



Essential English

Common Internal Assessment event

Saturday 18th February, 2023
St Joseph's Nudgee College

The Context

Preparing students for the Common Internal Assessment in Essential English is an important task. This event will provide participants with ideas and insights into how they can equip their students to undertake this compulsory exam.

It's an opportunity to learn from others so our students are thoroughly prepared and confident for the task.

Keynote: Essential English Common internal assessment

Lisa Smith, QCAA



Abstract

Lisa will focus on the common internal assessment's role within the syllabus and how it complements the rest of the course. Reflections include links to critical and visual literacy, and key learnings acquired during the last couple of years.

Presenter

Lisa Smith is the Principal Education Officer for Essential English as well as the short courses in Literacy and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages at the Queensland Curriculum Assessment Authority (QCAA). In this role, Lisa supports Queensland teachers

in implementing curriculum, developing assessment instruments and conducting quality assurance processes such as moderation and endorsement. This is a role Lisa considers a privilege with its opportunity to engage in rich and rewarding daily conversations with English teachers from all parts of Queensland. Lisa enjoyed working in state and independent schools as both a teacher and a Curriculum Leader Assistant for almost a decade and has delivered a variety of senior English curriculum units at Queensland University of Technology. Passionate about literacy and improvement in academic outcomes, Lisa's genuine enthusiasm for the Essential English syllabus and the way it caters for a diverse range of students across the state underpins her commitment to this important subject.

Program

| Time | Activity | Presenter |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 9:00 am | Introduction and welcome Housekeeping | Lindsay Williams Candice Green |
| 9:10 – 10:00 | Keynote | Lisa Smith |
| 10:05 - 10:50 | Presentations – 18 minute presentation + 3 minutes for questions. (a) <i>A Plan A Day</i> for the CIA (b) The Essentials of Essential English | Claire Bielenberg Christine Stein |
| 10:50– 11:15 | Fancy morning tea: | Ab Fab catering |
| 11:15-12:05 | Workshop Session A - Choose 1 of: (a). Building an assessment and learning culture in Essential English, Julie Arnold (b). All hands on! Rebecca Power and Loren Nel (c). Engaging students physically and creatively with the CIA , Lucy Clinch | |
| 12:10 – 1:00 | Workshop Session B – Choose another 1 from: (a). Building an assessment and learning culture in Essential English, Julie Arnold (b). All hands on! Rebecca Power and Loren Nel (c). Engaging students physically and creatively with the CIA, Lucy Clinch | |
| 1:00 | Close | |

This program constitutes 3 hours 45 mins CPD

For Rural and Regional Members

To cater for those who are unable to physically join us for this event, we will be streaming the keynote, the two presentations and one workshop in each session.

One other workshop in each session will be recorded and available after editing

Presentations

Presentation 1

Plan A Day for the CIA

Abstract

The presentation would cover a range of strategies that Clare used to prepare her students for the CIA, with a focus on the planning 'graphic organiser' that she developed to cater to the diverse needs of her students. The graphic organiser can be drawn by students in about a minute, and was used successfully by Clare's students for the 2021 CIA. Clare used the 'spiralling' method to cover the variety of skills that students needed

for the CIA – and to use the graphic organiser – and this method of intertwining content and skills will also be covered, as having a clear 'plan a day' in mind improves student fluency due to the elements of repetition.

Presenter

Clare Bielenberg will begin her sixth year of teaching in 2023, and is passionate about sharing strategies with colleagues – strategies that she has found work for her students. Clare works at a low socio-economic secondary school in Central Queensland (1200 students) and developed a fractured Y-Chart to help her Year 12s prepare for the CIA.

Presentation 2

The Essentials of Essential English

Abstract

Christine has created a number of resources to help your students recall, understand, apply and evaluate their CIA skills. A cheat sheet of key terms, a tailor-made online quiz to test their knowledge, a sample text and template for a paragraph response and a movie reference or two will hopefully engage your students to embrace the basics of the CIA.

Presenter

Christine Stein from Brisbane with migrant parents. Teacher since 1995 (Senior English, Religion and Drama) initially in rural NSW, then in Catholic, Independent and State schools across Brisbane since 1999. More recently, has added Learning Support and Case Management to her load and is passionate about it as well as Essential English. Christine is settled in at St John Fisher College, Bracken Ridge and loves it. She leads the Accelerated Learners program there too so if you know of any excursions or opportunities for the top 1%, please let her know!

