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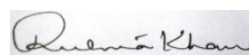
Message From the President

Dear All

Warm greetings to the readers of the BELTA Newsletter! We are pleased to share with you the June 2021 issue of the newsletter. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the flow of education, it is heartening to know that we have been able to keep education going and the activities of the association moving amidst the crises. The crises triggered by COVID-19 have also created opportunities and despite the setbacks we have moved forward and achieved goals. The pandemic has created new ways of interaction amongst teachers and students and colleagues! We have also moved beyond borders and connected, attended and presented at various International forums and conferences. We are proud to announce that the regular activities of our association did not come to a standstill and we held virtual conferences, teacher development webinars, our flagship THT teacher educator programme, panel discussions and AGM. Since face to face interactions were not allowed we moved our professional development programmes online!

Our E-newsletter, does a great job by keeping the association members updated on relevant news, events and at the same time provides them a platform to share their views and showcase their achievements. In times of social distancing, our newsletter keeps the BELTA community informed and engaged. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the contributors of the newsletter and the Publications Secretary and her team for their constant support in making this E-newsletter a success.

Happy Reading!



Dr. Rubina Khan
President, BELTA

9th BELTA International (Virtual) Conference 2021

The 9th BELTA International (Virtual) Conference on “Education during the pandemic: Learning amid crisis and emerging opportunities”, was held on 6th March, 2021 utilizing the virtual platform BdREN Zoom. The conference started with a warm welcome speech by Dr Rubina Khan, President, BELTA. It was inaugurated by Professor Dr Kazi Shahidullah, Chairman, UGC, Bangladesh. There were 11 sessions in which the research experiences during the time of COVID-19 pandemic of 22 nationally and internationally recognized ELT professionals were presented. The themes of the presentations encompass the emergence of teacher agency in the paradigm shift to ERT (Emergency Remote Teaching), usage of different technological tools like Google Forms in facilitating online teaching and learning, impact of Corona pandemic in different education levels of Bangladesh and Nepal, challenges and opportunities created by the pandemic situation and so on. The presenters were Dr M Obaidul Hamid, Dr Fauzia Shamim, Dr Mian Md. Naushaad Kabir, Dr Joshua John Jodoin, Dr Muhammed Shahriar Haque, Dr Shahidullah, Elizabeth J. Erling, Ram A.Giri, Saraswati Dawadi, Sagun Shrestha, Saifa Haque, Curtis M.Chan, Ahmed Bashir, Dr Bijoy Lal Basu, Md Mohib Ullah and Muhammad Emdadul Haque.

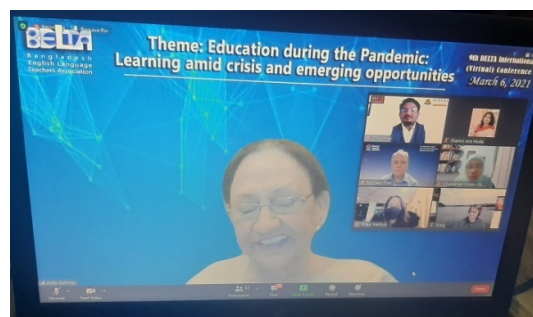
The conference was attended by 165 participants. Dr Rubina Khan, President, BELTA ended the conference with a Vote of Thanks after an insightful closing remarks by Dr Arifa Rahman, Advisor, BELTA and the recorded performance of Mr Naveed Mahbub, a notable stand-up comedian of Bangladesh.



BELTA President addressing the audience

Conference Panel Discussions

In keeping with the Conference theme "*Education during the Pandemic: Learning amid crisis and emerging opportunities*", two panel discussions were organized. The first reflected on the current situation amidst the disruption caused to education in a number of Asian countries and how different contexts coped with the crises by adopting remote online learning. The second panel looked at the post-covid days ahead and deliberated on how to move forward in a changed global environment in order to provide effective and sustainable English language education for all.



Closing remark from BELTA Advisor

The invited Panelists came from a number of partner Asian International Language Teaching Associations (LTAs) with whom BELTA has agreements of understanding. The tone of the discussion was encouraging, supportive and very meaningful as all the

countries were facing similar challenges during the Covid-19 pandemic and were making both local and global attempts to mitigate this education crisis. They agreed that cooperation, partnership and networking are essential for the LTAs to move forward in the future.

