



8th GKV ELT Conference

Real English For Real Life

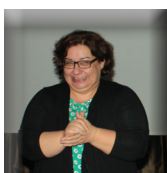
One of the significant missions of GKV is to make relevant contributions in social and academic areas to life in Gaziantep. For that reason, GKV organizes an ELT conference every year.

Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil.

C. S. Lewis



Tony GURR



Prof. Dr. Aydan ERSÖZ



Katharine SCOTT

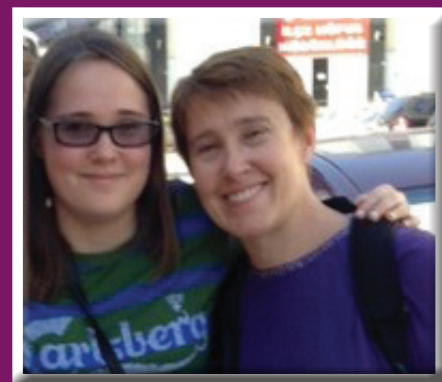


Paul ZARRAGA

The 8th GKV ELT conference had two plenary and three concurrent sessions presented by a number of well-known ELT stars; Tony GURR, Katharine SCOTT, Prof. Dr. Aydan ERSÖZ, and Paul ZARRAGA. The conference proved highly successful, not only because of its practical theme and the popular speakers, but also with all special organizational details such the wide variety of snacks available at each coffee break, gifts at raffle sessions

This year, GKV broke with tradition and organized the 8th ELT conference in Gaziantep Novotel, together with the strong support of a number of generous sponsors, namely Unlimited Educational Services, Richmond, the British Council, and Cambridge University Press. As well, thanks to Macenta Publishing & Media, the conference was followed online by those who were unable to participate in person.

and its easy-to-follow schedule. At the end of the sessions, all the participants received certificates of attendance. In addition, a number of lucky ones were pleased to receive useful gifts like reference books, gift tokens, stationery, and USBs, so everyone was wearing a smile as they were leaving the conference! Big thanks go to the sponsors and of course to the organizer, the Head of the English Department Sultan Ulu, for a stimulating and enjoyable conference.



AFS among us

I am Saralinda (Linnie) Schell, and I am an exchange student from America at GKV. My exchange program is called Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Abroad, and it brings students from America to other countries, and students from those countries to America. You can apply here <http://www.yesprograms.org/country/turkey>. It is a really great program, and I really recommend applying!

I came because I wanted to learn more about different countries and people. I didn't choose Turkey (the program choose for me, from 9 possible countries), but I am very glad that I come here. Everyone is very nice, and the food is so good. I am living with a Turkish family, and they will be like family to me forever. I can't wait to bring my family from America here, and show them my second home. Although being an exchange student can be difficult, I wouldn't want to be anywhere else.

As the school year ends, I find myself reflecting on the amazing year I have had. I have loved going to school here and I am sad that I can not come back next year. The teachers and the students have been so kind and welcoming, helping me to understand a new country and a new school. I have learned so much and I hope that my teachers and new friends have learned something, too. Thank you GKV, for everything

Readers for a blind teen

Community and Social Service Activity by Cemil Alevli College

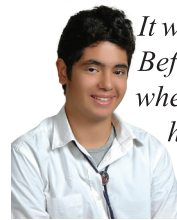
In order to increase awareness of their strengths and undertake new challenges, Cemil Alevli College students, as a vital part of their educational program, have initiated a project called "Readers for a Blind Teen." The Creativity-Action-Service (CAS) department has set up a reading service for a blind teen who is a language student in a public high school. Until now, this teen has had difficulty finding someone to read to her practice exams, cloze tests and English exam materials. Cemil Alevli students take turns reading to the blind teen twice a week after school with the co-ordination of the CAS core. The project has been designed so that each student will have completed two three-hour reading sessions by the end of the academic year. The objective of the project, which was developed by Cemil Alevli students, is to encourage development of new skills on many levels, including social skills with a sense of responsibility towards all members of the community. Furthermore, this project perfectly aligns with the objectives of the CAS portion of the IB Diploma Programme and can be expanded to meet CAS requirements once Cemil Alevli has been authorized as an IB DP School.

