



ASL TWINS Skills Sharing Workshop For English Teachers

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION FOR WORKSHOP 2

Background

In January 2008, AdoptSriLanka TWINS ran a pilot Skill Sharing Workshop for English Teachers in the Galle Education Zone. As a result of the positive feedback received from the Galle Zonal Office and all participants, ASL TWINS ran Stage 2 of this workshop on Friday 28th March 2008.

This workshop was run in the same region to enable ASL TWINS to gain further feedback from previous participants to enhance future workshops to be held in other Educational Zones. Two UK teachers (Mary Yuille and Susan Allen) who facilitated activities in the previous workshop offered to facilitate activities in another workshop along with Ava Hunt, Susan's colleague and a university drama lecturer.

Aim

This workshop aimed to enable English teachers to:

- further explore techniques shared in Workshop 1
- explore creative and interactive methods of teaching English through the use of drama

Outcomes

The workshop:

- inspired and motivated teachers with innovative activities
- encouraged teachers to network and share information and ideas
- showed teachers how they can improve the standard and variety of activities in their English Activity Rooms
- made teachers aware of new teaching techniques and activities
- increased the confidence of teachers to try out different activities
- gathered information on activities being successfully used in the classroom to create additions to the ASL TWINS English Handbook for Teachers

ASL TWINS English Activity Handbook for Teachers – Volume 2

Each teacher attending the workshop received one copy (for their school) of the ASL TWINS English Activity Handbook for Teachers. This updated version included activities contributed by the participants of Workshop 1. At Workshop 2, over 35 new activities were contributed by participants which will be added to Volume 3 of the handbook. Teachers with copies of Volume 1 of the handbook received update sheets of all the new activities which can be inserted to their handbook.

Educational DVD

The workshops and demonstration classes were filmed and will be included in an educational DVD. Footage will also be taken of teachers from Thalpapawila Mihindu Model Primary running a class in their English Activity Room. The Galle Education Zonal Office has agreed to coordinate the loaning of this DVD to clusters of schools who will meet as small groups to watch the DVD and discuss their ideas.

Participants

All ASL TWINS Schools in the Galle Educational Zone were invited to participate as well as a further 39 teachers from Galle Schools recommended by the Galle Zonal Education Office. In total, 45 teachers attended the workshop including one teacher from the Rainbow Centre and three UK volunteers who are currently working in Sri Lankan schools. 4 teachers from the Thalpapawila Mihindu Model Primary School also attended as they will host the Matara Workshop later in 2008.

The Assistant Director for Education and English from the Galle Zonal Education Office attended the day and also granted Duty Leave to all teachers present.

Please see Attachment A for full participant list.

Coordination Team

This workshop was coordinated by 3 key members of the ASL TWINS Team, Bec Lyons (General Manager ASL), Saman Kumara (TWINS Field Officer) and Anusha Liyanage (TWINS Field Officer) in consultation with the three UK Teacher Facilitators as well as the Galle Zone Education Office. Extra assistance was provided by 4 other members of the ASL Team on the day of the workshop.

Teacher Trainers

The workshop activities were facilitated by 5 'teacher champions' 3 from the UK and 2 from Galle TWIN Schools. Each workshop was run 3 times by the facilitator.

Mary Yuille	Ran 1 demonstration primary class and one workshop activity
Ava Hunt	Ran 1 demonstration secondary drama class and one workshop activity
Sue Allen	Ran one workshop activity
Mrs Menik	Ran one workshop activity
Mr Buddhika	Ran one workshop activity

Summary of Evaluation

The 2 page Evaluation Form was given to participants at the end of the workshop and was completed in written format in approximately 15 minutes. A brief evaluation discussion also took place and was recorded on DVD.

The first section of the Evaluation Rating System – (1= very poor, 5= good, 10= excellent)

How well did ASL TWINS plan this workshop?

87%= excellent 13%= good/very good

Has the workshop helped you to feel more confident?

96%= excellent 4%= good/very good

How useful did you find this workshop?