Panel Discussion 1

Country perspectives of the pandemic situation on education and alternative modalities of learning and teaching

Moderator: Dr Shaila Sultana

Panelists:

Dr Vivek Joshi (AINET, India)

Dr Nasreen Hussain (SPELT, Pakistan)

Mr Hemanta Raj Dahal (NELTA, Nepal)

Datin Dr. Cynthia Yolanda Doss (MELTA, Malaysia)

Dr Tazin Aziz Chaudhury (BELTA, Bangladesh)

Panel Discussion 2

Looking Ahead: Post-Covid strategies for education and ELT

Moderator: Dr Arifa Rahman

Panelists:

Prof Dawn Lucovich (JALT, Japan)

Dr Kumar Shravan (ELTAI, India)

Dr Ikhsanuddin (TEFLIN, Indonesia)

Prof Michael Free (KOTESOL, South Korea)

Dr Md. Zulfeqar Haider (BELTA, Bangladesh)

DU Research Team Presents at the 9th BELTA International (Virtual) Conference 2021

A research team, from the Department of English, University of Dhaka, comprising BELTA president Prof. Rubina Khan, EC member Mr. Ahmed Bashir and life members Dr. Bijoy Lal Basu and Mr. Md.

Elias Uddin gave a talk at the 9th BELTA International (Virtual) Conference 2021 held on 6 March 2021. The talk was delivered by Mr. Ahmed Bashir and Dr. Bijoy Lal Basu on behalf of the team. The theme of the conference was “Education during the Pandemic: Learning amid crisis and emerging opportunities”. The title of the talk was ‘Innocence to Experience: Teacher attitudes to online instruction’. The team shared some preliminary findings from their collaborative research that explored tertiary level English teachers’ attitudes towards online teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic, and any changes in their attitudes over time. The presenters discussed the major findings of the longitudinal study which include teachers’ attitudinal change in affective, cognitive and psychomotor domains.

“Stories About Ourselves” Project Update

“Slow and steady wins the race” describes the progress of the “Stories About Ourselves” materials development project since its arrival on the world wide web last year. The project, which is a collaboration between BELTA and THT (“Teachers Helping Teachers”) Japan, provides free graded reading materials with a Bangladeshi focus for English learners at all ability levels.

After the initial writer training workshop in 2018, the BELTA sponsored site was born in 2020, and now provides over forty stories, non-fiction texts and poems, all written by Bangladeshi writers. Each is carefully edited for accuracy, high frequency vocabulary use, and learner interest. Illustrations and photographs are then added, along with stimulating learning activities based on

Bloom's revised taxonomy of cognitive skills. This approach enables learners to develop critical thinking skills while simultaneously building comprehension. New reading texts are being added regularly, as writers contribute these, and the quantity of materials is growing steadily.



The Ponkhiraj Horse Visits My..

By Alina Manha

Pre-Intermediate to Intermediate > Fiction

26-Feb-2021

[Read Now](#)

Fig: One sample story lesson of the project

If you are looking for free and interesting English language reading materials that have a Bangladeshi focus, that can be downloaded for use with your learners, or if you would like to join our team of writers and contribute your own stories, take a moment to check out the website. You won't be disappointed. <https://www.stories.belta-bd.org/>

Prof. Cherie Brown, of Akita International University, Japan, is a member of THT (a special interest group within the Japan Association for Language Teaching), and manages the "Stories About Ourselves" project. She can be contacted at cbrown@aiu.ac.jp.

BELTA Webinar Series-8

BELTA Webinar Series-8 entitled, "New Spaces in Language Education: challenges for theory and practice", was organized by the BELTA Professional Development Committee on March 27, 2021. It was facilitated by Dr. Cecilia Silva, Associate Professor, Tohoku University, Japan. Dr. Silva shared her experience as a language educator during COVID-19 pandemic with an emphasis to her discovery of online teaching as a unique methodology. She claimed that success of such methodology not only depends on the content dissemination and the technological expertise of the teacher but the power positive attitude on the part of the teacher and independent learning on the part of the students are also required. She found the "Mediation tools and Students' IT Learning Paradigms" (Kemmis et al, 1977) very helpful in her mediating teaching. She talked about four paradigms that she applied in her online language classroom: i) Instructional paradigm, ii) Revelatory paradigm, iii) Conjectural paradigm, and iv) Emancipatory paradigm. She also shared the experience of her students' intercultural telecollaboration and how successfully she has utilized artifacts and cultural practices in her class. She also demonstrated some language activities based on the stories of the renowned Bangladeshi writers, Tanvir Malik and Selina Hossain. The webinar was moderated by Dr. Rubina Khan, President, BELTA and reviewed by Dr. Shaila Sultana, Convener, BELTA PD Committee, for 49 participants.