Hello, my name is Benay Gozkaman, I'm eighteen years old and I am a blind girl. I am attending the 12th grade at Gaziantep IMKB Anatolian High school. I live in Gaziantep. Next year I will go to university and at the end of this semestre I will be taking the university entrance exam like others. So I have to work hard to get a good score. For me, studying with a lot of volunteer people reading books, tests and quizzes to me really helps. My parents are working, so they don't have much time for helping me in my studies. I'm happy to say that this project is not only helping me for my studies but also engaging me and non-disabled teenagers to each other. I am really thankful to everybody who are working for this project and I hope the other disabled children can benefit from this project.

Benay GOZKAMAN

First of all, I was very excited and confused before I had met Benay. Yet as soon as I met her, the moment she talked to me happily, I realised that she has a very special thing. I don't know what it is, but she is beautiful with what she has inside her. It wasn't a hard or a difficult task to accomplish reading a text to a friend. I helped Benay and I'm very happy.

Begüm Koçer CA/Hz



It was a new experience for me and I was very excited and scared before reading. Before the reading I didn't trust myself because I hadn't done this before. Yet when we started reading, Benay understood my feelings and she talked about herself; also I talked to her about my life so I realised I liked her very much and she is the best sister for me. I hope she will be successful.

Oğulcan Cenkcimenoğlu CA/Hz

I was very excited on my way to the office. It was my first time reading a text for someone. Although I faced some difficulties like fear of reading the text the wrong way, I enjoyed every second of it, especially when she told me that my accent sounds like American people. She was a very friendly and optimistic person and it will always be my pleasure to help her. I'm looking forward to our next session.

Erdem Ersoy CA/Hz



On The Way to Germany via Lions Clubs

Ege Berkay GÜLCAN F11/B

I first found out about the Lions Clubs Youth Exchange Programme exam when our teacher announced it. I was very excited about the exam so that I could have the opportunity to go to foreign countries, meet new people and experience their cultures.

I applied for it and in a short time I entered the exam. The exam wasn't as hard as I expected and then I had an interview with one of the Lions Clubs members about my level of English. In two or three weeks' time, the results were announced and finally I was one of the students who had the chance to visit a foreign country. As a result, this summer I'm going to Germany because I also want to improve my level of German too. I wish luck to all students who want to take this exam.

Two More CAS activities held by Cemil Alevli College students

On the 20th March 2013, a seminar "Tips for Healthy Nutrition" organised by Müge Peltek, held in our conference hall and took great attention.



In addition to that Cemil Alevli College students contributed to the seminar by preparing and displaying healthy snacks at the entrance of the seminar. As a CAS Project the major aim was to create awareness of healthy nutrition in the school environment.

KITE FEST



This year the 2nd graders have read a number of stories in English.



One of them was 'The Kite', which helped the kids build up the value of tolerance. The story became the source of inspiration for the idea of a 'Kite Fest' where each class made their own kites, decorated them, and then wrote on them some of the values that they believe in. Finally, the students let their kites fly high up in the sky, wishing that their dreams would come true. A fun way to improve their English skills and to reinforce some important values in life at the same time!

PERSONAL MAGAZINES

BY GKV STUDENTS

Fifth grade students have had a great and effective year full of activities, songs, role-playing and hard work.



From the beginning of the year they have prepared their own magazine about different and interesting topics. It aims to improve students' reading, researching, comprehension and writing skills. In addition, creating such a magazine with their own effort and collaboration makes the students very happy and proud, and also motivates them to learn by using real-life things, which is more effective and memorable.



DAVID EVANS

SPORTS & MUSIC in ELT



On the 12th March 2013 David Evans, an author for National Geography, did an amazing workshop for the GKV English teachers in the GKV theatre hall.

The main idea of the session was to bring real life issues to the classroom to raise teenagers' motivation. The audience left the session with lots of practical ideas to try out in their classes.

GKV Staff @ IATEFL, Liverpool

Sultan Ulu with Carol Read, the president of IATEFL



'With over 4000 members, IATEFL (International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language) is one of the most thriving communities of ELT teachers in the world. Our mission is to link, develop and support English Language Teaching professionals worldwide...'