94%= excellent 6%= good/very good

Would you recommend this to other teachers?

100%= Yes

How useful would be TWINS handbook?

98%= excellent 2%= good/very good

What skills or information did you gain from the workshop?

- Listening (27)
- Speaking (32)
- Reading (23)
- Writing (21)
- Learning through drama (13)
- Language Games (2)
- Building sentences
- Self confidence
- Ability to engage the children in active participation
- The importance of learning English through fun activities, games and dramas
- The importance of group activities
- Make language learning enjoyable
- Make resources which are reusable in the classroom
- New techniques using sounds, dramas, reading, writing and listening skills
- Smiling and being friendly and approachable is so important!
- Children should not feel discluded, intimidated or bored.
- It refreshed ideas that I had forgotten about!
- Inspired and motivated me to try new things in the classroom
- Importance of dramatic presentations in the classroom
- Importance of listening and speaking skills
- Pronunciation using sounds
- Importance of teaching sounds at the beginning
- Reading stories with drama is very good
- To create the situation to use the language in a stress free situation

Which activity will you try first in the classroom?

- Drama (11)
- Speaking activities (10)

- Language Games (5)
- Fruit Salad - Changing chairs by calling the names of the fruits (5)
- Drama – What are you doing? (4)
- Phonetics (3)
- Passing the ball game (3)
- Warm up games, songs etc (3)
- BBC News (2)
- Listening activity (2)
- Lessons with sounds and games (2)
- Mirror
- Listening
- I will try them all over time! Why not?

What are your students' main learning needs?

- Speaking (10)
- Reading (4)
- Writing (3)
- Listening (3)
- The four skills
- To feel comfortable and confident in trying out a new skill. This skill opens doors in their futures and makes them feel encouraged to broaden horizons.
- The time for a child to learn the language is not enough. They are not fully exposed to English if they are more exposed it is good.
- Gain knowledge for exams
- Communication
- To have a better profession
- More games and songs (to overcome the fatigue)
- To cope with the society and to pass the examinations
- Practical knowledge
- Fun and happiness to learn English
- More speaking opportunities
- Grammar
- Simple phonetics
- Preparing simple activities that suit their level
- To learn simple language one step at a time
- More opportunities and correct guidance
- A good classroom with silence
- Vocabulary
- Language functions
- They need English for future job prospects, confidence and empowerment

What resources do you think will be most useful for you to use in your EAR?

- Story books with big pictures (10)
- Flash cards (9)
- Cassettes (9)
- CDs and VCDs (7)
- Pictures (7)
- Visual Aids (3)
- Overhead projector (2)
- Game sets (2)
- Reading materials (2)
- This type of workshop

- Good teacher training programs
- Drama requires just ourselves so this is great!
- Our body and imagination are our best resources
- Pens
- Glue
- Paint
- Books
- Relevant books
- Interesting simple activities
- Blackboard or white board
- Experienced teachers
- Materials to make things
- Any resource or material is good when it is well prepared.
- Everything useful for creating activities

What changes would you make to the workshop?

- Make it longer with more activities (11)
- Should do one activity from each text book/Activities relating to the text book (4)
- More activities (3)
- More games and activities (3)
- More support for upper classes such as O/L students (2)
- Relate the new techniques to existing methods (look at pages in the text book and then demonstrate interesting activities from them) (2)
- Activities to develop writing ability
- More clearer listening activities
- Better to have the workshop over 2 days or more
- Have this type of workshop at least once per month
- Have more workshops like this
- More activities suitable for upper levels
- Include a few songs familiar to pupils
- More emphasis on how to take a lesson directly out of the syllabus and deliver it to the students in an accessible and fun way. Teachers are very nervous to stray from the text book so this would be very valuable
- Text based activities
- We hope more and more innovative methods of teaching further
- Add more and more speaking activities
- A good knowledge and experience from the Drama teacher
- It is better to find a venue with enough facilities to hold the workshops
- If you can give copies of songs, dramas and language games it is better

Any further comments?