Workshops

Workshop 1

Building an assessment and learning culture in Essential English

Abstract

This is a companion to the 2022 workshop: *Making Assessment Work for Students and Teachers in Essential English*. It will be suitable for teachers who attended that presentation—and also accessible for teachers who did not. Essential English (EE) is the second biggest subject in the English suite but it is arguably the most diverse cohort. Students are on a range of pathways, including vocational education, alternative education and university. Their learning needs are similarly complex and include students with disability, impairment and/or medical conditions, or who experience other circumstances that may be a barrier to their performance. In this workshop, we will focus on the needs of a particularly large, and historically under-supported group: students with language and/or attentional difficulties. This workshop focuses on ways to design formative learning experiences that are accessible for more students.

Presenter

Julie Arnold has taught English in Queensland schools for 25 years, working with students, teachers and leaders as Head of Department and Literacy Coach across schools in the Brisbane Metropolitan region. As a member of the Management Committee for the English Teachers Association of Queensland, she

coordinates and presents professional learning, and takes an active interest in curriculum development. Julie is currently a sessional academic at QUT. Her research interests are in building teacher linguistic subject knowledge for writing instruction and in accessible formative and summative assessment practices. Julie believes fundamentally in the power of language to create opportunities for all students to be critical and creative learners.

Workshop 2

All hands on!

Abstract

The specific aim of the workshop is to support new teachers of Essential English, who are teaching the Common Internal Assessment unit. This does not, however, rule out those who are just after some fresh ideas or inspiration. Our focus will be on scaffolded learning activities to enhance student skills in understanding and implementing the mental processes they need in order to respond appropriately to the CIA. This will be a very hands-on and collaborative workshop, and the aim is for teachers to leave it with new ideas and some resources to help them teach their classes.

Presenters

Rebecca Power has taught English at Emmanuel College for 13 years and has been the Dean of the Faculty of English and

Languages for the past two years. She is the subject coordinator for Essential English and works with a supportive Faculty and Leadership teams. Rebecca teaches a variety of English courses – General, Literature and Essential – and enjoys the different aspects of each. She particularly loves Essentials because, at the College, these classes are smaller than others, and she can get to know the students well, and can work intensively alongside them. When a student in her Essential English class does their best and achieves their best, it is just so rewarding. Rebecca is always searching for new ways to engage her students, and promote learning.

Loren Nel teaches English Essentials, Junior English and English Literature. She has degrees in Linguistics and Literature, Education and Psychology and loves to combine these three fields in her teaching. Loren is passionate about diverse learners and empowering students to overcome their barriers to learning and find success in the context of their own passions and abilities. She has been teaching since 1997 with breaks for family and study, but no matter how far she strays, keeps coming back to the classroom. It's her happy place!

Workshop 3

Engaging students physically and creatively with the CIA

Abstract

This workshop will provide practical tips for teaching representations, purpose, context and audience positioning in relation to visual and written texts. Participants will leave the session with some ideas to engage students physically and creatively in the topic of human space exploration.

Presenter

Lucy Clinch is a teacher at Redlands College. She currently teaches both English and Essential English. Lucy believes Essential English helps make literacy accessible to students who struggle with confidence. Outside of work, she enjoys time with her family, bushwalking and raising chickens and silkworms.

Registration

Register at www.etaq.org.au

1. **Change of persons registered** Sometimes schools may need to substitute one teacher for another on their registrations. This is fine but please notify the change to the Administration Officer so that we can prepare the appropriate Certificate of Participation, name tag and Individual program.
2. Many schools prefer to receive an invoice for registrations and pay on that rather than pay at the time of registration. We are happy to offer this convenience but it must be recognised that **registration commits you to payment.**
3. **Cancellation Policy** If you register and later have to cancel, the following will apply:
 - a. Cancel your registration by 12 February, you will receive a full refund of your registration fee
 - b. Cancel between 13 and 14 February, you will receive a refund of your registration fee **less** the online registration cost and be transferred to online participation.
 - c. From 15 February no refund is possible but you would be swapped to online participation.