, the journey is fulfilling as she gives back her knowledge and experience to her profession in meaningful ways, making a tangible impact on classrooms worldwide.

✉ rozweitzmansworld@icloud.com

04 The Glow and Grow method

Picture a garden bathed in sunlight, with vibrant flowers blooming. The Glow and Grow method nurtures student growth much like a gardener taking care of their plants. Start by highlighting what's shining brightly in a student's work or effort (the "glow"), then gently point out areas where they can improve (the "grow"). This approach fosters a balanced perspective, celebrating achievements while also encouraging continuous development.

05 Peer feedback partnerships

Two heads are better than one, right? Peer feedback partnerships harness the collective wisdom of students to enhance learning. Pair students up and encourage them to provide constructive feedback to each other about a project they have completed. Not only does this promote collaboration and communication skills, but it also offers fresh perspectives that can spark new insights, new ideas, and new friendships.

06 The feedback fridge magnet

Who says feedback has to be confined to the classroom? The Feedback Fridge Magnet technique turns feedback into a tangible reminder of progress. Provide students with mini magnets (just a piece of card with a magnet glued to the back) featuring positive affirmations or areas for improvement. They can proudly display these magnets on their fridge at home, serving as constant reminders of their growth journey. And won't parents love to see this success and progress too!

07 Audio feedback messages

Say goodbye to the monotony of written feedback and hello to the dynamic world of audio messages! Record personalized feedback messages for your students, delivering praise, encouragement, and guidance in your own voice. Not only does this add a personal touch, but it also accommodates different learning preferences and fosters stronger teacher-student connections.

08 The growth mindset journal

Cultivate a growth mindset in your students with the Growth Mindset Journal technique. Each student keeps their own dedicated journal where they can reflect on their learning journey, celebrate achievements, and set goals for improvement. Encourage them to jot down feedback received, strategies for overcoming challenges and ideas for Next Steps. This not only promotes self-reflection but also instills a sense of ownership and resilience in students.



MORE BENEFITS GALORE

1. Empowerment

Feedback empowers students to take ownership of their learning journey. Highlighting their strengths and areas for improvement equips them with the tools they need to chart their course towards success.

2. Building resilience


Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, constructive feedback fuels resilience in students. It teaches them to view setbacks as stepping stones rather than stumbling blocks, fostering a growth mindset that propels them towards greater achievements.

3. Fostering collaboration

Feedback isn't just a one-way street; it's a collaborative dialogue between teachers and students. By engaging in open, honest feedback exchanges, educators and learners alike cultivate a culture of mutual respect and continuous improvement.

4. Applying impactful feedback across disciplines

While the techniques and benefits discussed here are rooted in the ESL context, the principles of giving impactful feedback are universally applicable across all subjects and disciplines. Whether you're teaching math, science, history, or art, the power of effective feedback remains a potent tool for fostering student growth, engagement, and joy in learning.

A young girl with dark hair and glasses is smiling and giving a thumbs up. She is wearing a white shirt. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a classroom setting.

In the ever-changing landscape of education, one constant remains: the power of impactful feedback to inspire, motivate, and bring joy back into the classroom. By mastering the art of giving effective feedback, we're nurturing the whole student, fostering a love for learning, and equipping learners with the tools to navigate life's challenges with confidence and resilience. Together, we can create a educational experience that not only imparts knowledge but also ignites passion, celebrates growth, and fosters a lifelong love for learning.

So, let's make feedback the cornerstone of our educational journey, transforming classrooms into havens of positivity and progress. After all, when feedback is given with care and sprinkled with a dash of humour, it has the power to not only shape minds but also warm hearts.

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF PBL

A PATHWAY TO 21ST-CENTURY EDUCATION

Volkan Iner



In the ever-evolving landscape of education, one teaching methodology has gained considerable attention for its ability to cultivate critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and real-world applicability: Project-Based Learning (PBL). This pedagogical approach goes beyond traditional classroom instruction and immerses students in authentic, hands-on experiences. As we venture further into the 21st century, it becomes increasingly clear that PBL is not just a buzzword, but a powerful educational tool that prepares students for the complex challenges of our rapidly changing world. Let's dive into the concept of PBL, its core principles, and its manifold benefits, shedding light on how it is shaping the future of education.

Understanding project-based learning

PBL is an educational strategy that revolves around students' active engagement in the creation and completion of projects, often based on real-world problems or scenarios. Unlike traditional instruction that relies on passive absorption of information, PBL fosters deeper understanding through active participation. Here are some fundamental characteristics of Project-Based Learning:

01

Authentic projects

PBL projects are designed to mimic real-world situations, providing students with opportunities to tackle challenges that professionals encounter in their careers. These projects can encompass a wide range of topics, from designing a sustainable community garden to creating a marketing plan for a local business.

02

Inquiry-driven

PBL starts with a driving question or problem, which encourages students to explore and seek solutions independently. This inquiry-driven process stimulates curiosity and critical thinking.

03

Collaborative learning

PBL often involves teamwork, promoting collaboration and communication among students. Learning to work effectively in groups is a vital skill in today's interconnected world.

04

Instructor as a facilitator

Instead of being the primary source of knowledge, the teacher becomes a facilitator in PBL. They guide, mentor, and support students throughout the project, empowering them to take ownership of their learning.

05

Assessment of competencies

PBL assesses students' mastery of competencies rather than mere memorization. Evaluation typically includes problem-solving abilities, communication skills, and project outcomes.

Benefits of project-based learning

Deep understanding

1 PBL encourages students to delve deeply into subjects, leading to a profound understanding of the material. This promotes retention and application of knowledge far beyond rote memorization. A PBL project on the Civil War could involve students researching primary sources, reenacting debates, and designing a museum exhibit. This deepens their understanding of causes, events, and lasting impacts beyond memorizing dates and battles.

Critical thinking and problem solving

2 The emphasis on inquiry and real-world problem-solving enhances students' critical thinking skills. They learn to analyze situations, make informed decisions, and innovate solutions. Imagine a project where students design a sustainable water filtration system for a developing community. They need to research filtration methods, consider resource availability, and test prototypes – fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Engagement and motivation

3 PBL taps into students' natural curiosity and provides a sense of purpose in their education. This increased engagement often leads to higher motivation and a love for learning. For instance, students studying the rainforest ecosystem could build a model rainforest complete with plant and animal life cycles. The hands-on nature and creativity involved can spark curiosity and a love for learning about the natural world.

Interdisciplinary learning

5 PBL projects frequently cross multiple subjects and disciplines, promoting interdisciplinary learning. This mirrors the real world, where problems rarely fit into neat subject-area boxes. Let's take a project on building a medieval castle as an example. It might involve students integrating history with math for calculating dimensions, physics for understanding structural integrity, and even art for designing the castle look.

Preparation for the real world

4 PBL equips students with essential skills for the future, such as collaboration, communication, adaptability, and a strong work ethic. These skills are highly valued by employers in the 21st century. A project creating a business plan for a local farmers market requires collaboration, communication, research, and time management. These are all skills valuable for future careers and navigating real-world challenges.

Real-world application

6 PBL allows students to apply what they learn to authentic situations, ensuring that their education has tangible relevance and practical value. Students studying climate change could design and implement a campaign to raise awareness in their community. This allows them to apply their knowledge and make a real-world difference.

Case studies: Success stories in project-based learning

Let's take a look at a couple of real-world examples to see how PBL has positively impacted students and their learning experiences.

1. High-Tech High

High-Tech High, a network of public charter schools in California, is renowned for its commitment to PBL. Students at High Tech High are engaged in projects ranging from designing sustainable energy solutions to creating art installations. Graduates of these schools are well-prepared for college and career success due to their ability to think critically and solve complex problems.

2. The Global Online Academy (GOA)

This online school is an excellent example of how PBL can be effectively integrated into the digital realm. GOA's project-based courses span diverse subjects and have been recognized for their innovation and effectiveness. Students from around the world participate in projects that tackle global issues, transcending geographic boundaries and fostering international collaboration.



Challenges and considerations

While Project-Based Learning offers numerous advantages, it is not without challenges. Educators must consider these factors when implementing PBL:

1. Time and planning

Designing and executing PBL projects can be time-consuming. Teachers need to invest in careful planning to ensure that projects align with learning objectives.

2. Assessment complexity

Assessing student performance in PBL can be more challenging than traditional methods. Rubrics and assessment tools must be carefully developed to measure competencies effectively.

3. Resource availability

Some PBL projects may require specific resources or technology, and not all schools have equal access to such tools. Equitable access is an ongoing concern.

4. Student variability

Students' readiness for self-directed learning can vary. Teachers may need to provide additional support to help all students thrive in a PBL environment.



Volkan Iner has been teaching as an English teacher for 5th and 6th graders for more than 15 years. He has worked on different private courses and in private schools during his teaching career. He is currently working at Ulkem Private Middle School under the Consultancy of METU D.F., Manisa, Turkey. Specifically, he is the host of "Teacher Talks" Instagram live sessions.



Project-Based Learning is a powerful educational approach that prepares students for the complex challenges of the 21st century. By engaging students in real-world, inquiry-driven projects, PBL fosters deep understanding, critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills. It equips students with the competencies they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

While implementing Project-Based Learning may come with challenges, the benefits are clear. The success stories of schools like High Tech High and organizations like the Global Online Academy demonstrate that PBL can revolutionize education and create well-rounded, capable individuals. As we continue to adapt to the evolving landscape of education, Project-Based Learning stands as a beacon of innovation, offering a pathway to a brighter future for our students and society as a whole.

Welcome to **Ask the Experts**, the ultimate column dedicated to professional development in the field of education. In this dynamic and ever-evolving field, continuous growth and learning are paramount. In each issue, we explore the most commonly asked topic by interviewing invited expert for their insights, experiences, and strategies.

Exploring

EXCLUSIVE

FREELANCE WRITING

with One of the Minds Behind “Harmonize”

with Mr. Rob Sved

EduVerse: Welcome to our exclusive interview series, “Ask the Experts.” We are honored to be joined by **Mr. Rob Sved**, a distinguished freelance writer renowned for his contributions to the field of English Language Teaching, or ELT. His work on “Harmonize,” published by Oxford University Press, stands as a testament to his expertise and dedication to fostering effective language learning. In this interview, we delve into Rob’s journey as a freelance writer in the ELT field, exploring the intricacies of his creative process, the challenges he has encountered, and the insights he has gained along the way.

1 / Rob, can you tell us about your journey into freelance writing in the ELT field? What inspired you to pursue this career path?

Sure! Freelance ELT writers tend to have a real range of “journeys” that have brought them into writing. Mine is possibly a relatively conventional one. After teaching for a few years in Spain and in the UK I was looking for a way of furthering a career. I was really enjoying teaching abroad and there were options open to me at that time to continue to do it – I could explore more countries or develop my teaching skills further. But having studied English Language and Literature at university, the opportunity to work in publishing and create educational content was very appealing. I was interested in children’s publishing because I’d loved preparing and delivering lessons for 10–18 year-olds. So I studied a short diploma course in Publishing in London and got an editorial job at a lively and creative children’s trade non-fiction publisher called Two-Can Publishing (now John Brown Junior). It was a great place to gain experience as it was progressive in both their content and their processes. But my heart was in ELT and a few years later I moved to Oxford to take up a post at Oxford University Press (OUP), working as an editor on primary coursebooks. After nearly 12 years there, and becoming a Publishing Manager for the Primary group for Spain, I decided to move away from management and back to engaging my creative mind! Becoming freelance was a scary leap into the unknown, from a secure job, but I was fortunate to have made many connections over the years at OUP. Since 2010, I’ve written and edited courses for a range of publishers across a number of different segments of different markets.



