

The  
**Teacher Trainer**

A PRACTICAL JOURNAL FOR THOSE WHO TRAIN, MENTOR AND EDUCATE TESOL TEACHERS

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**Pilgrims™**  
English Language Courses

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Iraq and Yemen) and highlighted a shared desire in the region to invest in English as a means of developing economies, creating better living standards and improving social conditions for inhabitants. As a result of this regional vision, a number of large teacher training projects are being implemented through both private and public sector partnerships. Three such projects include:

**LETUP (Libyan English Teaching at Universities Project):** This project was launched to create an effective system of English language teaching at university level. The project involves Libyan teachers of English undertaking professional development programs and Masters degree courses in the UK. Bournemouth International Teacher Training Centre (ITTC) co-ordinates and delivers the University of Cambridge ICELT (In-service Certificate in English Language Teaching) course which offers a combination of face-to-face training blocks and distance-based coursework. Sheffield Hallam University and Northumbria University deliver Masters Degrees. These degrees follow a similar format combining on-site tuition and distance-based coursework, with a focus on specialist areas such as curriculum design and materials development.

**PCELT (Professional Certificate in English Language Teaching):** World Learning with the nonprofit AMIDEAST offers the PCELT to teachers across the Middle East and North Africa. This course covers latest practices in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. The 120-hour program is tailored to the needs of teachers in the region who wish to undertake a rigorous, internationally recognized training program. English language proficiency is highly valued by regional youth as a skill that helps them access greater economic and educational opportunities, as well as participate in the increasingly globalized youth culture. Through a generous grant from the GE (General Electric) Foundation, the PCELT program has been piloted in Egypt, Jordan and Palestine and plans are under way to expand to Iraq, Morocco and Tunisia. The program aims to raise the standards of language teachers across the entire region. <http://www.worldlearning.org/27005.htm>

**USAID Teacher Education Project:** This project is an initiative that supports Pakistan's efforts to improve the quality of basic education through better-prepared teachers. It helps new and practicing teachers gain revised and upgraded teaching qualifications through a four-year Bachelor's Degree in Education (B.Ed.) and a two-year Associate Degree in Education (ADE). Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC) has taken the lead role in implementing this project, in partnership with Teachers College, Columbia University, USA. The project tailors its assistance to each province and region's priorities for improved pre-service teacher

education. It provides technical assistance in developing and strengthening systems, policies, and standards to ensure better management of teacher education programs. <http://www.pakteachers.org/>

## Continued Professional Development for Teacher Educators

**The 47th Annual International IATEFL Conference** in Liverpool, UK (April 8-12, 2013). Mix with leading thinkers in ELT, share ideas with colleagues from around the world and make new friends. At the time of writing, the Pre Conference Events have been announced. See the Teacher Training and Education Special Interest Group PCE, *What it takes to be a teacher trainer*. Participants will be invited to debate on the issues related to the main pillars of teacher training: mentoring, observations, giving feedback, conducting professional development activities and dealing with 'resistance'. <http://www.iatefl.org/liverpool-2013/liverpool-2013>

**The 2013 TESOL International Convention and English Language Expo** in Dallas, USA (March 20-23, 2013). Join over 6,500 educators gathered to exchange ideas and information and feel the embrace of a dynamic professional community. A few presentations that grabbed my attention as I skimmed through the program featuring 90+ titles included: Both Sides of the Podium: Teacher Training in Afghanistan (Eve Smith ; Abdul Habib Khalid); Blogs as an Innovation in Second Language Teacher Preparation (Hayriye Ulas Taraf); Real Solutions to Virtual Challenges in Online Teacher Education (Radmila Popovic; Jayme Adelson-Goldstein). <http://www.tesol.org/convention2013>

**The 3rd International English Language Teacher Educator Conference** in Hyderabad, India (March 16-18, 2013). The British Council, EFL-U (English and Foreign Languages University), ELTAI (the English Language Teachers' Association of India) and IATEFL (the International Association for Teachers of English as a Foreign Language) have come together again to host this year's conference themed, *English Language Teacher Education in a Diverse Environment*. <http://www.britishcouncil.in/whats-on/events/3rd-international-english-language-teacher-educator-conference>

## Online Resources

Cambridge University Press has a 'Teacher Zone' on their website that has extensive downloadable materials ranging from practical teaching tips, grammar development exercises for student teachers, videos with Cambridge authors and articles on a variety of topics of interest for teacher educators. <http://www.cambridge.org/es/elt/teachers>

The British Council web site has a 'Teacher Development' section that provides a plethora of resources for teacher educators including current information on conferences, publications, research, seminars and webinars. <http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/teacher-development>

The Disabled Access Friendly Campaign uses ELT to raise awareness of issues affecting people with mobility disability. The campaign has been present at past events e.g. at the PALSO 25th Annual Symposium on foreign language teaching and foreign language book exhibition, Macedonia Palace Hotel, Thessaloniki, Greece, 30th-31st August 2012 where Paul Shaw presented on "Lessons in life that matter". If you visit their website [www.disabled-accessfriendly.com](http://www.disabled-accessfriendly.com), you can download free lesson plans and reading texts and become more involved in this voluntary campaign.

## Courses

**Beginning Summer 2013** SIT, Vermont, USA will offer a low-residency MA in TESOL to better meet the needs of working teachers worldwide. This distance-learning program offers current teachers SIT's graduate education – grounded in reflective practice and experiential learning – through a remote format. Students complete the majority of coursework online while staying in their current jobs and communities, and enjoy two short-term (3-week) summer sessions on SIT's campus in Vermont. For more information: [www.sit.edu/graduate/matlowres.cfm](http://www.sit.edu/graduate/matlowres.cfm) or contact Dr. Susan Barduhn directly [susan.barduhn@sit.edu](mailto:susan.barduhn@sit.edu)

1 Ramaswami, Sowmya; Iyad Sarraf; Jon Haydon. "English Language Quantitative Indicators: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Yemen." Compiled by Euromonitor International for the British Council. April, 2012. <http://englishagenda.britishcouncil.org/sites/ec/files/Euromonitor%20report%20final%20July%202012.pdf>

# Journal Exchanges

"The Teacher Trainer" has arranged journal exchanges with

IATEFL Newsletter (UK)  
English Language Teaching Journal (UK)  
Modern English Teacher (UK)  
English Teaching Forum (USA)  
English Teaching professional (UK)  
Teacher's Edition (Vietnam)

and is abstracted by

'Language Teaching',  
The British Education Index,  
the ERIC clearing house  
and Contents Pages in Education.