

CONFERENCE

Thursday 25th June | 9am-4:00pm | Exeter Racecourse



TSSW MFL Conference | #mflconfsw2020

Lending Languages the Limelight

Welcome Address | Matthew Richmond and Shani Wilson | MFL Policies, DfE
Keynote Speakers



Dr Gianfranco Conti | Commonly Made Mistakes in Modern Languages Instruction

An applied linguistics MA and PhD graduate, Gianfranco Conti has been teaching MFL for over 25 years both at primary, secondary and university levels. He has researched the impact of metacognitive strategies training and error correction on essay writing under the supervision of Oxford University Ernesto Macaro. He currently has lexicogrammar acquisition, listening instruction, metacognition, and error correction and learner autonomy as main research interests.

Formerly head of languages at various schools in England and abroad, he was until a few months ago a French and Spanish teacher at an international school in South-East Asia where he has been implementing his methodological approach, Extensive Processing Instruction (EPI), for over ten years.



Joe Dale | Successfully Embedding Technology within MFL Teaching to Enhance Pupil Attainment and Engagement

Joe Dale is an independent languages consultant from the UK who works with a range of organisations such as Network for Languages, ALL, The British Council, the BBC, Skype, Microsoft and The Guardian. He was host of the TES MFL forum for six years, former SSAT Languages Lead Practitioner, a regular conference speaker and recognised expert on technology and language learning. He has spoken at conferences and run training courses in Europe, North America, South America, the Middle East, the Far East and Australasia. He was a member of the Ministerial Steering Group on languages for the UK coalition government and advised on the Linguanet Worldwide project for The Language Company. He created ICT activities for the new Institut Français, ALL and Network for Languages Primary French Project Niveau Bleu, Blanc and Rouge courses and was short-listed for a NAACE Impact Award in 2013 too. He was recently described in a Guardian article as an 'MFL guru' and 'the man behind the #mfltwitterati.'



Information About Keynotes



Commonly Made Mistakes in Modern Language Instruction **DR GIANFRANCO CONTI**

Many MFL instructional practices that have been handed down from teacher to teacher over the decades clash with what Cognitive science tells us about the way the brain processes and acquires languages. Sadly, despite the available research evidence, they are so embedded in language-teacher cognition that they are common currencies in most classrooms around the world.

In his keynote, Dr Conti will discuss how such practices in actual fact complicate and stunt the development of language fluency, oftentimes badly denting students' self-efficacy as language learners and perpetuating a perception of MFL as a less accessible and 'harder' subject. He will also provide alternative solutions steeped in the most recent Applied Linguistics research which result in more effective and durable learning.



Successfully Embedding Technology within MFL Teaching to Enhance Pupil Attainment and Engagement **JOE DALE**

This practical presentation will run through quick and easy ways of integrating technology into the language classroom to enhance teaching and learning. Ideas will include cross-platform apps for polling students, promoting listening and speaking through personalised drawing and chunking, creating text message video conversations, speaking homework and using artificial intelligence to promote writing amongst other themes. There will be the opportunity for audience participation too.





Information About Workshops



Listening skills instruction: teaching listening bottom-up **DR GIANFRANCO CONTI**

Listening is by far the most neglected of the four language skills. It is also the least effectively taught and the one MFL students feel the most anxious about (Vafaei, 2016). One of the reasons for this state of affairs is that listening skills instruction feels more like testing than modelling and fails to train students in the micro-skills that any listener needs to master to comprehend aural texts effectively (Rost, 2009). In this highly interactive workshop, after walking the delegates through the psycholinguistics mechanisms underlying the listening comprehension process, the facilitator will present and demonstrate his L.A.M. (listening as modelling) approach, a methodology which purports to provide extensive practice in the bottom-up micro-skills essential to effective listening comprehension: Decoding, Lexical Retrieval and Parsing Skills (Smith and Conti, 2016).



Oral language development through technology and appsmashing with Book Creator **JOE DALE, LANGUAGES CONSULTANT**

In this workshop, Joe Dale will demonstrate how easy it is to create a multimedia eBook including engaging content to promote creativity, collaboration, facilitate feedback and provide evidence of language learning in the classroom.



Analysing GCSE students' motivation to study foreign languages **DR LISA-MARIA MULLER, EDUCATION RESEARCH MANAGER, CHARTERED COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

Dr Lisa-Maria Muller Dr Lisa-Maria Muller will discuss her analysis of a dataset on GCSE students' motivation to study foreign languages. The role of travel, culture, professional aspirations, parental and peer influences, the age at which students first started to study a foreign language as well as students' ability to picture themselves as competent language users in the future will be discussed. Data from the UK will be compared to results from a study on language learning motivation in secondary school students in China and similarities and differences will be explored. The presentation will end with a discussion of the implications for policy and practice. The data stems from Lisa-Maria's postdoc with the University of Cambridge and the large, interdisciplinary MEITS project.



NCELP and the MFL Hub Project: Languages Curriculum Design for Success **STÉPHANIE SCHMITT AND CLAIRE JONES, ST JAMES SCHOOL, EXETER AND DFE MFL HUB SPECIALIST TEACHERS**

Stéphanie Schmitt is an enthusiastic and experienced teacher with a rich and varied teaching background. She is currently second in Department at St James School, Exeter. Claire Jones, also works at St James and is a passionate linguist and teacher whose experience ranges from Primary to A-level. Stéphanie and Claire are Specialist MFL Hub Teachers.

In this workshop, they will explore the question; "How we can maximise the time that we have with pupils and the curriculum with which we provide them to support the best outcomes for the most pupils?" This session will outline the work of NCELP and the MFL Hubs and the evidence base in which it is rooted, as well as leaving delegates with plenty of practical ideas to use in their classrooms.



Looking back at 2019 GCSE and forward to future exams series

RHONA THOMSON, CURRICULM MANAGER, AQA

After teaching French and German in secondary, sixth form and FE, Rhona Thomson joined AQA's Languages subject team twenty years ago. She now works in the Languages Curriculum team.

In this workshop, Rhona will discuss the key messages from 2019 exams and areas of focus for the future.



Maximising Listening and Writing skills at GCSE

SHARON CZUDAK, QUALIFICATIONS PRODUCT DEVELOPER, PEARSON EDEXCEL

Sharon Czudak is the Qualifications Product Developer responsible for MFL at Pearson Edexcel and was one of the lead developers of the 14 new GCSEs and A levels in MFL that Pearson Edexcel offers. She has a degree in French and German and spent 10 years as a teacher and curriculum manager of languages in Further Education. She then spent over 7 years working for CILT, the National Centre for Languages as one of the national 14-19 Language Education Advisers. She has worked on MFL at Pearson Edexcel since 2013. She is passionate about languages because of the pure fun of being able to operate in another language and being able to travel confidently to other countries and interact properly with the people you meet.

In this workshop, you will acquire a range of practical strategies and activities to develop listening and writing skills; explore strategies and activities to meet pupils' needs and maximise their potential both for general language use and for exam success.

FEES

TSSW Members (DTSA, ECTSA, SWTSA) £85 | Other Colleagues £120
Trainee Teachers £65

Contact Fiona McNeile, fmcneile@teachingschoolssw.org.uk for enquiries.

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