Rob Sved is an ELT author based in Oxford, UK. Over the last 25 years, he has worked as a teacher, publisher, editor, teacher trainer and writer and now specializes in developing materials for young learners and teenagers. He has co-authored a number of coursebook series, and contributed to many others, as well as writing graded readers and digital and video content. Rob is one of the main authors of the OUP series Harmonize.

2

That's fascinating, Rob. It's impressive how you navigated through different aspects of publishing before finding your niche in ELT. Your work, "Harmonize," also published by Oxford University Press, has gained significant recognition. Could you share your experience of conceptualizing and writing this textbook? What challenges did you face during the writing process?

Coursebook-writing differs from project to project. Sometimes you are following a clear brief after the concept has already been developed; other times you are involved from the very start in developing the concept that other authors follow. With Harmonize, Nick Tims and I were fortunate enough to be working with the inhouse team at OUP from the very start. We did research in schools, observed classes and interviewed teachers. The publishing team organised teacher focus groups which we observed too, which were extremely useful – it was a real eye-opener to see how much information was generated when teachers discussed ideas together. The main focus of the research was to establish how the course would approach project-based learning in a way that would engage 11-16 year-olds and would also build the vocabulary, grammar and skills that were a necessary part of a secondary school syllabus. We developed various versions of a rationale and a sample unit and shared them with different markets and teacher consultants. The feedback helped us to hone the concept over a few months.

Initial feedback strongly suggested that teachers saw the value in doing projects in class, but found it difficult to manage them successfully alongside everything else that they had to cover. If the projects were separate in the book, they were often skipped. We wanted to break down a unit project into stages that came naturally out of the regular coursebook material, so that, by the end of the unit, students had much of the project content complete and the final stage was to organise it into a form of output – a presentation, a poster, a display, a demonstration, a game etc.

Once we had worked out how a unit from Harmonize 1 would work, we started to write the other units. It was very much a problem-solving exercise – writing coursebook units often are, but this felt even more so. There were a lot of dependencies to consider. The project needed to be a natural vehicle for the topic and language in the unit, it needed break down into neat stages, and each stage needed to practise and develop language presented in that lesson. Of course, the unit topic also needed to contain engaging content for the age-group.

Once the unit was “unlocked” and we had worked out how the project would run through it, the content was very enjoyable to write, and having projects that were broken down into stages immediately made them feel very doable for teachers and students. It still allowed us to be ambitious in our approach to content, though.

Coursebook-writing differs from project to project. Sometimes you are following a clear brief after the concept has already been developed; other times you are involved from the very start in developing the concept that other authors follow.

(Rob Sved)

3/ **Wow! It sounds like a thorough and collaborative process. ELT materials, like “Harmonize”, often require adaptation to different cultural and linguistic contexts. How do you ensure that your writing remains relevant and accessible to learners from diverse backgrounds?**

That’s a great question. This is an issue whether the product is aimed at a number of different international markets, or whether it is for a specific market. We do our best to be sensitive to cultural contexts and stay up-to-date with the variety of linguistic contexts too. It’s important to visit different markets, preferably including classroom visits, and speak to consultants in the market. Listening and respecting is key, and keeping an open mind as to what may or may not interest, resonate with, offend or disengage students.

Both Nick and I had children of the age-group we were writing for which was helpful to an extent – but we were always careful not to let that affect our broad-appeal approach. Ultimately the comments from readers in various markets are like gold dust to us – and we always respect their expertise. So, the trick is to keep objective and to continually revisit your content with “different heads on”.

4/ **What role do you believe ELT writers play in addressing issues of inclusivity, diversity, and representation in educational materials? How do you incorporate these principles into your writing?**

Many publishers, like OUP, emphasize these principles in their briefs for authors. It’s important and I think most authors take that role extremely seriously. We’re always looking for ways to broaden the range and reach of the content, and open students’ minds to other cultures and ideas that will mean they live their own lives with more richness. We search for a broad range of interesting stories, news items, cultural events and insights which, together, give an accurate reflection of the world we live in (as far as we can) and inspire students to find out more. We deliberately work to avoid cultural stereotypes and positively encourage representation of some groups in settings where they may have been marginalised before. Asking those questions along the way (again working with an author partner is helpful) is really important.

There is also a mechanical side to this. It is expected that authors track their content for vocabulary and grammar etc. as they write, but we also track the cultural and inclusivity content to ensure range. Authors end up with sophisticated shared files that help us make sure the content is balanced and wide-ranging.



5

It's so inspiring! Inclusivity and diversity are crucial in creating engaging and meaningful educational content. Now, another question. In the rapidly evolving landscape of ELT, how do you stay updated with the latest teaching methodologies, linguistic research, and trends in educational technology?

There's no shortage of information about trends and developments in the field. The challenge is curating that information and trying to detect what trends will impact what we do. There isn't always a direct overlap between the interest I have in education and linguistics and the work I do as a writer of materials for teenage students.

For my work as a writer, I think the evolving landscape of the lives and interests of young people is more important. We are seeing huge shifts in the way this age-group spend their time, receive information and engage with media, as well as how they communicate with each other. Recognising that and catering for it is, I believe, the biggest challenge for writers for the 10-18 age group. Many authors have, over the years, developed an expertise in delivering modules of educational material that are coherent in their presentation and practice of vocabulary, grammar, skills – but making sure the material truly engages with an age-group that is continually developing is another matter. So I find myself focussing on reading articles that explore the minds of our current teenagers.

For my work as a writer, I think the evolving landscape of the lives and interests of young people is more important.

(Rob Sved)

6

As far as I know, freelancing offers flexibility, but it also comes with its challenges. What are some of the biggest challenges you face in your freelance writing career, and how do you overcome them? And how about opportunities?

Let's start with the opportunities. As you say, freelancing indeed offers you flexibility. You can make things work for you by combining projects or taking on a single project. You can deliberately seek a broad range of work to develop a variety of skills, or choose to keep things narrow and become more expert in a single area. For me it started as the former and then developed into the latter, which I suppose is to be expected. I used the freelance opportunity to explore a number segments and types of work and then sought work in those areas I enjoyed and wanted to explore most.

Most of the challenges are the obvious ones. The work that is available is not laid out like a huge supermarket for you to pick and choose! The absence of a regular income means that you need to aim for these ideals but travel down a somewhat circuitous route – you are likely to need to take available work as it arises even if it sits off your desired path.

My main challenge has been that I am a very sociable person who likes to work in a team and share ideas. Being an author can be a lonely business at times. Finding co-authors to work with, explore ideas with and develop professionally with, has been really important in overcoming that. I attend networking gatherings whenever I can and living in Oxford helps with that.

7 / The isolation and uncertainty definitely seem challenging, especially during and after the pandemic. Let's talk about how you measure success in your freelance writing career? What milestones or achievements do you strive for, and what keeps you motivated in your work?

This is a BIG question! I have tended to be reactive and open-minded rather than establishing clear milestones. You never really know what may appear around the corner, and to a certain extent that makes the career exciting too, along with the actual work. I did have a period of working on courses for a similar segment of the market, and when I started to work on a new segment it made a huge difference to my motivation. So it's important to know when to look for opportunities to make changes to the kind of work you are doing.

8 / What advice would you give to aspiring teachers who want to specialize in writing ELT materials?

There's a great series of books called ELT Teacher to Writer with each book written by an expert author. The books focus on different segments of the market and different disciplines that an author needs to develop, e.g. writing listening activities or writing video scripts. The books are useful for both teachers and writers but give a good sense of what being a writer is all about.



<https://eltteacher2writer.co.uk/>

FINAL THOUGHTS

Looking ahead, what do you envision for the future of ELT materials, and how do you see your role as a freelance writer evolving in response to these changes?

ELT materials haven't changed as much as people may have expected about 20 years ago when technological advances pointed towards a shift to a different way of learning in the classroom. Teachers may have been using a whiteboard and able to use the internet but the heart of classroom teaching remained unchanged. I think that the pandemic forced a change that may well have some lasting impact. Live online communication between students and between classes and between countries, cultures and segments may change the way education takes place. Maybe this could affect how we develop our materials – I'm sure it's an opportunity rather than a threat!



KEY TAKEAWAYS**Journey into freelance ELT writing**

- Rob Sved transitioned from teaching to ELT publishing, driven by his passion for children's educational content. His experience at Two-Can Publishing and OUP led him to a successful freelance career.

Collaborative conceptualization

- The "Harmonize" textbook was developed through extensive research, classroom observations, and teacher interviews, ensuring it met the needs of both teachers and students.

Cultural sensitivity and inclusivity

- Ensuring ELT materials are culturally sensitive and inclusive involves classroom visits, consulting with experts, and avoiding cultural stereotypes.

Addressing diversity and representation

- ELT materials should include diverse stories and representations, tracking inclusivity content alongside vocabulary and grammar for balanced educational resources.

Adapting to evolving trends

- Staying updated with educational and technological trends, focusing on the changing interests of teenagers, keeps ELT materials relevant and engaging.

Challenges of freelancing

- Freelancing offers flexibility but also leads to income instability and isolation. Overcoming these challenges involves networking, collaborating with co-authors, and maintaining a sociable work environment.





pro.ed
EDUCATION SOLUTIONS

Eduverse

1

Year
ANNIVERSARY



Like a Dream comes true

On the 1 year anniversary of EduVerse, we're honored to speak with **Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc**, the founder and creator of EduVerse. The journey of EduVerse began with a profound observation in a rural classroom, leading to the creation of a platform that strives to bridge the gap within educational resources and expertise in different regions. EduVerse is dedicated to promoting equity and diversity in education, connecting experts and teachers, and fostering a collaborative community.



Eduverse **1** Year
ANNIVERSARY

EduVerse: Welcome, Dr. Quoc. It's an honor to have you here today. To start off, could you share the story that inspired you to create EduVerse?



Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc

Dr. Quoc: Thank you for having me. The inspiration for EduVerse came during a visit to a rural classroom. I observed the significant gap between the resources and opportunities available to students and teachers there compared to those in big, modern cities where I come from. I saw firsthand the potential in these students and the dedication of their teachers, but they lacked the resources and support to fully realize that potential. This experience motivated me to bridge this gap and bring the best educational practices to and from teachers and students everywhere.



Image source: Vietnamnews.vn

EduVerse: That's truly inspiring. How does EduVerse aim to bridge the gap of resources and support?

Dr. Quoc: Sponsored by Pro.Ed Education Solutions, EduVerse serves as a bridge by curating and disseminating content from renowned experts and making it an easily accessible and high-quality resource to teachers worldwide. We feature expert interviews, articles, and webinars that provide practical insights and strategies teachers can apply in their classrooms. By doing so, we translate academic expertise into actionable practices, helping to level the playing field for educators and students regardless of their backgrounds and conditions.

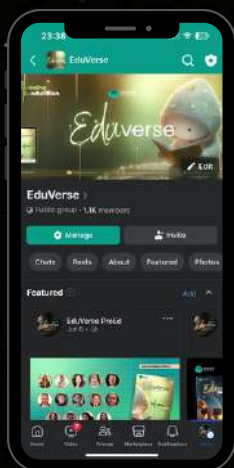
EduVerse: Speaking of resources, can you tell us more about the EduVerse newsletters and what educators can expect from them?