Webinar Arranged by BELTA Chittagong South Chapter

As a part of the celebration of Women History Month, Md. Mohib Ullah, Chair, BELTA Chittagong South Chapter, hosted a Webinar on "Role of Educators to Promote Gender Equality and Women Empowerment" on April 5 at 7 pm. American Corner Chittagong and American Corner Sylhet co-hosted the webinar. Ms. Khadija Mohamud, ACAO, US Embassy Dhaka, Bangladesh delivered her opening remarks in the webinar. Professor Dr. Lailufar Yasmin, Fulbright Scholar, Bangladesh and Professor, Department of International Relations, Dhaka University presented her keynote speech in the webinar. Professor Dr. Shamshad Mortuza, Fulbright Scholar, Bangladesh, and Pro-VC, ULAB attended the webinar as chief discussant. The webinar was moderated by Ms. Reefat Munmun, Fulbright Scholar and Head, BLI, Independent University, Bangladesh. Finally, the webinar ended with the vote of thanks from Mr. Md. Mohib Ullah, Fulbright Scholar, Bangladesh and President, Global Aid for Sustainable Development (GASD).

Recent Publications by BELTANs

Research on Online Education in Bangladesh during COVID-19

A research article by a Dhaka University English Department research team led by BELTA President Dr. Rubina Khan has been published in Volume 25, Number 1 (May 2021 Issue) of *TESL-EJ (Teaching English as a Second Language Electronic Journal)*. This is the second of a series of papers to be published based on a collaborative research project on online instruction at public universities in Bangladesh during COVID-19. The other

members of the research cohort are BELTA EC member Ahmed Bashir and life-time members Dr. Bijoy Lal Basu and Md. Elias Uddin. This study investigated the perceptions of teachers and students of public universities, and examined their views of online pedagogy, assessment and the major challenges faced. Initial insights highlight the need for supporting the disadvantaged students as well as training teachers to use appropriate tools and techniques for teaching and assessing online.

Khan, R., Basu, B. L., Bashir, A., & Uddin, M. E. (2021). Online Instruction during COVID-19 at Public Universities in Bangladesh: Teacher and Student Voices. *Teaching English as a Second Language Electronic Journal (TESL-EJ)*, 25(1). <https://tesl-ej.org/pdf/ej97/a19.pdf>
To read the article, please visit the link <http://www.tesl-ej.org/wordpress/>.

A third article in the COVID-19 education series has been published by the same research team in Volume 11, Number 1 (June 2021) of *Indonesian Journal of Applied Linguistics*. The title of the paper is "Transitioning to online education in English Departments in Bangladesh: Learner perspectives."

Bashir, A., Uddin, M. E., Basu, B. L. & Khan, R. (2021). Transitioning to online education in English Departments in Bangladesh: Learner perspectives. *Indonesian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 11(1), 11-20. <https://ejournal.upi.edu/index.php/IJAL/article/view/34614>. <https://doi.org/10.17509/ijal.v11i1.34614>

Recent Publication on Language Testing

Rahman, A., & Khan, R. (2021). English Language Testing Practices at the Secondary Level: A Case Study from Bangladesh. In Lanteigne, B., Coombe, C., & Brown, J. D. (Eds.) *Issues in Language Testing Around the World: insights for language test users* (pp 447- 464).Springer.

This research study investigates testing practices of English at the secondary school level in Bangladesh and how it impacts on test takers and on education in general. It focuses on test specifications, test items, and its alignment to curriculum objectives. The insights drawn from the study discuss the significance of the washback effect and the impact of testing and the crucial need to develop *assessment literacy* among teachers, test-setters and scorers.