IATEFL Team

In order to keep in touch with current developments in this area, the Head of the English Department Sultan Ulu, who is a member of IATEFL, participated in the 47th annual IATEFL Conference in Liverpool, England.

'It was amazing to meet colleagues from all over the globe and to see what they are planning for future years. The most difficult and also the most exciting part of the conference was to pick a session to participate in from among the hundreds presented by the ELT experts, veteran teachers, teacher trainers, and authors.

I have doubled my network of contacts so now I have friends all over the world, which makes me thrilled.' commented Sultan Ulu .

Six-session workshop @ GKV



As a British Council teacher trainer, GKV Head of English Department Sultan Ulu enthusiastically devotes her time and energy not only to organizing but also to delivering a series of workshops every year in Gaziantep and in neighbouring cities.

In the 2012 – 2013 Academic Year, she organized six workshops, the topics of which were determined by the BC trainer team. All the sessions were presented successfully in front of an enthusiastic

audience in the GKV theatre hall. At the final session, in May 2013, the participants received their certificates recognized by the British Council.

Exchanging pictures online

Since the GKV 5th grade students joined the association of Cambridge English Penfriends at the beginning of the academic year, they have made friends with other English learners around the world through this fun activity. Furthermore, they have designed and shared cards with English learners at Colegio Americano de Tabasco, which is their partner school. The cards are based on a theme – the current theme is ‘Amazing Animals’.

<https://penfriends.cambridgeenglish.org/cardupload.php>



Spelling Bee Contest

In order to draw pupils' attention to spelling and to create awareness about how important spelling is in English, the GKV English teachers organized a

'Spelling Bee Contest' among the 2nd graders. The kids were so successful that they went into extra-time to declare the winners.



GKV & SMS STUDENTS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2013

At the beginning of this educational year after many negotiations with St. Mark's Senior Secondary Public School in Janakputi, New Delhi, India, we started a new school partnership.

Our new sister school is officially invited to our school as a part of student exchange and cultural programme to attend our Annual International Folk Dance and Spring Festival as our guest of honour. Through exchange programmes, we always intend to give our students an opportunity to communicate and collaborate with students from different cultures. In this process, they'd exchange and learn the culture and traditions of each other, share their knowledge in the field of dance, curricular and extra-curricular activities.

The school motto 'Loyalty, Truth and Honour' conveys the school's expectations from the students. The staff and the management of St. Mark's strives, not only to provide for every student to gain authentic exposure to the culture of different countries, but also imbue them with social awareness and pride in their cultural heritage. St. Mark's Senior Secondary Public School, Meera Bagh, is a co-educational medium institution. It has a strength of 3800 students. The school works with several International



Organisations, including Asia Europe Class Network, Tony Blair Foundation, iEARN, EPals, Global Virtual Classroom, and more. Loyalty, truth and honour.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK! WE HAVE A GUEST!

Yeah! What you have heard is true. This year our Indian guests will visit our country for the first time. Our guests are coming to GKV on the 25th of May and will be hosted until the 3rd of June. I heard that they have

been preparing a dance show for our Annual Spring Festival. The show will be amazing. Because, as far as I know, they are rich in culture and talented. I'm sure it will be a great success. I'm looking forward to meeting them. I'm so excited. This is my first experience of hosting a guest abroad. At this point, I am aware of the great opportunity of cultural exchange.

Are we ready for the big experience?
I'm sure you say "Yeahh!"

Alhan BABAT
AL9/A

ATTENTION EVERYONE! MAKING MYSELF HEARD

GKV students are partnering with our sister school in India, St. Mark's School in New Delhi. The project is called "I Magz Making Myself Heard," and is an on-line e-magazine where students from all over the world can write about nearly anything, in various genres from poetry to short stories, book reviews to recipes. The first edition has already been posted on the Internet at <http://anax1em.pressmart.com/StMarksSchool/>.



Our students are busy working on writings which has been under supervision of our two English teachers that they can put into the next issue.