Certainly. Our monthly EduVerse newsletters are designed to inspire, inform, and connect educators globally. Each edition includes insightful articles, expert interviews, industry trends, and valuable resources such as lesson plans, recommended tools, and teaching techniques. We focus on delivering content that is not only informative but also practical and applicable in the classroom. The magazine-style design engages readers, making the newsletters both educational and enjoyable.



EduVerse: That sounds incredibly valuable. What about the EduVerse webinars? How do they support professional development?

The EduVerse webinars are tailored for passionate educators and led by seasoned experts such as Dr. Christina Agvent about AI literacy, and Teresa Bestwick about boosting communicative strategies in the classroom. These webinars aim to nurture and elevate teaching practices, serving as a catalyst for professional advancement. We cover a range of topics, from cutting-edge strategies to building a profitable teaching brand, all designed to support educators in their professional journeys. Participating in these webinars keeps educators stay updated on the latest trends and technologies in education.



EduVerse: And the EduVerse Facebook community seems to be an integral part of your project. How does this community contribute to your mission?

Dr. Quoc: The EduVerse Facebook community is a vibrant space where educators can share ideas, strategies, and inspiration. We wholeheartedly encourage active participation and sharing within the community, fostering a collaborative environment. Educators can discuss any educational topic or theme, and their valuable insights contribute to the collective growth of the community. This interaction is essential for staying current and motivated in the fast-paced world of education. So far, we've already had more than 1,100 subscribers from every corner of the world. Just come and join.

EduVerse: It's impressive to see such a comprehensive approach. Can you share some of the achievements EduVerse has had so far?

Dr. Quoc: We're proud to have a global reach, with readers and participants from over 130 countries. Our resources are highly recommended by renowned experts and supported by major publishers like Cambridge, Oxford, Macmillan, and Pearson. We also feature contributions from leading experts and edupreneurs such as Dr. Hayo Reinders, Dr. Philip Seargeant, and Carina Fragozo, which adds immense value to our content. These achievements highlight the impact and credibility of EduVerse in the education community.

EduVerse: Those are significant accomplishments. What are your future goals for EduVerse?

Dr. Quoc: Looking ahead, we still aim to promote equity and inclusivity in education. We continue to provide accessible and relevant professional development that adapts to the evolving needs of educators and students. We see EduVerse as a sharing platform and community that can democratize access to high-quality professional development globally, fostering a culture of lifelong learning among educators. We also plan to expand our reach, attract more contributors, and become a central hub for connecting expertise with those who need it. Ultimately, our goal is to profoundly shape the future of education by nurturing a collaborative community where best practices and innovative teaching strategies are shared.

EduVerse: That's a visionary outlook. Finally, how can educators and policymakers get involved with EduVerse?

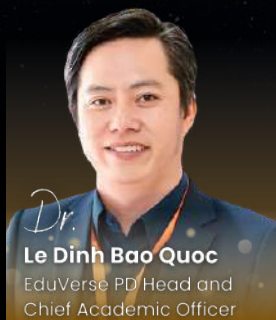
Dr. Quoc: Educators and policymakers can get involved by subscribing to our newsletters, participating in our webinars, and joining our Facebook community. We welcome contributions and active participation, as it enriches our collective knowledge and supports the growth of the educational community. Whether it's sharing insights, engaging in discussions, or contributing content, every action helps us move towards a more equitable and diverse educational landscape. One more thing is that we're looking for EduVerse ambassadors who can help us bring EduVerse to even further corners of the world. Any teachers or readers or educators are more than welcome to join us to bring equity, inclusivity, and diversity in education.

EduVerse: Thank you, Dr. Quoc, for sharing your insights and the incredible work you're doing with EduVerse. It's been a pleasure speaking with you.

Dr. Quoc: Thank you for having me. It's been a pleasure to share our vision and progress.



Meet the EduVerse team



Dr.
Le Dinh Bao Quoc
EduVerse PD Head and
Chief Academic Officer

Le Dinh Bao Quoc, with a Doctorate in Education, boasts 20+ years in ELT. He founded Pro.Ed Education Solutions, offering school consultancies. Author of "The Art and Science of ChatGPT in Education," he highlights EdTech's role in enriching teaching, learning, and educational practices. Research spans EdTech's impact, teacher growth, and educational management. Dr. Quoc is acknowledged by LinkedIn as a Top Educational Leadership Voice in 2024.

Gülbin Özdemir, a TESOL Certified English teacher, specializes in teaching young learners and gifted students in Turkey. She is presently focusing on her master's thesis in ELT. INGED, the English Language Education Association, has recognized her as The Most Inspiring Teacher of 2022 in Turkey. Gülbin is also an esteemed international speaker, frequently invited to participate in panel discussions, talks, conferences, and podcasts on educational matters. She's been invited to panel discussions, talks, conferences and poscasts as an international speaker on educational topics



Ms.
Gülbin Özdemir
Editorial Manager

"EduVerse is literally A LOT MORE than a newsletter. Three key aspects drew me to join EduVerse. First off is of course the invitation that I have received from Dr. Le Quoc which made me feel extremely pleased and proud. I'm incredibly delighted and grateful for this kind gesture. Second off is that EduVerse offers a huge treasure of resources that educators can benefit from. The articles are carefully chosen, designed and edited cooperatively with the author, presenting a fantastic opportunity. They offer practical and valuable ideas and suggestions, making EduVerse different and richer compared to the other publications in the field of education. Third off is that I have never witnessed anyone who could even say 'on average' for this free newsletter since it is a wonderful free newsletter in terms of the graphic design and content."



Ms.
Nguyen T. Phuong Uyen
Content & Art Specialist

Nguyen Tran Phuong Uyen holds a Bachelor's degree in Business English and is certified with the TKT (Teaching Knowledge Test). She is a creative English language professional with over 5 years of experience in the field. Uyen has a strong background in research and development roles for educational institutions, combined with exceptional creative and design skills. Specializing in academic operations and the development of teaching and learning materials, she is currently contributing to projects at EduVerse and Pro.Ed. Her expertise lies in developing academic content and designing engaging educational materials.

"Once I heard Dr. Quoc's story about his experience in a rural town in Vietnam, where students and teachers were deeply dedicated to education despite lacking many resources, I felt a profound sense of inspiration and purpose to join EduVerse. Being a part of EduVerse not only helps me to bring equity and inclusivity to education, but also allows me to research, learn, and grow every day. This journey fuels my passion for continuous learning, and enables me to make a difference with the capacity to touch numerous lives globally."

HONORING OUR INSPIRATIONAL VOICES

EduVerse's remarkable journey over the past year would not have been possible without the invaluable contributions of **our authors, webinar presenters, and interviewees**. Their dedication, expertise, and passion have illuminated our path, transforming EduVerse into a beacon of knowledge and inspiration for educators worldwide. These thought leaders have shared their wisdom, ignited curiosity, and fostered a culture of continuous learning and collaboration. Their commitment to advancing education and bridging gaps has touched countless lives, driving us all towards a brighter, more equitable future in education. We are profoundly grateful for their unwavering support and belief in our mission.



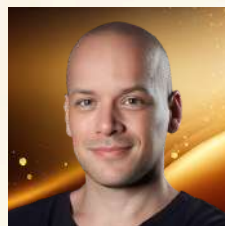
ARTICLE CONTRIBUTORS



Jake Whiddon
Head of Learning
Experience at Studycat



Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc
Founder of Pro.Ed
Education Solutions



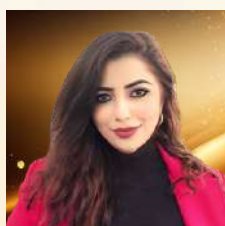
Paul Grainger
Founder of
Unlock Dynamic



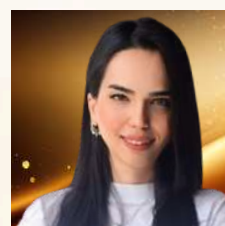
Dr. Hayo Reinders
Professor of
Educational Innovation



Nguyen Thi Quynh Anh
Head of the English Department of FPT
Polytechnic College



Gülbin Özdemir
TESOL Certified expert
teacher of English



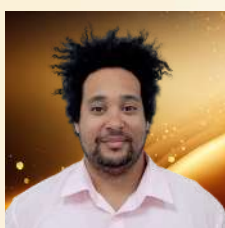
Esma Sila Tekinsoy
English Teacher at Tekden
Primary School



Utku Ertan
Teacher and
Administrator in the
Turkish Armed Forces



Víctor González
IB Global Educator



Joseph J. Hills
ELT Consultant
for e-future.



Daniel Farrell
Educational Content
Specialist



Alfredo da Costa
Founder and Coordinator
of REDIE Global



Prof. William J. Peters
Visiting Professor of English
Language & Literature



Dr. Linh Phung
English Language
Specialist with the U.S.
Department of State



Volkan Iner
English Language Teacher
and Host of "Teacher Talks"



Gerry Docherty
Regional Head of Education for
South East Asia for
Beaconhouse Malaysia



Dr. Christina Agvent

Founder at
Trifecta Education



Adrienne Hornby

School Well-being Consultant
and Strategist



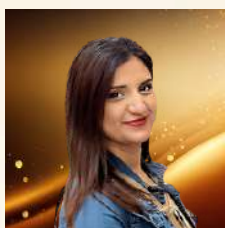
Ceren TEZEL KELEŞ

English Language Teacher



Behiye Karatop

English language teacher



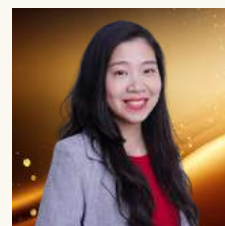
Çiğdem Ceylan Sağiroğlu

English Teacher at Qatar
Turkish School



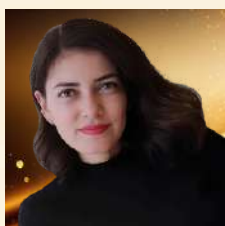
Nguyen Tran Nam Phuong

Academic Director at Nam
Phuong Center for English



Lien-Huong Nguyen

Educational Leader and
ELT Professional



Şeyma Güneş

English language
teacher



Roz Weitzman

Curriculum Consultant



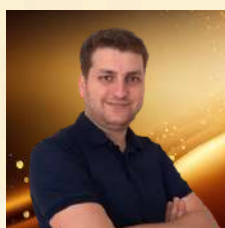
Sara Israfilova

English language and
literature teacher



Tran Thi Ngoc Tran

Educational Leader



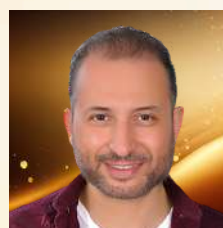
Necip AKÇA

English Language Teacher



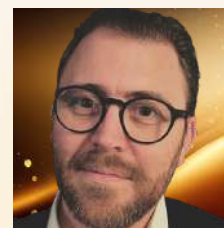
Dr. Pham Huy Cuong

Dean of the Faculty of English
at the University of
Economics and Finance



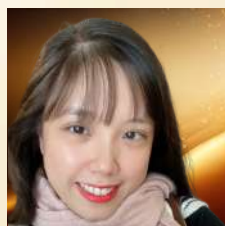
Dr. Alaaeldin Mostafa

Experienced Physics and
Math Educator



Mark Nichols

Subject Lead of English at Avanti
Grange Secondary School



Dr. Nguyen Thi Thuy Linh

English instructor at the
University of Languages and
International Studies, VNU-Hanoi



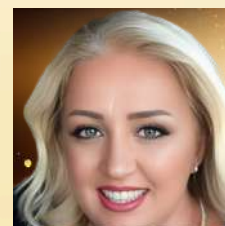
Dr. Ethan Trinh

Associate Director at Atlanta
Global Studies Center



**Dr. Mohammad
Haseen Ahmed**

Lead Presenter at the English
Language Institute of King
Abdul Aziz University




Nasiye Yamaç Şahin


English Educator at the Antalya
Science Art Center

ASK-THE-EXPERT INTERVIEWEES




 **Steven Happel**, an educator and teacher well-being advocate, is now a Senior Academic Manager at VUS. In EduVerse Issue 01, he discussed work-life balance, teacher challenges, strategies, and school support. We also talked about "revenge sleep procrastination."