Research on Equity and Social Justice published

Rahman, A. (Nov 2020). Promoting Social Justice in ELT. In Anshori, D. S., Purnawarnan, P., Gunawan, W., &Wirza, Y. (Eds.) *Language, Education, and Policy for the Changing Society: Contemporary Research and Practices* (pp 486-501). UPI Press: Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia.

This paper presents a rationale for ELT educators for promoting equity and social justice in a changing world where shifting roles and responsibilities of the education workforce is becoming a crucial issue. Based on an increasing interest in intercultural understanding, cooperation and reconciliation, the writer investigates pathways through which ELT actors may

become agents to challenge dominant narratives, foster criticality, and develop a shared vision to facilitate a similar sense of social justice and equity in learners.

Recent Article on "Grassroots English and Bangladeshi Economic Migration to the Middle East"

Dr Qumrul Hasan Chowdhury (Department of English, University of Dhaka) has recently published a chapter with Professor Elizabeth J. Erling (University of Vienna) titled 'The value of grassroots English for Bangladeshi migrants to the Middle East' in the book *World Englishes at the Grassroots*, edited by Christiane Meierkord and Edgar W. Schneider and published by Edinburgh University Press, UK.

The chapter, based on a research in rural Bangladesh, investigates the value of grassroots English for the Bangladeshi migrant workers in the Middle East, and sheds light on several relevant methodological issues. It shows that English has some functional values for the Bangladeshi migrant workers, but structural complexities and global inequality considerably condition those values. It gives direction that 'a critical and holistic approach informed by individual biographies of migrant workers and structural and contextual factors of migration' (p. 182) can benefit future scholarship in this area.

The chapter can be accessed at: <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-world-englishes-at-the-grassroots.html>

Publication of *On Language in Leap year*[অধিবর্ষেভাষাভাবনা] (2020)

It is our pleasure to inform you all that the book titled *On Language in Leap year*[অধিবর্ষেভাষাভাবনা] (2020), a bilingual collection of chapters related to language education is published from the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka(IML, DU) in December, 2020. The book is edited by Shishir Bhattacharja, and Mian Md. Naushaad Kabir, the Vice President of BELTA. The book includes contributions from both renowned and promising scholars from diverse fields, showing keen interest in language education in Bangladesh.

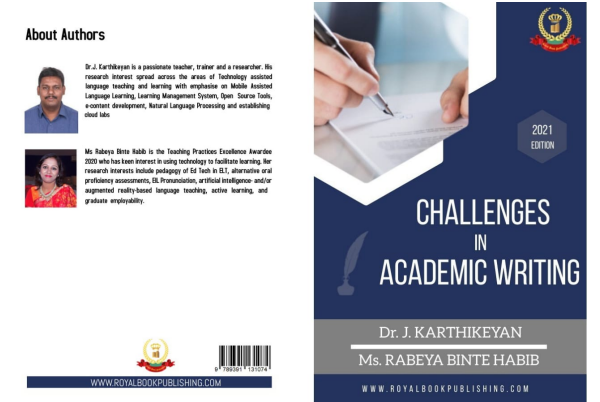


It includes write-ups by nationally and internationally acclaimed academicians like Anu Muhammad (Jahangirnagar University), Probal Dasgupta (Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata), and Maniruzzaman (University of Chittagong). It also includes write ups from several BELTA life members like AMM Hamidur Rahman, Iffat Ara Nasreen Majid, Shaila Sultana (EC member), and Sayeedur

Rahman. It contains reviewed chapters, selected from the conference held at IML, DU on 28-29 February, 2020. The book is distributed by *Pankowri Prokashon*.

Publication of *Challenges in Academic Writing: A Pragmatic Study*

BELTA Publications Secretary Ms. Rabeya Binte Habib has co-authored a book titled *Challenges in Academic Writing: A Pragmatic Study* with Professor Dr Jaya Karthikeyan from Vellore Institute of Technology, India. The book has been published by *Royal Book Publishing*, India. The objective of this book was to identify common mistakes made by 250 scholars and 300 teachers, who are non-native English users and currently affiliated to a technical institution, while writing research papers, research proposals and research articles as a part of academic research.



