

Newsletter 2-2015

From the English Section of Levende Talen



Editorial

Dear members,

Welcome to the second Newsletter of 2015, arriving in your mailbox before we all are going to enjoy our well-deserved summer holidays.

First of all BREAKING NEWS! As from now on, Levende Talen is present in social media, on Facebook: [LT_Engels](https://www.facebook.com/LevendeTalenEngels) and on Twitter: [LT_Engels](https://twitter.com/LevendeTalenEngels). We would love see you all participating: send photos, interesting news etc. or better yet, simply post them on our brand new Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/LevendeTalenEngels>

You do not need a Facebook membership to take a look at the site. Let's meet each other on Facebook or Twitter!

In this edition you'll find a useful link in respect of the central exams of English and an invitation by Cito for your participation in their project for a new standard for the English language for the VSVO. Our board member Pascal Koole tells you all about the latest developments in respect of the Powtoon Challenge. Furthermore, you'll meet our treasurer, Rob Mengerink as well as our brand new board member-to-be Jurjen van Rossum. Masja Mesie enthusiastically tells us all about her visit to the IAEFL Annual Conference 2015 in Manchester, while Patricia Rose, our IATEFL Associate asks the LTSIG members among us to vote for Guus Perry. We also look back at the annual ALV in April last. Our honorary member Jan Valkenburg was even more honoured this April, royal this time, when he became a 'Lid in de Orde van Oranje-Nassau'. Congrats Jan! ☺

We really would like to urge you kindly to use the upcoming summer period to join us, the Board, in thinking about input for this Newsletter or LTM magazine, or our LT webpage; ideas for the LSD 2015 in November and the ALV 2016 and any other comments, articles, discussion topics, best practices in your teaching, etc., you may have and that you wish to share with us and/or your fellow members of the English Section. It will be much appreciated! ☺ Please do not hesitate to send it all to our Secretary/content manager: secretaris.engels@levendetalen.nl.

Also keep up-to-date through our webpage: www.levendetalen.nl/Talensecties/Engels and of course now also through Facebook and Twitter.

We wish you all a good luck in these final, hectic weeks of the school/college year and a lovely, sunny and most importantly, relaxing summer holiday! We look forward to meeting you again in the new school/college year.

The board of the section of English / 'Het Sectiebestuur Engels', Levende Talen

Useful website central exams of English

Many of you are now busy with marking the central exams of English at your schools and of pupils from other schools. If you would like some assistance in this hell of a job, you can join the job community through the following link:

<http://engels.vakcommunity.nl/blog/view/32011712/examenbesprekingen-engels>

Good luck to all of you!

Marlise Kruishoop

Call for new standard for English for VSVO by Cito

Recently, all our Section members received an e-mail message with attached letter, through the Bureau Levende Talen, regarding a call by Philipp von Samson-Himmelstjerna (Philipp.vonSamson@cito.nl) of Cito. This call concerns their plans to prepare a new standard for the English language in the 'Volgsysteem Voortgezet Onderwijs (VSVO)' and for which they need your help, as specialists in this field. Please check your mailbox for this message + letter (in Dutch), including an invitation for a meeting at the Cito office in Arnhem on **June 19**, next:

- Reception with coffee as from 09.30 a.m. Meeting is from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and lunch and drinks afterwards are included.

If you would like to participate in this project and meeting, please send an e-mail to Philipp soonest.

Powtoon Challenge 2015-2016

Reading competition for all secondary education - sign up before July 14th, 2015!

As you know reading English fiction and non-fiction is considered a great way to improve your language skills. The English Section of Levende Talen wishes to promote this and is therefore organizing a reading competition for all secondary school levels. Participation can be organized in addition to the school's regular reading curriculum: after reading their book, pupils create a PowToon animation to promote their book to other pupils. Together with the teachers classes will select their best film. After this selection, the teachers have to submit the selected films in order to compete with films from other schools.

The jury will nominate PowToons per category and the creators from the various schools will be invited to the **PowToon Party**, together with their teachers (**March 2016**). After a show of the animations the winners will be announced and the festivities can start.

The progress of this challenge can be monitored through our new Facebook page (open to all visitors): <https://www.facebook.com/LevendeTalenEngels>. During the forthcoming summer holiday, examples, letters, the tutorial on how to prepare PowToon animations and other information will be added.

Would you like to have more information or do you have further questions, or perhaps you would like to enlist straight away (deadline is 14 July!)? Please send an email to: sectieengelslt@gmail.com or take a look at the following website:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B6Rd3FdRGfOwLXRGNVlpZGNmMUk&authuser=0>

Pascal Koole (pascal@englishgreenhouse.nl)



Introduction treasurer Rob Mengerink

Hello, my name is Rob Mengerink. I was born in Gemert in 1953 and now I live in Winschoten. I have been working as a teacher BVE at the 'Noorderpoort College' since 2009, where I have been teaching social sciences, Dutch and English to students of Safety and Craftsmanship (VeVa). This is a MBO training for students, aged between 16 and 18, who intend to apply for a job in the Dutch Army. I have been active in the field of examination on an organizational and national level since 2012.

I took over the treasury from Jan Baggel in 2014 and I have been active as a board member of the English Section since then. Levende Talen promotes language teaching in a broad sense and the English Section supports English language teaching in many ways. The educational field is changing rapidly: digital didactics, the politically motivated agenda, innovations and developments in the working field. For me it is important that English teachers are active and take responsibility to shape their field of interest. They are the ones that make teaching and learning English more accessible, motivating and interesting for present and future English students on all levels of the Dutch educational system.