 **Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc**, an expert in teacher training and development, joined us in the second issue of EduVerse where he shared his insights on the fascinating realm of classroom observations and his groundbreaking approach known as SCOS (Student-Centered Observation Scheme), a method holds great promise in reshaping how we assess and improve the teaching and learning process in the post-COVID era.




 **Derek 'Del' Spafford** (MA TESOL; Dip.TESOL) is a seasoned educator from Macmillan Education Asia, with a wealth of experience in English Language Teaching. He shared his expertise on Inquiry-Based Learning in ELT in EduVerse Issue 03.




 **David Deubelbeiss** B.Ed, M.Ed (TESOL) is a globally recognized English language professor and the visionary behind ELT Buzz, as well as the thriving LinkedIn community, ELT Professionals. Our discussion in EduVerse Issue 04 revolved around Teachers' Professional Development, particularly in the age of technology and AI.


 **Carina Fragozo**, an educator, YouTuber, and successful edupreneur, has positively influenced numerous lives. With over 1.7 million subscribers on her YouTube channel, she engaged with us in EduVerse Issue 05 to explore edupreneurship as the future of educational transformation.



 **Dr. Hayo Reinders** is an esteemed expert in educational technology, serving as the TESOL Professor and Director of the doctoral program at Anaheim University in the USA. In the special edition, the 6th issue, celebrating the one-year anniversary of AI in education, the discussion centers on the integration of AI in assessment.

 **Roz Weitzman**, an esteemed ESL Consultant, has had a distinguished career in both Canada and China. In the 7th issue of EduVerse, we explored her inspiring journey from a dedicated teacher in Toronto to a successful school principal in Beijing, highlighting her personal, cultural, and professional growth.




 **Mike Mayor**, a distinguished ESL expert with an illustrious career at Pearson, joined us in EduVerse 08 where he shared his insights on the crucial link between fostering confidence in language learners and their readiness for the future workplace.

 **Dr. Linh Phung**, former Director at Chatham University and Founder of Eduling International, was featured in EduVerse 09. We explored her noteworthy experiences and groundbreaking contributions to language education and leadership in this special edition.




 **Ana Jovic**, a Serbian educator and Ph.D. researcher, and  **Courtney Bailey**, an English specialist with teaching experience in Turkey and the U.S., joined us in our insightful discussion on Native-speakerism in ELT in issue 10. Their expertise provided a comprehensive exploration of this complex topic.




 **Dr. Philip Seargeant**, a distinguished linguist from The Open University in the UK and the author of "The Future of Language," joined us in EduVerse issue 11. Our dialogue explored the future landscape of language and communication, shedding light on what lies ahead for humanity.



 **Alexander James Conroy**, founder of NotLost Wellbeing Specialists with a Master's in Psychology, joined us in EduVerse 12 to discuss his career. He shared insights on well-being in education and innovative strategies for overcoming challenges in this rapidly changing field.



 **Rob Sved**, a renowned freelance writer in English Language Teaching (ELT), shared his freelance writing journey in our interview. His textbook "Harmonize," published by Oxford University Press, showcases his dedication to effective language learning, detailing his creative process, challenges, and insightful discoveries along the way.

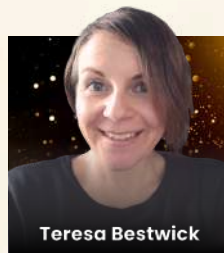
WEBINAR PRESENTERS



Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc



Jake Whiddon

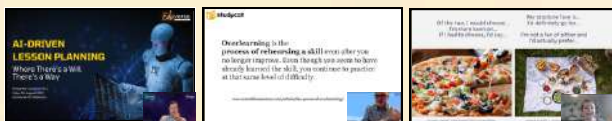


Teresa Bestwick

★ **Dr. Le Dinh Bao Quoc**, author of "The Art and Science of ChatGPT in Education" and EduVerse PD Head, launched the EduVerse PD Webinar series with "AI-Driven Lesson Planning," teaching participants to create, enhance, and use AI resources for effective lesson plans.

🇸🇵 **Jake Whiddon**, an experienced Edtech professional, explained the concept of overlearning, a powerful tool often underestimated and underutilized in educational settings, particularly in language teaching in the webinar on "Bringing Overlearning to Your Learners."

🇪🇸 **Teresa Bestwick**, a teacher trainer and materials writer from The TEFL Development Hub, presented the third webinar on "Boosting Communicative Confidence," offering easy-to-prepare activities that help adolescent learners participate in communicative tasks without fear of giving incorrect answers.

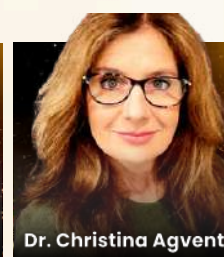


🇬🇧 **Ola Kowalska**, an experienced teacher coach and idea generator, shared insights on establishing a reliable teaching brand and offered helpful tips on utilizing social media to achieve this goal in the fourth webinar, "How to Build a Profitable Teaching Brand."

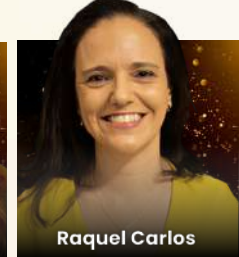
🇺🇸 **Dr. Christina Agvent**, a 30-year education veteran and AI advocate from Trifecta Education, presented the fifth webinar, "Crafting the Future: AI Literacy in Education," on how embracing AI can revolutionize learning outcomes, equipping students and teachers with essential digital skills and insights.



Ola Kowalska



Dr. Christina Agvent



Raquel Carlos

🇧🇷 **Raquel Carlos**, the Academic Director at Edify Education, highlighted the transformative power of Communities of Practice (CoPs) in education. These dynamic frameworks greatly enhance teacher development and support lifelong learning.

IMPRESSIVE NUMBERS

(Aug.2023 - Jun.2024)

1420

Total number of registrations

69.6%

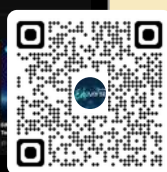
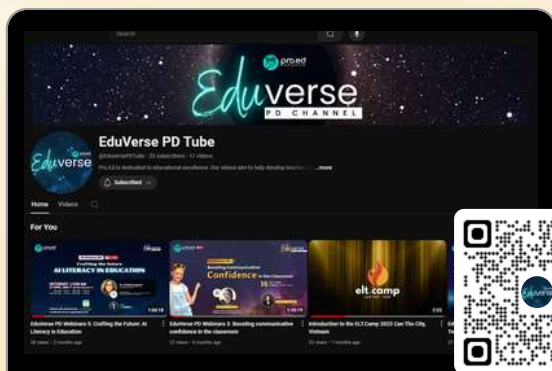
NPS Score
(Net Promoter Score)

106

Countries
(Diversity)

86.8%

Overall Impression
(Out-standing & Good)



Watch our webinar recordings!

COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS

👤 bando*****@gmail.com

"This will be a big help for me as a student who honestly has low confidence in anything. Thank you for the informative and relevant discussion in today's webinar. I hope I can join your next session."

👤 markgleandeg*****@gmail.com

"It was a good experience, and the timing was especially suitable for those with a short attention span. The speaker spoke clearly and explained her topic well. So, thank you!"

👤 danloydcqu*****@gmail.com

"The webinar was truly insightful and informative. I would definitely tune in to future webinars organized by Eduverse Pro.Ed."

EduVerse is also a platform for global teachers and educators to share their thoughts, expectations and experiences within the education community. It aims to foster collaboration and create a space for learning from one another's unique perspectives and methodologies. Join us as we strive to uplift and empower teachers worldwide.

GLOBAL VOICES



Dr. Ha Van Sinh

Director of PTC Language Center (Nha Trang, Vietnam)



Mike Mayor

Senior Director, Global Scale of English at Pearson



Dr. Nguyen Duc Hoat

Dean of the English Department at the Foreign Trade University



David N. Roberts

Founder and CEO of Kidsloop



Dan Bass

Co-Chair of Education and Training Committee of AmCham Vietnam



Uyen Pham

Assessment Services Lead ASEAN Australasia Japan Korea at CUP and Assessment



Nasiba Mirpochoeva

Director at English Without Borders



Tram Nguyen

Managing Director at Microsoft Vietnam



Ángela Flores Cuñado

Teacher at CEIP La Goleta, Arucas Public Primary School



Hanah Nguyen

Area Manager at Oxford University Press



Nada Ratković

Mentor at Vocational High School Ban Josip Jelačić Sinj



Ian Sato

Education Program Manager at Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence



Michael Ngo

General Manager at ELSA South East Asia & Taiwan



Will Rixon

Global Academic Engagement & Content Manager at Macmillan Education



Richard Toulouse

Teacher at Sedbergh Vietnam



Dr. Bilal Anwar

HE Academic and Wellbeing Lead at East Sussex College



Deepak Kumar

Teacher at Government Boys' High School



Laura Varcus

Teacher at School Center for Inclusive Education Constantin Paunescu Recas



Shalala Mammadli

Teacher at Masazir Village Secondary School 5



Maggie Baeza

Teacher at Private school Colegio Manquecura Ciudad de los Valles



Dr. Cao Nhat Tuan

Teacher at Van Lang University

Eduverse

in

GLOBAL EYES



What a journey it has been! During our first year, we've traversed borders and touched the lives of educators in over 130 countries. This celebration isn't just about numbers; it's about the profound impact we've collectively made. As we reflect on this significant moment, we're so excited to share the insights and experiences of our contributors, whose expertise and dedication have shaped EduVerse's first year of collaboration, innovation, and impact.

What inspired you to become involved with the EduVerse PD project?



Ho Hac Bao Quyen

Macmillan Education, part of Springer Nature

It's truly inspiring to witness the impact your project has had on educators worldwide. Reflecting on what inspired me to become involved with EduVerse PD, I must say it was the alignment of its vision and mission with the core values of Macmillan Education that resonated deeply with us. As a representative for Macmillan Education in Vietnam, we're constantly seeking ways to support educators and elevate teaching standards in our region. Witnessing the dedication and effort put forth by the team at Pro.Ed further reinforced our decision to get involved. It was evident from the outset that EduVerse PD was not just another project but a passionate endeavor driven by a genuine desire to make a meaningful difference in education worldwide.



Sara Israfilova

European Azerbaijan School

I was inspired to become involved with the EduVerse PD project because of its mission to enhance professional development for educators on a global scale. The focus on providing innovative, accessible, and practical resources for teachers resonated with my passion for education and continuous improvement. Seeing the potential to make a significant impact on teaching practices and student outcomes motivated me to contribute my expertise.

What has been the most rewarding aspect of contributing to the EduVerse PD project?



Paul Grainger

Unlock Dynamic

It's given me a platform to share my work with a lot more people.



Dr. Christina Agvent

Trifecta Education, LLC

The attendee numbers at the webinar I presented!