A thorough analysis of the collected data revealed that these teachers and scholars are in need of rigorous training in functional English with emphasis on subject-verb agreement, tenses, punctuation, singular-plural, sentence structure and vocabulary. The study was conducted by Full Time Research Scholars of VIT, Vellore, under the joint supervision and guidance of

Dr.J.Karthikeyan and Assistant Professor Rabeya Binte Habib, Daffodil International University. The findings of individual scholars are published as chapters in this book which make this book as a major resource for researches in academic and research writing.

“Stories About Ourselves”, a collaborative project by BELTA and THT. My presentation was appreciated for my creation of the Moodle repository of the course in DIUBLC, my creative writings, my rapport with my students and my story telling ability.

The South Asian Regional Online Conference

Representing Bangladesh in The South Asian Regional Online Conference on “Critical Thinking in English Language Teaching” held from the 20th to 25th February, 2021, was a unique experience for me as an English language teacher. The most attractive part of this conference was the opportunity to work under the direct supervision of Bruce Rubin, a renowned ELT Specialist of the U.S. Department of State. My presentation entitled, “Culture-Based Graded Reading Material in Enhancing Critical Thinking Skills in an Online Classroom” held on 23rd February, was attended by more than 750 participants in the zoom platform and around 240 participants in the Facebook live.

Rubina Khan @ ELTAi, KOTESOL & TESOL

Dr. Rubina Khan, President, BELTA, was invited by English language Teachers Association India (ELTAi) to deliver a talk on an International Webinar on English Language Teaching: The Asian Perspective on 2nd May 2021. Dr. Khan delivered a talk on “**Moving Activities On line: the case of BELTA**”. Dr. Khan talked about the challenges which BELTA faced initially and how BELTA overcame these challenges to begin its online monthly meetings and made strategic plans for continuing its trajectory of professional development activities. Dr. Khan also provided a short report on the activities BELTA Central and some of the regional chapters, particularly Chittagong South had carried out during the pandemic. Among many activities she highlighted BELTA’s role in community services, (collecting donations, funds for the poor and the needy) online professional development events including series of webinars, panel discussions, expanded research activities and launching of Technology SIG amongst others. She also highlighted the two events which had a positive impact during these uncertain times. First, the two day long Teacher Helping Teachers (THT) virtual seminar during 30-31st October 2020 and second, the BELTA 9th BELTA International Virtual conference (6th March 2021).



I demonstrated a number of critical thinking activities performed by my students in an online EFL classroom in response to the fiction, nonfiction and poetry published in

Dr. Khan also attended the 28th Korea TESOL International Conference (February 19 - 28, 2021) & the TESOL 2021 International Convention & English Language Expo from 24-27 March 2021. She was also invited by the Speak Initiative project organized by Youth Exchange Students (YES) Alumni (30th May, 2021), to deliver a talk on motivating undergraduate indigenous students of Dhaka University for enhancing speaking activities.

BELTA-SIG Reports

BELTA Learning Technology Special Interest Group (SIG)

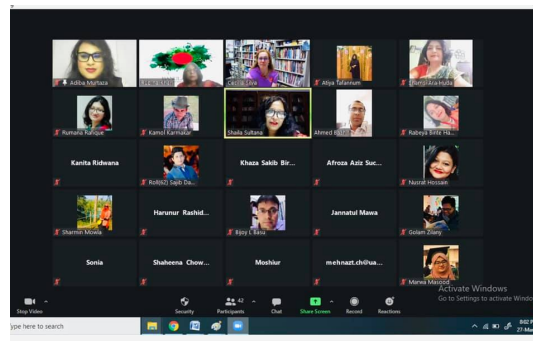
BELTA launched a new SIG on Technology, “**Learning Technology SIG**” on 27 March 2021. The SIG was inaugurated by BELTA President, Professor Dr Rubina Khan in a virtual event which was attended by 49 participants from home and abroad. The audience included among others BELTA Adviser, Immediate Past President, Office Bearers, Executive Committee Members, Tech SIG committee members, general members, and Dr Cecilia Silva. The opening of the SIG was followed by a webinar on “New Spaces in Language Education: challenges for theory and practice” by Dr Cecilia Silva, Associate Professor, Tohoku University, Japan.

SIG Advisor: Dr Rubina Khan, President, BELTA.