Rob

Introduction new board member-to-be Jurjen van Rossum

Hi, my name is Jurjen van Rossum, English teacher at the Amadeus Lyceum Leidsche Rijn. I am delighted I teach here, because we work according to the "nieuwe leren". I use a lot of digital instruments in my classroom like Prezi, Kahoo, YouTube. Every student has his/her own laptop and we do not work in class rooms but in domains. We focus on self-study skills and self-confidence, I believe these are the skills that are essential for the rest of your life. Recently, I graduated at the Hogeschool van Utrecht. I joined Levende Talen because I think I can contribute to and be a link between recent graduates/young teachers and the knowledge of this association. Any questions? Please contact me!

Jurjen van Rossum (j.vanrossum@amadeuslyceum.nl)

Royal Order for Jan Valkenburg

Our dear member Jan Valkenburg, well known to so many of us, received a royal order on the 23rd of April last. On that sunny evening in the Hortus Arcadië, the mayor of Nijmegen surprised our Jan with a visit during the surprise party (the many guests had sworn secrecy) organized for him by his family. After a short speech he pinned the orange/blue ribbon on the jacket of a somewhat flabbergasted but very proud Jan that made him 'Lid in de Orde van Oranje-Nassau'.

Jan received this royal token of appreciation for his voluntary work for Levende Talen, the Nationaal Congres Engels, the Public Speaking Competition and the local tennis club, amongst others. It was a lovely evening and a great party, not in the least because of the musical contributions by the famous 'Anglistenband Bloko'.

Betty Molt & Christien van Gool



Report of the IATEFL Annual Conference 2015 by Masja Mesie

As you could read in our Newsletter 4-2014, Masja Mesie was the proud winner of our competition at the 'Landelijke Studiedag 2014'; the Early Bird conference fee for the Annual Conference 2015 of IATEFL in Manchester. A further consequence of this prize was to provide a short report of her stay in Manchester and this is her report:

IATEFL 2015 10th-14th April 2015

At the last conference of Levende Talen on the 7th November 2015 I participated in a lottery organized by the board of the English department of Levende Talen and I was lucky to win an entrance ticket for the IATEFL conference in Manchester. Half a year later I was on my way to England.

I was very much impressed by the way the conference was organised and by the large number of high quality workshops I attended. I was particularly interested in the workshops about 'Learning Technology', 'Higher order thinking skills' and 'formative feedback and (self)assessment'. A special IATEFL app helped me to create my personalized program for the four days, but even then it was difficult to make a choice out of the rich variety of workshops in those themes.

Besides the official program, a lot of extra events were organised. The day before the conference I attended the LTSIG day (Learning Technology Special Interest Group) at the University of Manchester and during the evenings I went to the reception of the British Council, the MacMillan party and the international Pub Quiz. In short, I spent an exciting and inspiring time in Manchester. I would highly recommend teachers of the English language and others who are interested in education development to register for the next (50th!) IATEFL Annual Conference 12-16 April 2016 in Birmingham!

Masja Mesie



Annual General Meeting Levende Talen – 11 April 2015

Unfortunately, we could not welcome many of our members at the Annual Meeting of our English section of Levende Talen on Saturday 11 April last in Utrecht-Zuilen, as announced in Newsletter 1-2015. This had partly to do with the fact that once again this ALV coincided with the IATEFL Annual Conference in Manchester, unfortunately. At this ALV we were happy to appoint Pascal Koole as a full member of the Board of the English Section, you already met her in a previous Newsletter. In view of our preparations for the LV 2016 we really would like to welcome your ideas for our English Section morning programme of this statutory annual meeting. What would make you – our dear member(s) – tick to come to this statutory meeting? Next to the 'Landelijke Studiedag' this is another important opportunity for us to meet our Section members, so please forward your ideas to secretaris.engels@levendetalen.nl.

MORE IATEFL NEWS: VOTE VOTE VOTE for Guus Perry Today!!
It will take less than a minute for IATEFL members!

Do you happen to be a member of IATEFL? If so, Guus Perry is keen to represent the Netherlands at the Learning Technology SIG.

He has lots of experience as a teacher and trainer in learning using the newest technology. So it would be an asset to us, as he will share the latest knowledge about learning technology. You can read about his statements when you click on the link in this message (see below).

I'm asking you kindly, as the IATEFL Associate, to support Guus and to vote for him today: Voting is possible until **12pm (BST) on Wednesday 10 June 2015** and you don't need to be a member of the LTSIG. Have your IATEFL membership number ready and cast your vote online!!!

Thank you!

Patricia Rose

IATEFL Associate on behalf of Levende Talen

This email is your invitation to participate in the election for the new roles of Website Content Editors and Website Team Member on the IATEFL LTSIG committee.

The Content Editors (2 positions) will oversee the revamp of our website and online newsletter and develop ways of bringing more LTSIG content to our members.

The Website Team Member (1 position) will assist the editors by helping develop and source content. Full job descriptions can be found at: <http://ltsig.org.uk/9-uncategorised/320-ltsig-elections.html>

There are four candidates for the content editors positions: Deborah Capras, David Dodgson, Sylvia Guinan and Jo Hayes

There are three candidates for the Team member positions: Paramjit Kaur Gibbons, Guus Perry and Dimitris Primalis

Please click on this link <https://sites.google.com/site/ltsigelections/> to see candidate statements.

Please click on this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W2F823P> to cast your vote.

The election process will close at 12pm (BST) on Wednesday 10 June 2015.

Please take note of your membership number as you will need to include it when you vote. Votes which do not include a valid IATEFL LTSIG membership number will not be counted.

Best wishes,

Shaun Wilden & Sophia Mavridi
IATEFL LTSIG Joint Coordinators
ltsig@iatefl.org