Esma Sila Tekinsoy

Tekden Private School

The most rewarding aspect has been witnessing the positive impact on teachers' professional growth and seeing how the platform has enriched their teaching practices.



Courtney Bailey
University of South Carolina

The most rewarding aspect of contributing to the EduVerse PD project has been seeing the impact it has on educators and learners alike. Knowing that my work helps educators gain new perspectives and tools to create inclusive and effective learning environments is incredibly fulfilling. Additionally, seeing learners benefit from these improved teaching practices and feeling more empowered in their language learning journey is a great source of satisfaction.

How has your experience with EduVerse PD influenced your own professional development?



Ana Jović
ThinkLink

EduVerse allowed me to learn more about various educational topics from multiple perspectives and esteemed authors. It also brought me a number of new professional connections eager to actively participate in the mutual exchange of expertise and experiences.



Esma Sıla Tekinsoy
Tekden Private School

EduVerse PD has greatly influenced my professional development by providing access to diverse resources and a supportive community, which has enhanced my teaching skills and knowledge.

Dr. Mohammad Haseen Ahmed
King Abdulaziz University



Emboldened by my first publication getting noticed and read through dynamic groups of learners and educators alike, I am contemplating to contribute one more article on social well-being of the learners and practitioners through scientific researches and neurological aspects of staying in a blissful and calm in this tech stress new world.

Dr. Christina Agvent
Trifecta Education, LLC



I appreciate the newsletters and gain valuable perspectives from others around the world.

What are your thoughts on EduVerse? What aspects of EduVerse that impresses you the most?



Paul Grainger
Unlock Dynamic

What impresses me most is the drive and hunger of the team. The Newsletter itself is designed in what I believe is a world-class standard in terms of layout and design. It's one of the best designed newsletters I have ever seen.

Teresa Bestwick
the TEFL Development Hub



EduVerse is a wonderful initiative which provides top-quality educational content to the wider community. The dedication of the team in organising and hosting webinars, as well as putting together their incredible newsletter, shows their drive to further enhance teachers' development. The professional quality and wide-ranging content of the newsletter is amazing.



Ana Jović
ThinkLink

EduVerse is just a year old, but it has the vibe of a well-established magazine with a decades-long tradition. I believe that the editors' careful selection of contributors has given the magazine an opportunity to become so influential at its very start.

Roz Weitzman
RozWeitzmansWorld



What impresses me the most is the perfect English that is used and the variety of editorials that EduVerse publishes.

What is the biggest impact do you think EduVerse PD has had on teachers globally?



Volkan İNER

Metu Ulkem Private Middle School

EduVerse PD's emphasis on continuous, personalized professional development has empowered teachers to take charge of their own learning journeys. The platform provides tailored resources that meet individual teachers' specific needs, allowing for more effective and relevant professional growth. This personalized approach helps educators stay current with the latest teaching strategies and methodologies, enhancing their ability to deliver high-quality education.



Sara Israfilova

European Azerbaijan School

The biggest impact EduVerse PD has had on teachers globally is providing them with high-quality, easily accessible professional development resources. This has empowered educators to enhance their teaching practices, stay updated with the latest educational trends, and ultimately improve student outcomes. EduVerse has bridged the gap between teachers in different regions, allowing for the sharing of best practices and fostering a global community of learners.

What surprised you most about the project's success in the first year?



Paul Grainger

Unlock Dynamic

The consistent quality has surprised me. A lot of Newsletter experience a drop off in quality when they first start, but this one seems to get better each edition.

What surprised me most about the project's success in the first year was the rapid adoption and positive reception from educators worldwide. Despite initial expectations of gradual uptake, EduVerse PD quickly became a go-to resource for professional development, attracting a diverse range of teachers from various regions and educational backgrounds. This swift embrace highlighted the significant demand for accessible, high-quality professional development resources.

Volkan İNER

Metu Ulkem Private Middle School



What role do you think EduVerse can play in the future of education?



Mike Mayor

Pearson

One of the topics I frequently speak about is Employability and the need for everyone to continue learning after leaving formal education. Faced with an ever-changing workplace, we all need to be ready to upskill and reskill. Professional Development is key for teachers to remain motivated and relevant and EduVerse is a simple way of engaging with the latest developments and the practices of others from around the world. Any project which encourages teacher communities and the sharing of ideas is to be applauded.

Paul Grainger

Unlock Dynamic



The education sector is a very conservative and slow-moving industry. Changes need to be made with the new generation of leaders, who can make the required changes. I think Eduverse should act as a thought leader to this new generation by speaking more directly to leaders as opposed to teachers. Teachers are saturated with content and options. Leaders are largely left alone and required to fight for themselves. They need support. Eduverse can fill that space.

What are you most excited about for the future of the EduVerse PD platform?

Courtney Bailey

University of South Carolina



I look forward to seeing how it expands its offerings to cover a wider range of topics and incorporate new technologies to enhance learning experiences. Additionally, I'm excited about the prospect of EduVerse PD fostering even more collaboration and knowledge-sharing among educators globally.

Dr. Mohammad Haseen Ahmed

King Abdulaziz University



I am looking forward to seeing newer heights of successes in its drive to empower educators and teachers worldwide and more issues with greater impact, catering to the current technological challenges and opportunities in the academic horizons.

What advice would you give to someone who is considering contributing to the EduVerse PD project?

Dr. Christina Agvent

Trifecta Education, LLC



Do it – it is a fantastic organization with which to get involved.



Teresa Bestwick

The TEFL Development Hub

I would encourage anyone and everyone to get involved with EduVerse. The whole team work tirelessly to continue providing insightful content for their newsletter and live events and it was a pleasure to be a part of their webinar series, with easy communication leading up to the event and friendly faces on the day.

Is there anything you would like to share with the global teacher community on the occasion of EduVerse PD's first anniversary?



Mike Mayor

Pearson

Everyone is an expert. Everyone has their own experiences and thoughts to share. What might seem obvious to you might be eye-opening to others. Don't underestimate the value of what you are doing. As you read the articles in EduVerse, think about how you could contribute. Share your thoughts and opinions and start the conversation with fellow educators from around the world. As with most things in life, the more you put in, the more you will get out.



Esma Sila Tekinsoy

Tekden Private School

I would like to congratulate the EduVerse team on their incredible achievements in the first year. Their efforts have empowered teachers and improved educational outcomes worldwide.

Roz Weitzman

RozWeitzmansWorld



I wish each and every one of the readers a wonderful and successful next year and especially the opportunity to help ESL teachers to bring back the joy in their teaching.

Is there anything else you'd like to share or express as we celebrate this 1-year milestone?

As we celebrate this significant 1-year milestone of EduVerse PD, I want to express my profound appreciation to everyone who has been part of this journey—educators, developers, researchers, and all stakeholders dedicated to advancing professional development in education. Your passion, collaboration, and innovative spirit have been the driving force behind EduVerse PD's success in its inaugural year. Together, we have made strides in democratizing access to high-quality educational resources, fostering a community of continuous learning, and addressing real-world challenges in education.

Volkan İNER

Metu Ulkem Private Middle School



Teresa Bestwick

the TEFL Development Hub



Congratulations to EduVerse on an incredible first year and I hope there'll be many more to come! One thing I love about the ELT community is that there are so many educators out there who are willing to share their experience, expertise and ideas and so thank you to everyone who has been a part of EduVerse's first year but a special thanks to the amazing team behind it all for their continued dedication. ❤️

Eduverse

PD PLATFORM



Unlock boundless learning and have your insights showcased to a global audience of over **100** countries!

Call for
CONTRIBUTIONS

✦ **GET YOUR INSIGHTS AND IDEAS EXPOSED TO GLOBAL AUDIENCE** ✦

Share your unique perspective

Discuss technology in education

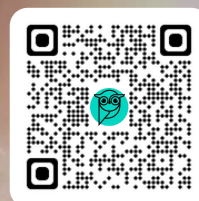
Tell your success story

Spark dialogue on education trends

Offer practical wisdom

Share innovative teaching techniques

Scan the QR code below to
share your brilliance with us.



* EduVerse newsletter is monthly
published on Pro.Ed website.

Becoming an **EDUVERSE AMBASSADOR!**

Are you passionate about promoting equity and diversity in education? Do you believe in the power of accessible, high-quality professional development for educators at every corner of the world?

As an EduVerse Ambassador, you will:

- ✦ Advocate for EduVerse's mission to bridge the gap between educators and experts.
- ✦ Promote our monthly newsletters, webinars, and vibrant Facebook community.
- ✦ Share the latest research, best practices, and diverse voices in education with your networks.
- ✦ Help educators globally access free and engaging professional development resources.
- ✦ Connect with and bring expertise in your regions to EduVerse community.

Together, we can create a collaborative community. Your enthusiasm and dedication can make a real difference in the lives of educators and students worldwide.

Register here



Welcome to **In the Verse**, your go-to column for curated education articles and news from across the internet. We'll sift through the digital realm to bring you concise summaries, keeping you informed and inspired. Join us as we navigate the vast sea of online resources and uncover the latest in educational innovation.

Creating worksheets with AI



AI-powered worksheets offer versatile solutions for teachers. This article explores how AI can help you adapt, generate, and transform worksheets to engage students and enhance their learning outcomes.



Teaching methods overview



Explore effective teaching techniques to enhance student performance across varied classroom settings, supported by evidence-based principles and active learning methodologies.



Keeping it human: Four things every teacher should consider when using technology



Discover practical tips to enhance digital literacy, promote wellbeing, humanize learning, and use data positively, aligning technology with educational goals for teachers and students.



Teaching students to see quality



Learn how recognizing quality can improve student learning and teaching methods while enhancing student-teacher relationships. It provides strategies for students to aim for quality in their work and thinking, going beyond just grades and praise.



When is it OK to use Google Translate in the English-learner classroom?



What strategies help to balance Google Translate use for English-language learners, highlighting challenges and strategies to enhance understanding without hindering language acquisition. Discover how educators help students use translation tools effectively while building confidence.





The benefits of writing for an audience

Why does student writing often lack purpose? Discover how connecting them with real-world audiences enhances learning and strategies for boosting writing quality and motivation through interactions with business owners, community leaders, and more.



How the best teachers are using AI: Real examples

Best ideas and real-life examples of how AI for teachers is making a difference both inside and outside the classroom, how teachers are using AI to save time.



Should chatbots tutor? Dissecting that viral AI demo with Sal Khan and his son

This interview with Sal Khan and experts examines AI chatbots as tutors, delving into their advantages for educators and ability to enrich personalized learning and student involvement.



5 reasons to keep up read-alouds beyond kindergarten

What are the ongoing value of read-alouds beyond kindergarten? Explore practical insights on targeting reading strategies, modeling positive behaviors, fostering community, introducing diverse texts, and cultivating a lifelong love of reading among students.



The power of Thinking-Based Learning: A game-changer for students' success

This article offers a comprehensive exploration of thinking-based learning, contrasting it with traditional methods. It discusses various strategies, benefits, implementation tips, and challenges, advocating for enhanced student engagement and critical thinking skills.



Welcome to **Tech Tips & Tools**, your go-to resource for staying ahead in the digital age of education. Each month, we'll bring you handpicked tech tips and tools designed to empower teachers and learners. From innovative classroom apps to strategies for integrating technology into your classroom practices to enhancing teaching and learning experiences.