Core Committee Members: Mr Ahmed Bashir, Dhaka University (Coordinator), Dr Taslima Irine Ivy, University of Manchester, UK (Co-coordinator), Ms Adiba Murtaza, Southeast University, Ms Rumana Rafique, Dhaka University, Ms Rabeya Binte Habib, Daffodil

International University, and Ms Marwa Mohammad Masood, United International University.

Rationale of the SIG: We would like to establish a body that will focus on practice and research relating to critical, and sustainable use of technology, particularly for the context of Bangladesh.



Aims of the SIG:

To develop an understanding of educational technology use in relation to the context and culture of Bangladesh

- To develop a critical perspective of technology use for learning
- To develop an understanding of appropriate pedagogical use of technology for learning
- To develop an understanding of sustainable use of technology for the context of Bangladesh
- To create awareness amongst policy makers/administrators/HODs/Principals to support teachers with the use of technology as a learning tool.
- To provide training sessions on use and research of learning technologies (for teachers/advanced level students (MA)).
- To invite experts in the field to share ideas/research findings on technology use for learning

- To establish collaborative projects with teachers to understand their needs and address these.

BELTA Research SIG

BELTA research SIG has been very active since the beginning of the pandemic (May 2020) and members (Rubina Khan, Zulfeqar Haider, Shaila Sultana, Naushaad Kabir, Moninoor Roshid, Naushaad Kabir, and Akhter Jahan) of this SIG have been working on a research project related to education at private universities during COVID-19. Their work is in progress and covers varied dimensions such as exploring the issues of access, equity, quality, wellbeing, assessment, and crises and opportunities at private universities during the pandemic.

The research SIG has also expanded its outreach program and currently, eight BELTA cohorts from Mymensingh, Chattogram, Sylhet, Rajshahi, Pabna, and Dhaka are engaged in various research projects. Critical thinking skills, teacher preparation, digital transformation, EFT textbooks are some of the topics among others to be covered by the research groups. These teams will be mentored by BELTA senior researchers. The research team members include:

Pabna: Farjana Anwar, Yesmen Sultana & Hafizul Islam

Chattogram: Mohib Ullah

Chattogram: Muhammed Rukan Uddin & Shanta Rani Biswas

Sylhet: Emdadul Haque, Rajon Mahmud & Mahfuza Ahmed

Rajshahi: Akhteruzzaman & Mustafizur Rahman

Mymensingh: Abdul karim, Dipa Adhikari & Jeni Evana

Dhaka: Sultana Nasrin Chowdhury, Ferdoushi Rahman & Rumi Ahmed

Dhaka: Shamsi Ara Huda, Golam Kader Zilany, Kushal Das, Nanda Kumar Das Bipul

Successful Completion of the Fieldwork of Hornby Trust TA Project

A BELTA team led by Ms Rabeya Binte Habib under the guidance of BELTA Advisor, President, Immediate Past President and a Hornby Alumni, has completed the fieldwork of Hornby Trust TA Project 2019-2021 (extended due to COVID) titled 'Connecting Underprivileged Children and Tertiary Students through Cross Age Teaching: A Hand-in-hand in ELT Approach'. The team consisted of four final year undergraduate students of Daffodil International University who taught several English lessons to the underprivileged children of RMG workers at Ashraf Textile Mills School before pandemic and the street children at Kamplapur Railway station during COVID-19 facilitated by a voluntary association named Light of Hope.

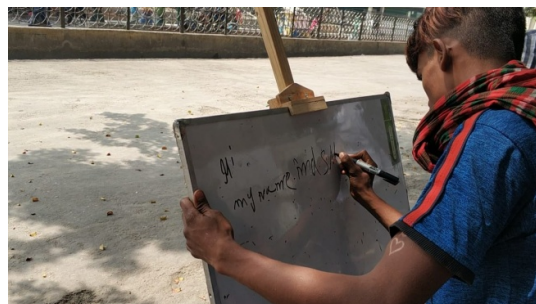


Fig: A student writing his name on board

The team incorporated the hygiene and safety measures of WHO providing masks

and sanitiser to the street children before and while teaching, although the lack of awareness was observed throughout. These children were taught English alphabets, vocabulary and stories with moral lessons aiming social inclusion, peace and justice.

