

Future of English

English-Language Teaching and Assessment: Evolving Together

Abstract

We are living through a period where the pace of change seems relentless, and this changing world has implications for the use, teaching, learning and assessment of the English language.

The objectives of this hybrid session are three-fold:

Firstly, we will shed light on the prospective developments of English language assessment, drawing on recent research under the <u>Future of English</u> programme initiated by the British Council. We will share major insights from this global research, focusing specifically on the findings from Europe.

Secondly, we will present the Comprehensive Learning System proposed by O'Sullivan (2020) and discuss the role of assessment as part of a wider educational system, and as an integral part of teaching and learning.

Finally, through a group activity, we would like to share some of the curated lesson plans with you, centring around the topic of assessment (as well as other relevant topics for young people today), for secondary students CEFR A1-C2.

Be prepared to engage and take away ideas and resources from our presentation.



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Online Speakers

• Katie Halley is a researcher for the Future of English (FoE) hub at the British Council, based in Stratford, London. Her background is in English Language, Applied Linguistics, and Language Testing. As well as her work for the FoE, Katie is the PhD student for the digital English as a Medium of Instruction grant project at CRELLA, the University of Bedfordshire, UK. Prior to her role for the FoE, Katie completed her BA and MA at the University of Reading where she attained the Alan Tonkyn Dissertation award and Prize for Outstanding achievement for her studies. Katie's areas of interest are in speaking assessment/skills, multimodality, the digital medium, and Embodied Resources.



O Jake Macmillan is the Future of English Programme Manager at the British Council based in Bogotá, Colombia. His professional career has taken him from the UK to Mexico to Colombia. Along the way, he has held various roles in the education sector including teacher, teacher trainer, exam centre manager, project manager, and business development director. Prior to this role, Jake led the British Council's exams work in Chile, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela, collaborating with stakeholders in schools, universities, government and beyond. He was also the project manager for the 2021 New Directions in English Language Assessment Conference LATAM.