BUILD YOUR OWN AI CHATBOT

<https://mizou.com>

Mizou is a cutting-edge tool designed to support teachers in their mission to make learning personalized, fun, and effective. It is utilized smart artificial intelligence (AI) **to tailor educational chatbot** to each student's unique needs. Just tell Mizou what you want the chatbot to teach, and it will create a personalized helper for your students!

KEY FEATURES

AI reliability: Designed for education, sourcing from trusted educational resources.

Educator supervision of student AI usage: Interaction tracking enables oversight to prevent misuse, ensure educational benefit.

User-friendly platform: Simple and clear interface for easy use for users of all levels.

A beacon of inclusivity: Inclusive design with visual, audio features supports diverse learning needs, simplifies concepts.

Student data protection: No student data used, no logins required for students.

TEACHING IDEAS

Feedback Assistant: Create chatbots that provide tailored, constructive feedback on students' pronunciation, exercises, assignments and etc.

Role-playing characters: Develop chatbots that embody characters in your selected scenarios.

Challenge Giver: Have chatbots act as fun challengers, providing students with engaging activities, games, quizzes to practice language skills.

Conversation Partner: Develop chatbots that can converse with students on diverse subjects.

Know-It-All Chatbot: Provide students with knowledgeable chatbots that can give clear, concise explanations to their questions across subjects.

QUICK START GUIDE

1 Sign Up

Go to the site, sign up with your Google email and do a short quiz to create your account.

2 Explore or Build

You might see options like "Explore" and "Build a chatbot." Explore existing chatbots created by other teachers to get inspiration.

3 Build Your Chatbot

Click "Build a chatbot" to create your own chatbot with Mizou. Choose 'Custom Mode' or 'AI-Generated' for creation Mode.

4 Customize

Based on your choice, you can specify learning goals, audience, and format (AI) or set title, instructions, and chatbot replies (Custom).

5 Refine and Launch

Mizou might offer tools to preview and test your chatbot before launching it. Once satisfied, launch your chatbot and share it with your students.

WHAT CUSTOMIZATIONS CAN YOU MAKE TO YOUR CHATBOTS?

A CUSTOM CHATBOT CREATION GUIDE

Apart from the "AI-generated" option where you can create chatbots based solely on learning objectives and grade level, the "Custom" option offers additional customization features to tailor the chatbots to our preferences that you can make adjustments on:

AI Title

(to present the chatbot experience)

AI Instructions

(to define roles of AI and the student)

Grade Level

(to adapt the interaction appropriately)

Welcome Message

(to customize chatbot starting messages.)

Rules

(to outline do's and don'ts for chatbot and student actions.)

Knowledge File

(to give the chatbot access to their content by uploading your files)

Audio

(to enable audio for students to talk to the chatbot and record conversations)

TEACHER'S VIEW

← Edit ChatBot

Save Publish →

Chatbot Instructions

Start by adding a title that clearly describes the chatbot experience, and may include a catchy phrase to engage students.

Title

Napoleonic Command: The Austerlitz Interview

AI Instructions

The student will take on the role of a journalist interviewing Napoleon during the Battle of Austerlitz. The AI will take the role of Napoleon to answer questions based on historical facts and records.

Generate

Maximum 1000 characters

Grade Level

Choose a grade...

Picture **AI Name**

Preview

Preparing the ChatBot for testing...

Send a message...

You can experience and test **simultaneously** while inputting custom content into the chatbot.

Here is **the customized space** to input your specific requirements for the adjustments we can make.

STUDENTS' VIEW

MIZOU

Student Access

NAME

Start Session

I'm a victim of Cyberbullying! Help me out!

N/A

Students can easily use the system by following a link, entering their name, and chatting with the chatbot. Teachers can monitor students' progress in real-time, including status, duration, and AI-suggested grades for chatbots with assessment and grading functions.



Try out the chatbot developed by the EduVerse Team for the free lesson in EduVerse Issue 11. This chatbot plays the role of a cyberbullying victim, and students will practice giving advice to the 'victim,' promoting empathy towards victims of cyberbullying and cultivating kindness in the digital world.



LESSON

OF THE MONTH

Welcome to the **Lesson of the Month** column, a dedicated space in our EduVerse newsletter where we bring you insightful and engaging English Language Teaching (ELT) lessons. Whether you're a seasoned ELT professional or a passionate new teacher, this column aims to provide you with a monthly dose of inspiration and practical ideas to enhance your classroom practice.



STUDENTS' WORKSHEET



Beyond the Olympic Games

Why do We Need the Olympic Games?

Lesson Goals

Social Knowledge

- ✦ Learn about the Olympic logo and what its colors and symbols mean.
- ✦ Talk and write about why the Olympic Games are important.
- ✦ Understand the required criteria of a sport in the Olympic Games, and create a new sport that shows good sportsmanship and brings people together.

Language Competencies

- ✦ Expand vocabulary related to sports and the Olympic Games.
- ✦ Develop their ability to understand how words work in sentences.
- ✦ Enhance speaking skills by discussing and expressing ideas on the questions about the values of Olympic Games.

pro.ed.com.vn

1



TARGET LEARNERS
Primary Students
(A2 level)



DURATION
90 - 120 minutes



PREPARATION
Classroom technology
(Smartboard, projector)

STUDENT WORKSHEET (7 PAGES)



TEACHER'S GUIDE (7 PAGES)



PRESENTATION TOOL



DOWNLOAD



EDUVERSE PD WEBINAR #6

Edify

PD Webinar #6

The Role of Communities of Practice in Teacher Professional Development and Lifelong Learning

Presenter: RAQUEL CARLOS

Host: Ms. Hanh Nguyen

SATURDAY 22 JUNE, 2024
5:00 PM
 VIETNAM TIME (GMT+7)
 7:00AM (SEA/ARO)
 10:00AM (GMT)

(Certificates for pre-registrations only.)

Communities of Practice | A robust strategy for professional learning

- Creates premier explicit knowledge
- Collaborative and distributed work
- Knowledge sharing and network of work
- New ideas from diverse network
- Learning is part of work

Pillars of CoPs

- Domain:** shared interest, competence and commitment that distinguishes them from others.
- Community:** joint activities, discussions, problem-solving opportunities, informal sharing and relationship building, it enables collective learning.
- Practice:** community members are practitioners within their domain, they build a shared repertoire of resources and ideas that they take back to their practice. Specific focus around which the community develops its core of collective knowledge.

CoPs and Teachers' Professional Development

- Focused on aspirations for students
- Sustained over time
- Exploring evidence from trying new things

EduVerse June's webinar was a stellar success! Big thanks to **Ms. Raquel Carlos**, Academic Director at Edify Education for leading a fantastic session for educators from nearly 20 countries! We were thrilled to see the active engagement and enthusiasm in the chat box yesterday from teachers and educators in Vietnam, Greece, Philippines, U.S, Egypt, and more! The overwhelmingly positive feedback shows your dedication to growth and willingness to implement the valuable tips and techniques you learned.

Participants from
19 countries

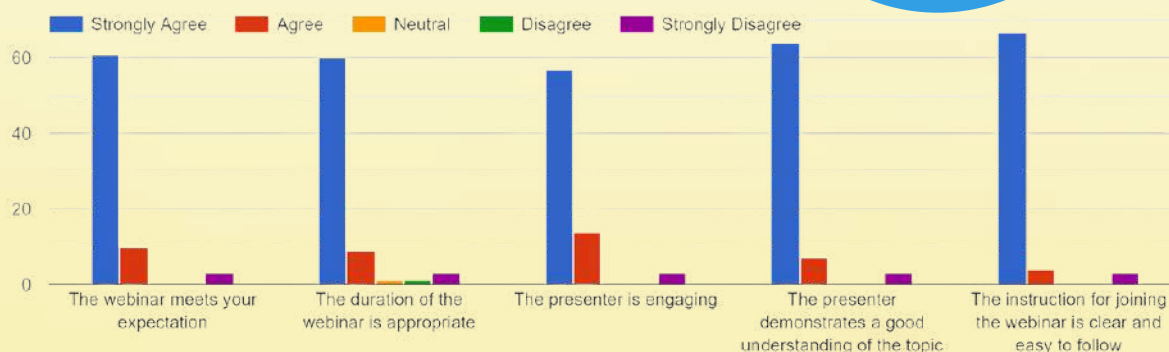
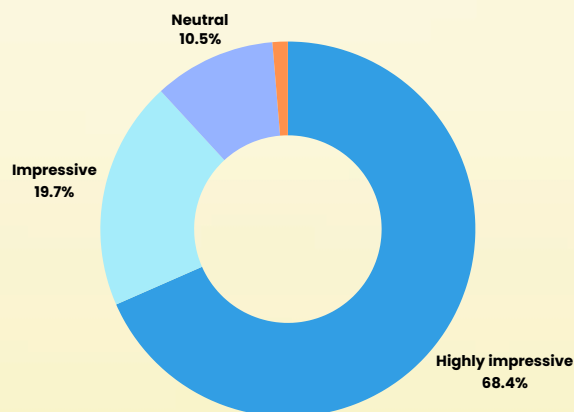


More +

IMPRESSIVE NUMBERS

Registration: **172**

Overall impression: **98.7% (Good + Outstanding)**



FEATURED

Products



Award-winning

SCOS 2024

Student-Centered Observation Scheme

An **Innovative Approach to Classroom Observation** and **Teacher Professional Development**, developed for your school to response to the evolving demands and needs of education, particularly in the post-COVID era

SCOS Components



Classroom
Performance
Assessment (CPA)



Competency
Framework for
Teaching (CFT)



SCOS Teacher PD
learning
platform (LMS)



SCOS 2023

Innovation in Education Award

Student-Centered Observation Scheme

The Student-Centered Observation Scheme (SCOS) by Pro.Ed Education Solutions is honored to be presented the **Innovation in Education Award** by Asia Education Conclave in 2023. SCOS is a groundbreaking educational product that has the potential to transform teaching and learning.

By shifting the focus to students, it not only improves teaching quality but also ensures that educators prioritize the needs of their students.



EduVerse Facebook group provides subscribers with curated professional development activities of EduVerse, our partners, and other trusted organizations. Find cutting-edge strategies, classroom tips, and inspiration to ignite curiosity and foster creativity in students.

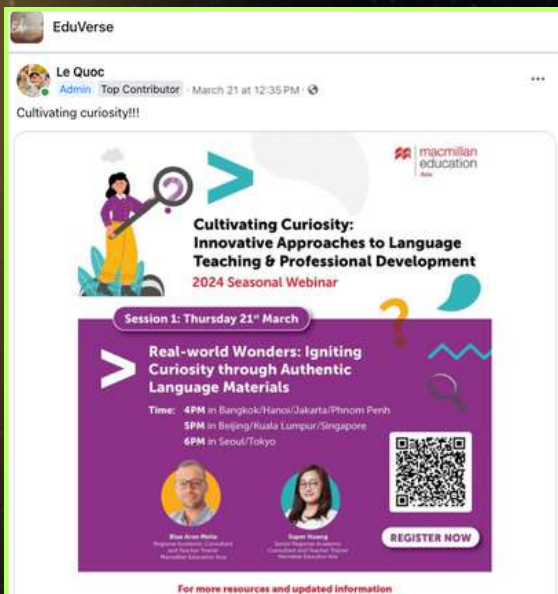
Powered by  **pro.ed**
EDUCATION SOLUTIONS



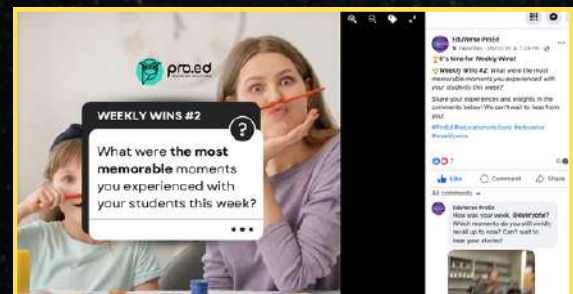
Find **motivation** in powerful messages on teaching, learning, and leadership to empower and inspire those in your circle.