Nominations from BELTA for TESOL Convention 2021

Secondary level (School)

1. Mohammad Jahidul Islam
Assistant Teacher in English
Chattogram Cantonment Public School
College

Phone Number: 01714345567
jahid67@gmail.com

2. Mohammad Siraj Hyder Chowdhury
Senior. English Teacher
KAFCO School & College
Anowara, Chattogram.

Phone: +88 01711 199771
Email: mschowdhury@yahoo.com

3. Sultana Nasrin Chowdhury
Position: Faculty
Affiliation: The Aga Khan School, Dhaka
Phone Number: 01919567238
Email: sultana.n@gmail.com
Cell: 01919567238

BELTA: Life member

Higher Secondary level (College)

1. Surayia Mostafa
Designation: Lecturer, English
Institution: Adamjee Cantonment College
Email: surayiamostafa@gmail.com
Phone Number: 01621655899
Address: House-93. Katlapur, Savar-1340,
Dhaka

BELTA Membership: 3070

2. Muhammad Mustafa Hossain (Nadim)
(BELTA - 1318)
Lecturer, English
Mohammadpur Preparatory School &
College

268, East Kazipara, PO – Mirpur, PS –
Kafur, Dhaka – 1216

Phone Number: +8801723388297

Email: onnadim@gmail.com

3. Dr. Monalisa Khan
Affiliation: Eden Mohila College, Dhaka
Designation: Lecturer

Phone Number: 01764126500

Email: monalisakhan06@yahoo.com

4. Anwarul Karim
Senior Lecturer in English
Narayanhat Adarsha Degree College
Fatikchhari, Chattogram.
& Life Member, BELTA Chittagong South.
Phone Number: 01716461096

Email: akarimenglish@gmail.com

Tertiary Level (University)

1. Name: Mohammad Moninoor Roshid
Affiliation: Institute of Education and
Research, University of Dhaka,
Email: moninoor@du.ac.bd

Mobile number: +8801716182922

BELTA Membership Number: 254

2. Name: Akhter Jahan
Affiliation: Assistant Professor, Department
of English, East West University
Email: akjahan20@gmail.com

Cell: 0088-01752687017

BELTA Membership N0: 462

Teaching Essential Word Structures

A language facilitator must familiarize the learners with the way the words are built. This not only will assist them to pronounce and spell better but also will enhance their critical thinking abilities. In English language, there exist two such basic structures. In the first one, **adding mechanisms** take place. For example, a new word is formed by adding two existing words, e.g. bitter + sweet = bitter-sweet, etc. or by adding grammatical particles with an

existing word, e.g. take + -ing = taking, etc. This can often change the parts of speech. In the second one, words can have **additional mechanisms** such as change of one or two sound(s), e.g. thief-> thieves, etc. or repetitions, e.g. yum-yum, etc. or short forms, e.g. gymnasium -> gym, etc. Words can show both the mechanisms simultaneously. If the learners can analyze words followed by these basic mechanisms, they might be able to grasp new words quickly.

TanziaSiddiqua,
Senior Lecturer, ULAB, Dhaka
tanzia.siddiqua@ulab.edu.bd

Critical Thinking in ESL Teaching

Too often, critical thinking is confused for application-based learning or as a tool to critic or question authority. The reality is, it empowers teachers to tailor curriculums that meet the learners' needs. In order to incorporate critical thinking, firstly, the students must identify and communicate their purpose for learning, which could range from wanting to speak fluently to getting a targeted grade. This will establish the intent as well as give the teacher the foundation to tailor the curriculum. Secondly, the student must be presented with expected outcomes based on prior assessments or progressive growths. This is to provide a realistic road map for the student without them feeling overwhelmed or having to feel inadequate when comparing to others around them. Lastly, a thorough and judgement-free discussion can be held concerning the student's academic and social motivators. This is vital to ensure long-term engagement and information retention.

Afzal Mahmud Hussain,
Founder: Concept Institution Zeetarro;
E-mail: truez311@gmail.com

Report on the activities of BELTA Chittagong South Chapter

BELTA Chittagong South has created five research groups to conduct research in this region. Four research groups will conduct research at the Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary, Tertiary Levels and one group in Madrashah. A supervisory committee consisting senior faculties from public and private universities has been formed to guide the research group.