GKV Little Authors



Since the GKV English Department is a strong believer in critical thinking, we try to encourage curricular and / or extra-curricular activities that boost creativity and critical thinking abilities. For this reason, the 3rd graders were encouraged to create their own stories with some guidance from their teachers but without any interruption to their imagination. When the stories were ready, the students exchanged them with their friends, read them and then wrote reviews about the ones they had read, which provided the little authors with a huge number of real readers. Now, these charming stories are waiting for other readers on the special shelves allotted to them in the GKV Library.

MUNESCO Conference at Bilkent Laboratory International School

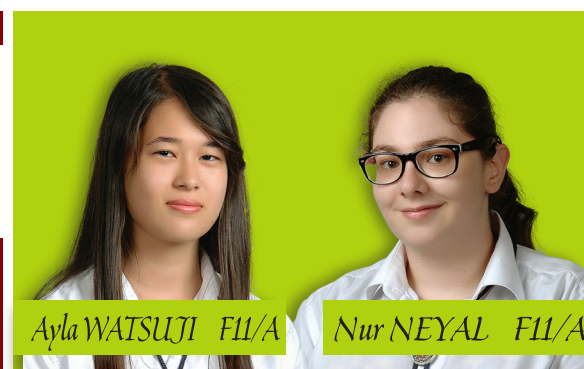
GKV students attended their first Model United Nations conference of the 2012-2013 academic year.

The 9th annual Model United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization conference was held at Bilkent Laboratory International School in Ankara on 21-24 March, 2013. Five students from GKV participated: Ayla Watsuji, our club president, Nur Neyal, Saralinda Schell, Elif Ece Uçar, and Erdem Ersoy, along with their MUN advisor, Lisa Shannon. Our delegation represented the United Arab Emirates.

The opening ceremony on Thursday evening was followed by a dinner at the Bilkent hotel. On Friday students lobbied in their committees and worked together to write resolutions. On Saturday and Sunday they debated on these resolutions. All of our delegates performed well; all made speeches and got a lot of floor time, asking questions to other delegates. On Saturday



night there was a dinner for students, followed by a dance at the Marriott Hotel. The conference was a wonderful experience for our students. Everyone got a chance to learn about world issues, improve their speaking skills, meet new friends, and drink Starbucks's coffee!



Ayla WATSUJI F11/A

Nur NEYAL F11/A

GKV at UNESCO Conference

Our School's MUN club attended a UNESCO conference which was held by Bilkent University. This conference was a type of MUN conference. MUN conference is simply, as we can understand from its name, a model of the United Nations assembly. What we did in those conferences was to represent the countries which had been assigned to us. So we debated and voted on behalf of those countries. First of all, we had chosen the topics that we were going to debate. Then we had done a lot of research on these topics and after that we started to write our draft resolutions. During our club hours we practiced debating and we learned how to use diplomatic language. We debated about the topics such as censorship of the Internet, carbon credits, blood feuds, religious education systems and terrorism in the Middle East. In UNESCO we represented the United Arab Emirates. It was a very useful conference for all of us.

“My Dream” by English Drama Club

Under the coordination of English teachers Nilüfer Bolat and Dilek Yılmaz, Gaziantep College Foundation Private Middle School English Drama Club presented their play “My Dream” with the participation of 5th, 6th and 7th grade students. The play, which was about a young man’s American dream, was

admired by the audience. The students’ performance and the last party scene, dance show, deserved praise from parents and teachers. The performance has contributed to the personal development, confidence building and mainly to the application of English in several different environments.



The Musical “GYPSY” hit GKV

The magnificent musical Gypsy was successfully performed on the 14th of May at the Atatürk Cultural Center of Gaziantep University by the GKV High School English Drama Club.



The original musical has been performed several times on Broadway and received the Tony Award for best revival. Gypsy is a book by Arthur Laurents based on a show-business mother’s efforts and dreams to raise two daughters to perform on stage. During the GKV performance the energy and light was truly shown on stage with gorgeous costumes and dances contributed by one of our club members Alhan Babat and our PE teacher Meltem Seçilir, which aroused



huge applause. The audience was splendid throughout the whole show. We would like to thank the highly dedicated efforts of our English Drama Club and teachers.