Stay informed with the latest tech tips and tools for your teaching and professional growth.

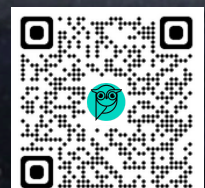


Learn about and **join** the activities, professional development resources, and opportunities available through Pro.Ed's partners.



Weekly Wins: a new series at EduVerse where we engage with educators to discuss their small wins, and achievements from the week! When we reflect and celebrate what we did in a week, it reminds us that progress is happening, even if it's in small steps.

Join here



Pro.Ed and EduVerse are grateful to their partners for their invaluable support in advancing education and empowering teachers and learners worldwide.

PUBLISHERS



CAMBRIDGE



future

For Better English Education



macmillan
education



mm
publications



**NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC**
LEARNING



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS



Pearson

ORGANIZATIONS

Classin

Edify



EDULING SPEAK
real communication



ELSA



**English
in Brazil**

Gestión
EDUCATIVA

IEC
GROUP

Kowalska

LearningOS
by COOLAB



NAM PHUONG CENTER

NOTLOST
CALLIGRAPHY SPECIALISTS



studycat



ThinkLink

**TRIFECTA
EDUCATION**



**UNLOCK
DYNAMIC**

Vietec
The All-Time New World of Learning

Discover our range of Official Cambridge Exam Preparation materials

Official Cambridge Exam Preparation Courses



Official Cambridge Exam Practice



Courses that combine Official Cambridge Exam Preparation with general English



Scan the QR code
to view our Catalogue 2024

Find out more: cambridge.org/exams

For more information about Cambridge materials in Vietnam,
please contact hochiminh@cambridge.org

My First Writing



Book Info



A basic, three-level writing series designed for
lower elementary school students
learning English as a foreign language

Meet with Macmillan Education

Macmillan Education, part of the Springer Nature group, has been advancing learning for about 180 years. Since the earliest days we have established ourselves as a world leading publisher, building strong partnerships with educators, innovating in pedagogy and digital content, and inspiring learners to achieve more in education, in the workplace, and in life.

M180

ENGAGING CURIOUS MINDS SINCE 1843

LEARN MORE



Advancing Futures is a comprehensive educational programme designed to introduce topics of **sustainability, diversity, equity and inclusion** into classrooms around the world. The programme will help teachers to **share knowledge, develop skills and promote attitudes and actions** that can bring about positive and lasting change.

LEARN MORE



Follow us on Facebook
@MacmillanEducationAsia



Join Macmillan Education Asia
Teacher's club

18 Nam Quoc Cang street, Pham Ngu Lao ward, Dist 1, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

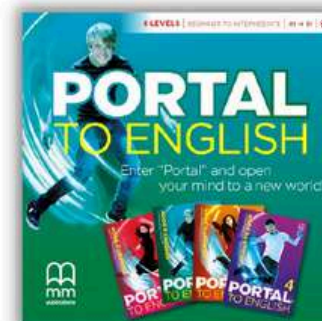
Tel: 028 39252554 | Email: info.vietnam@macmillaneducation.com | www.macmillanenglish.com



Innovative ELT Books and e-learning materials that work for...**YOU!**

MM Publications is a world-leading publisher that offers educational solutions that support the teaching and learning of English.

FREE SAMPLE BOOKS HERE:



....and more!



Visit our website:
mmpublications.com

Integrated digital tools on the all-in-one Spark platform
support every stage of teaching and learning:

Placing students
reliably at the right level

**Preparing and
teaching** live lessons

Assigning practice,
tests and quizzes

Tracking student and class progress,
turning information into insights



Visit [ELTNGL.com/spark](https://eltngl.com/spark)
to learn more

To learn more about our learning materials,
and how we can bring your classroom to life, please visit
National Geographic Learning ELT Catalog 2024



A world of opportunity awaits

The only English proficiency test
certified by the University of Oxford.

Introducing the Oxford Test of English Advanced;

- An affordable, personalized test that fits you.
- 100% online, flexible and fast.
- Take or re-take as a full test, single modules, or in any combination – whatever your English proficiency needs!
- Recognized by a growing number of institutions around the world, and your results are valid for life.



Fast-track your learners' progress

Pearson Connected English Learning Programs

Our programs are the result of 25 years of research and experience of our learning experts.



Seamless experience

All our language courses, assessments and certifications are linked together by one simple global scale, the Global Scale of English.



Designed for all ages

Leading language experts and authors provide the latest methodologies for all ages and abilities.



Guaranteed quality

Internationally recognized by industry experts, governments and universities.



24x7 support

Our local, highly trained support experts offer a 24x7 service, and solve 90% of our customer queries first time.

Get in touch with our experts



Your interactive platform to deliver holistic learning experience

One-stop learning solution empowers teachers to bring classroom to life. Ignite the spark of inspiration with our engaging, interactive and student-friendly platform for every learning needs!



The most powerful instructional tool

ClassIn integrates 30+ instructional tools: interactive board, breakout rooms, quiz, trophy, homework assignment, scoring systems...



Personalize your classroom

Design interactive lessons and share your multimedia in one click - expand your classroom's boundaries.



Teach on multiple platforms

ClassIn allows you to access your class anywhere, anytime, on all devices PC/Laptop/ Tablet/Mobile.



Ms. Tu Ngo

Co-Founder of YOLA

"ClassIn provides a friendly interface and integrates many teaching tools, which make our online teaching experience more interactive and engaging than ever!"

Contact for free consultation!

Hotline: 028 7105 9900

Email: vietnam@classin.com

Website: classin.vn



Your trusted professional education partner



Windows



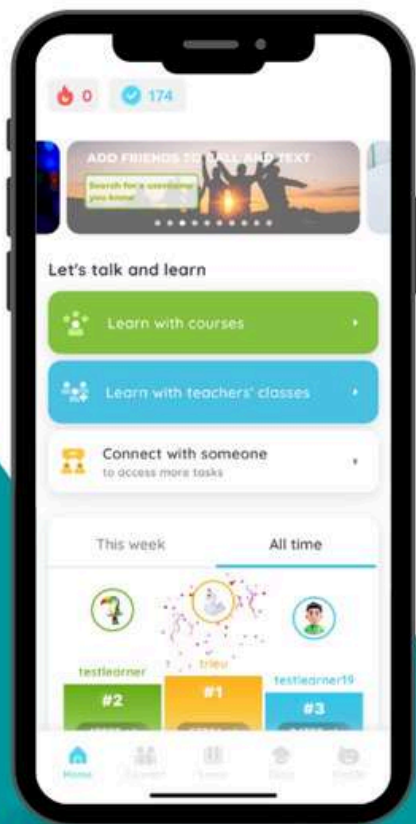
MacOS



Android

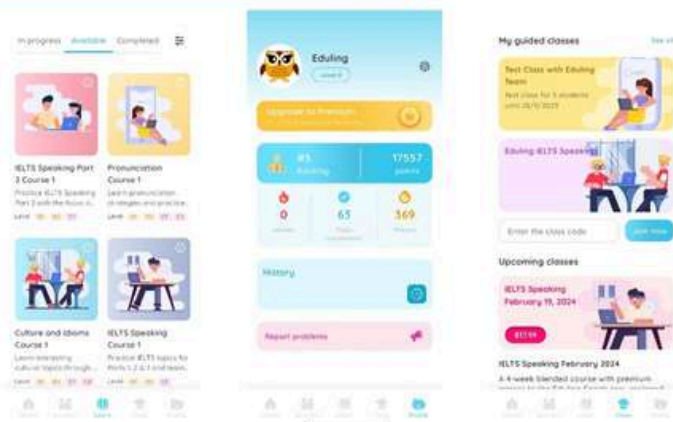


iOS



eduling.org/speak

Start a language-learning adventure with Eduling Speak – a groundbreaking app endorsed by experts! Practice speaking naturally and fluently. Connect with fellow learners for collaborative tasks and games. Improve your grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation through interesting lessons and courses.



Welcome to the NEW Eduling Speak app

New look, easier navigation, more social, organization of tasks into courses, and more!

 Download Now

Available on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play



ELSA - English Language Speech Assistant



Ranked among the **top 5 AI apps**, **ELSA Speak** is an **English communication app** with over **54 million downloads** globally in **+ 190 countries**.

CORE OFFERINGS

ELSA APP

Mobile learning.
Anytime.
Anywhere

DASHBOARD

Live progress updates
of each learner and
the whole organization

PREMIUM OFFERING

SPEECH ANALYZER

Speech Analyzer is an AI-powered English speech web app that listens to unscripted/ scripted speech and provides instant feedback.

EXCLUSIVE CONTENT OFFERING

OXFORD BUSINESS RESULT

HARPER COLLINS



HOW ELSA SUPPORTS ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING CENTERS & SCHOOLS

- ☒ Predicting scores of English Speaking test (IELTS, TOEIC, TOEFL, CEFR, PTE)
- ☒ Save cost & time for teachers
- ☒ Give detailed feedback on pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary
- ☒ Access to ELSA lesson library with over 29,000 exercises
- ☒ Co-branding - Open new market

EDUCATION PARTNERS



Book a demo:



Hotline: **1900 633 413**

Email: **b2bsupport@elsanow.io**

ELT BUZZ



EVERYTHING IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING



LinkedIn

ABOUT ELT BUZZ



ELT Buzz grew out of the former EFL Classroom, a huge online portal serving teachers from 2005 - 2018.

The changing landscape of how English language teachers interact online led to the creation of ELT Buzz in 2018. We provide teachers with a directory for ELT and updated news and events. Also, a professional lesson library, print and digital. Lastly, a video platform with the best videos for teaching English.

Our LinkedIn community serves 88,000 teachers daily. We also provide individual lesson resources through TpTs.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

ELT Buzz aims to provide English language teachers around the world with essential information about the profession and inspiration for their own classroom teaching and professional development.

ELT BUZZ

- Daily Updated News Feed
- Directory Of ELT services, books, tools etc ...
- Weekly News Report

ELT BUZZ TEACHING RESOURCES

- Digital and Print. Free and Paid Lesson Library.
- Lesson Materials added daily.
- Weekly Members Newsletter

ELT BUZZ VIDEO

- The Netflix Of English Language Teaching
- 1,000s of the best videos for teaching English
- Video Lesson Materials for all videos.



English
in Brazil

ARE YOU
TRAVELLING?

sos Viagem
English for travel
By English in Brazil

Speak English
freely and confidently
on your international
trips

ENROLL



@carinafragozo

www.englishinbrazil.com.br



English in Brazil by Carina Fragozo

@CarinaFragozo - 1.79M subscribers - 615 videos

Quer aprender inglês no YouTube? Welcome to English in Brazil! >

lp.englishinbrazil.com.br/curso and 5 more links

Subscribe



WHO WE ARE

IEC GROUP specialises in optimal foreign language teaching and learning solutions, hand-selected for the Vietnamese market. As an energetic and innovative organisation, we aim high in leveraging our decades of combined experience and diverse connections. With a history of working with 'lighthouse accounts' across the industry, we help innovate new systems and materials, elevating the industry through enhancing teaching and learning quality.