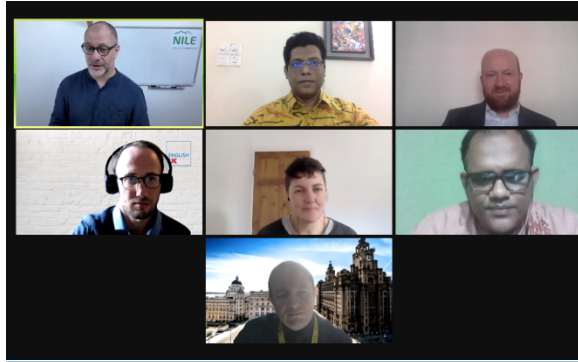
Being nominated by BELTA and Global Aid for Sustainable Development (GASD), seven life members from BELTA Chittagong South have attended the Virtual TESOL International Conference 2021. Two of these teachers got nominated from BELTA and five others from GASD.

Mr. Md. Mohib Ullah, Chair, BELTA Chittagong South Chapter supported and guided the RELO nominated TESOL 2021 International Virtual Conference participants from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal by creating a WhatsApp group.

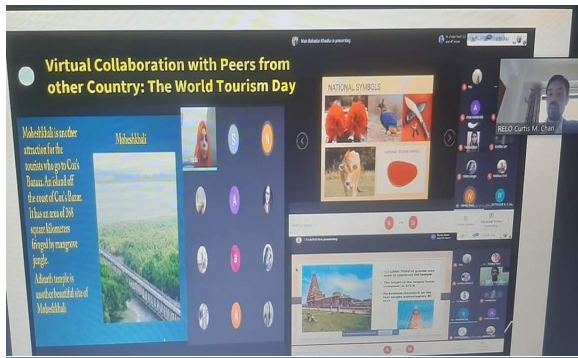
Recommended by GASD, eight life members from BELTA have got final selection to complete the prestigious OPEN Scholarship courses sponsored by US Department of State, USA in the first cohort of 2021

Md. Mohib Ullah hosted a briefing session on April 11, 2021 for the OPEN Scholarship holders where Mr. Shaon Karmokar, Coordinator, English Language Programs attended the session.

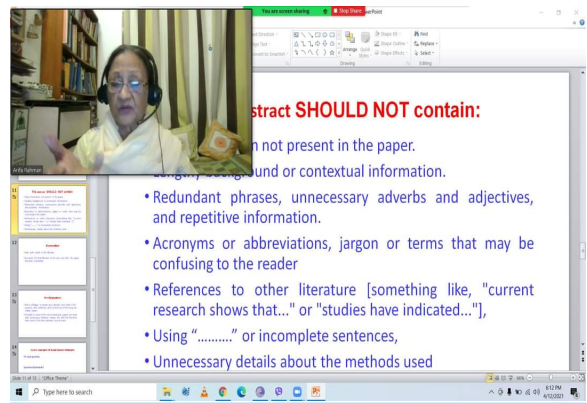
BELTA- in Pictures



PRELIM Project



BELTA celebrating International Women's Day, March 8th, 2021



BELTA International Conference (Virtual)



Workshop on Abstract Writing Tips



BELTA Webinar Series-8

Workshop on Essentials of Proposal Writing

Editorial Board:

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BELTA is a non-profit professional forum of ELT practitioners connected to the teaching of English in Bangladesh Reg. No. S979/48 of 1984-1985 under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 issued by the Registrar of joint Stock Companies on February 13, 1985

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BELTA NEWSLETTER

Notes for Contributors

Contributions are welcome for BELTA Newsletter

GENERAL INFORMATION

BELTA Newsletter is aimed at practicing classroom teachers, administrators and managers. It is not a refereed journal, but a

newsletter aimed primarily at members of BELTA.

Send your contributions to the BELTA Newsletter. Your write-ups on any ELT events, your experiences related to teaching or any tips on teaching are welcome. Please send them as a word file probably **within 350 words, font size 12 in Times New Roman**. We accept contributions all year round.

WHERE TO SEND COPY

Copy and further questions should be directed to the editorial board at info@belta-bd.org keeping at least one or all members of Newsletter Editorial Board at CC.

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