WHAT WE DO

We provide software, books and learning equipment for students, and are dedicated to ongoing improvement in teaching quality. In addition, our experts work directly with clients to advise on financial and operational strategies to maximise their business success. Every initiative we undertake keeps building our stellar reputation for providing the best service to education providers, and best-in-class support to the students to reach their learning outcomes. We help schools find materials and content that values ease of use and convenience to your organisation, while also ensuring it is suitable for the students, teachers, and the school at large. With our deep understanding of education in Vietnam, we can help you build models that integrate everything together in the process.

OUR HIGHLIGHT PRODUCTS



Accelerate Learning with Achieve3000 Literacy - Success for Every Student Guaranteed!



VOICES

PUBLISHED IN 2022!

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LEARNING

Emily Bryson; Gary Pathare; Chia Suan Chang; Lewis Lansford; Christian Lee; Daniel Barber; Marek Kiczkowiak



PROUD PARTNER OF



CONTACT US



IEC GROUP

6/21 DO SON STREET, WARD 4, TAN BINH DISTRICT, HO CHI MINH CITY
028 224 77 686
info@iecgroupp.vn

www.iecgroupp.vn

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A MARKETING EXPERT TO RUN A THRIVING TEACHING BUSINESS.

The 6-month coaching program for ambitious language teachers ready to turn their passion into profit with a group offer that sells

TAKE ME TO THE DETAILS




HI, I'M OLA!

Ready to get paying students through your social media?


Grab my free guide: 7 mistakes freelance language teachers make on social media and how to avoid them!




An All-in-One Centralized Platform for Powering Learning Operations



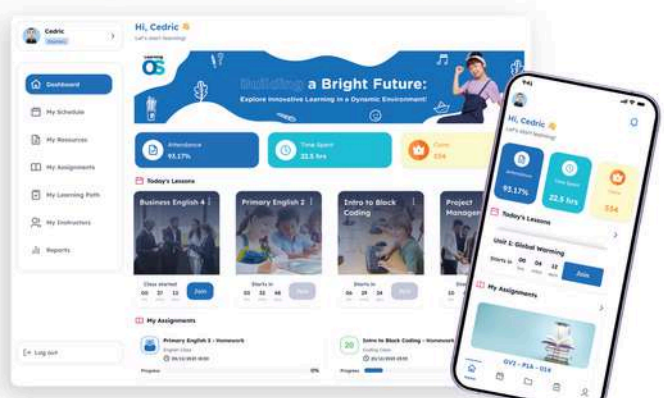
LEARNER PORTAL



LMS



CMS



Used in

21

countries

Serving

120,000+

learners

Delivering

700,000+

sessions

Integrated Content Authoring and Detailed Tracking and Reporting

- ▶ Inspire engagement and improve grades.
- ▶ Automate time-consuming processes.
- ▶ Build new learning products and boost revenue.
- ▶ Create and deliver engaging learning experiences.

Visit our website



Save time, money, and scale your business today.

ABOUT NAM PHUONG CENTER

Nam Phuong English (NPC) was established in 2015, as an educational institution specializing in providing high-quality language teaching programs for students of all levels. With the core values of **"heart - mind - prestige"**, NPC is proud of its professional staff and teachers, working towards sustainable development with the philosophy of *"happy learning experiences could only be created by happy teachers"*.

COURSES

NPC offers English courses for learners from children to teenagers, students, workers, certificate courses, exam preparation (VSTEP, IELTS, TOEIC, Cambridge YLE, ...) and English for Business.

MISSION

Create happy learning experience boundlessly.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The working environment is youthful, enthusiastic, dynamic and friendly. The staff are **qualified, highly creative** and **open-minded**. Support and create conditions for staff to improve their language and professional skills. Always listen to feedback and opinions from staff.

CONTACT INFORMATION

 53 Nam Cao, Ninh Kiều District, Can Tho City.

 **Hotline:** 02923 828 959
Zalo: 0839 042 517



ZALO



FACEBOOK





A global community
for ELT professionals
to connect, share
and develop



ThinkLink

We provide knowledge and skills
to professionals in education and business.

We help you develop:

- ★ communication & language skills
- ★ business acumen through coaching
- ★ personal resources through counseling

Step on a winning path with us!



www.thinklink.rs

Webinars

Join us in our webinars
every other Thursday,
covering a variety of
different topics.

Live chat events

Coffee Breaks
Focused Forums
Monthly Management
Meet Up
Trainer Talking Time
Speakers' Corner

Wednesday Questions

Weekly Wednesday
Questions to help you
reflect on your practice
and to share your
experiences



[/groups/thetefldevelopmenthub](https://www.facebook.com/groups/thetefldevelopmenthub)



[/company/the-tefl-development-hub/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-tefl-development-hub/)



thetefldevelopmenthub.com



Get your school
ready for
AI with



Future-proof Education

written by
Dr. Christina Agvent

Available NOW on Amazon!

We help schools
effectively and ethically
integrate technology to
prepare learners for an
AI-driven world.

What are we offering?



Professional Development

Customizable content & hands-on learning experiences result in strategies that can be immediately applied in the classroom. Our embedded PD model provides on-going support and increases success rates.



Presentations, Author Talks & Keynote Addresses

We believe that learning should be a fun experience, and that's why we've put a lot of thought and effort into making our presentations engaging. Our interactive format and collaborative approach keep participants involved and interested from start to finish!

Why choose us?

- 01 Research-based
- 02 Experienced educators
- 03 Relevant & Up-to-date
- 04 Engaging & Collaborative



FOR MORE INFORMATION

203-414-0888

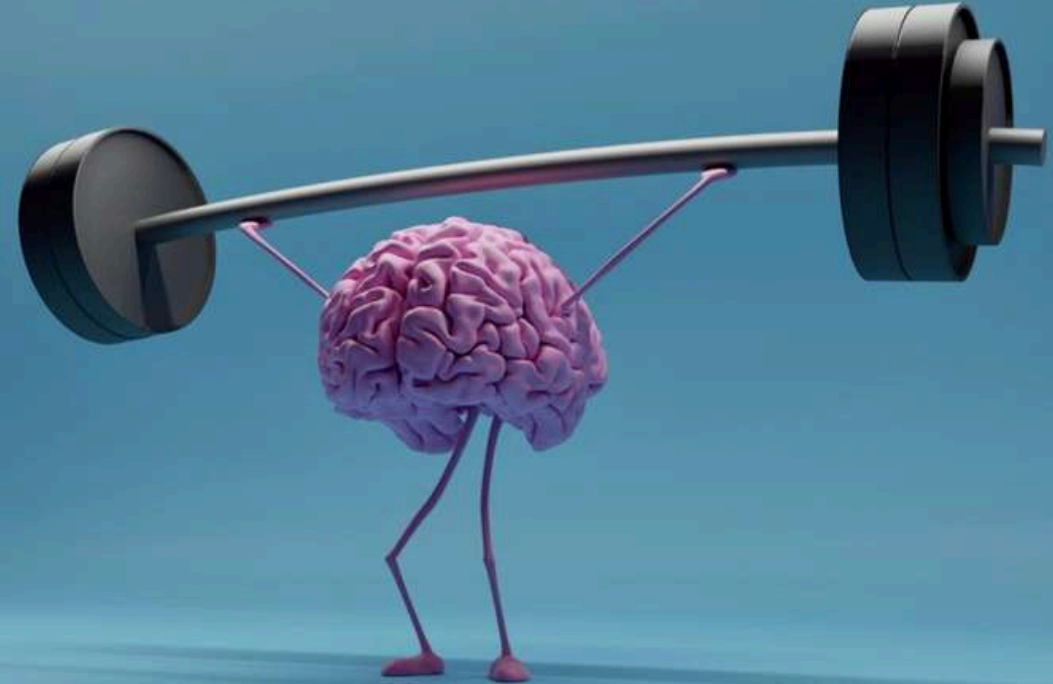


www.TrifectaEducation.com



Christina@TrifectaEducation.com

IS MENTAL FITNESS ADVANCING OR HINDERING YOUR CAREER?



For Existing & Future Educational Leaders

Tap or scan



<https://paul-cjrcxoqt.scoreapp.com/>

Find out with our Quiz
...before it's too late!

- 12 simple questions
- Completely free
- Instant results & feedback



HELPING DYNAMIC EDUCATIONAL LEADERS SHIFT FROM STRESS TO SUCCESS
IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS



In Vietnam, Vietec, Corp. is one of the leading organizations in developing the integration of English teaching - learning methods with technology 4.0. Our mission has been going strong with nearly 20 years of experience in the establishment of enormous Ed-tech systems for World Bank, UNICEF, the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET), FPT Polytechnic and so on



TYPICAL PARTNERS

SIGNATURE PRODUCTS

KIDSENGLISH & LANGUAGE HUB

are two of Vietec's most groundbreaking education solutions. These strategic projects are implemented in synchronization, providing the best English learning opportunity for learners throughout Vietnam, including areas with limitations in technology and human resources.



An English program for young learners aged 3-6

- One of the first three English programs approved by the Vietnamese MOET.
- Copyrighted global content with permission granted by Macmillan Education.
- Exclusive multimedia learning materials
- Continuous lesson through and through from in-class learning to in-app self-reviewing.
- Pronunciation practice with AI.



LanguageHub

A complete Ed-tech solution for English learning in vocational schools, colleges, universities, and organizations.

- LEARNING CONTENT:** The digitalized version of the copyrighted American Language Hub series from Macmillan Education.
- PLATFORM:** A complete system that includes both content and learning management, developed by Vietec.
- APP:** An exclusive mobile learning app for students.
- LATEST TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS:** AI, Big data, cloud computing systems, and so many more.

TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Both KIDSEnglish and Language Hub are developed in a closed-circle model with:

CMS
CONTENT
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM



LMS
LEARNING
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM

MLA
MOBILE LEARNING APP

CONTACT US:

☎ 1900 0101 ✉ hotro@vietec.com.vn
📍 TechnoSoft Building, Alley 15 Duy Tan, Cau Giay, Hanoi
📍 Halo Building, 60 Nui Thanh, Ward 13, Tan Binh, Ho Chi Minh City

🌐 languagehub.vn 🌐 kidsenglish.vn



1 focal theme

Unique format

- ✓ 01 Keynote presentation
- ✓ 03 Camps
- ✓ 1:1 Talks with Experts

Real-life practice

Limited seats

Certificates

Interested in bringing ELT.Camp to your school or community?

Contact us at www.proed.com.vn



ELT.Camp is a true collaborative learning experience that puts **YOU** at the center. ELT.Camp awaits your active participation — because your voice, your experience, and your passion for teaching matter.



A boutique educational consultancy offering a range of services for schools and organizations looking for high-quality solutions to their professional needs.

Pro.Ed Education Solutions is honored to be awarded the **Excellence in Educational Consultancy** at the the Asian Education Award 2023, held by Asia Education Conclave in Bangkok, Thailand.



Pro.Ed Education Solutions embodies the spirit of an Edupreneur by relentlessly pursuing excellence in education, fostering innovation, and working tirelessly to make high-quality education accessible to all. Their dedication extends beyond their professional services, as they actively promote education equity and a culture of learning in society through their CSR activities, offering frequent free-of-charge opportunities for all individuals to access the latest and most practical educational expertise.



CONTACT US!

✉ info@proed.com.vn

🌐 <https://proed.com.vn>

🌐 www.linkedin.com/company/proed-edu