- We would like more workshops (4)
- We would like other teachers from our school to have this opportunity (2)
- Great! You have done a great job
- Immense thanks for you enormous courage and service for us
- The workshop is very useful
- Very successful!
- To do the lessons demonstrating with pupils is great!
- I think you have done a very important work within a short period. Thank you very much.
- All the teacher champions were great examples of enthusiasm and positivity!
- Maybe do an activity based on how a student feels in the classroom to focus on inclusion. The learning outcome for the teacher would be to become aware of including

all children, making sure they leave the classroom feeling successful. Focus on reward schemes. The session could highlight classroom arrangement, furniture for example.

- Excellent, fantastic workshop. Well organised. Well done! Thank you!
- Please try to educate the Sri Lankan government about the workload and the burden to children by enforcing teaching in foreign tongue
- Your work is fabulous and wonderful. Your hard work helps a lot to improve our teaching.
- This was a successful workshop. I feel you will hold some more workshops. Good luck!
- Basically well content of the organizing – treating the participants well by providing refreshments well
- Please let us know your future workshops!!
- Please invite us to the next workshop
- I would like to participate again in this type of workshop
- We highly appreciate your demonstrations which were done with the students.
- This was a very valuable workshop. It was different from the seminars. I like this. This was my first workshop, and like to come for the future ones. Thank you for organizing something like this.
- If you can run a workshop on Grade 5 text book it will be very valuable to us.
- These workshops are more interesting. Very practical. Can be adopted to our children. Thank you so much for the work you have done. We have already practiced these in our activity room.

Summary

Fantastic feedback has been received by facilitators, participants and the Galle Zonal Education Office. Witnessing the workshop, it was evident that teachers felt energised and excited by the opportunity to learn new techniques that they felt students would enjoy and therefore learn from. Many teachers commented that the handbook was very useful in their classrooms and they used it regularly. Many teachers requested invitations to future workshops.

Future Workshops

ASL TWINS has already been granted permission by the Matara Zonal Education Office to run a Skill Sharing Workshop in 'Region 2'. The Galle Zonal Office has also contacted us since the workshop to inform us that they will give us their full cooperation for any future workshops.

ASL TWINS plans to hold the next workshop in Matara Zone at Thalpapwila Mihindu Model Primary due to the school having an excellent example of an English Activity Room, ample classrooms for additional workshop space and a team of motivated and talented English teachers who are all eager to facilitate sessions at the next workshop. This workshop will be held in Term 2 2008 in consultation with the Matara Zonal Office.

ASL TWINS is seeking teachers from abroad to facilitate activities at ASL TWINS Workshops (along with Sri Lankan teachers). This will be promoted through the ASL website and the TWINS newsletters encouraging teachers who will be visiting their Sri Lankan TWIN schools to also prepare an activity for the TWINS workshops.

The ASL TWINS English Activity Handbook will continue to be updated and one copy will be given to each school who attends a workshop (with update sheets being posted out to all previous participants after each new Volume is produced).

ATTACHMENT A

ASL TWINS Skill Sharing Workshop – Workshop 2 Registrations

	School Name	Participating Teacher	Year Levels
1	G/Howpe Maha Vidyalaya	Hemanthi Priyadrshani Keppitiyagama	Grade 6 to 10
2	Dr. Richard Pathirana Vidyalaya	Ramywa Kanthi Kumarage	Grade 3 and Grade 5
3	G/ Anula Devi Balika Vidyalaya	M.M. Vajira Kumudu	Grade 9 and Grade 12
4	Buona Vista Primary School	N.K.M Ravindra Premalal	Grades 1 to 5
5	G/ Mihiripenna Dhammarathna M. V.	Shirani Wijesiri Gunawardena	Grades 4, 6, 9, 10
6	G/ Gintota Maha Vidyalaya	Senanayaka Senvavirathna Herath Mudiyanselage Nalindranath	Grade 9, 10, 12
7	B.R. Dissanayake Junior School	M.A. Premadasa Chandrasiri	Grades 4, 7
8	G/ Dharmarama A.K.V	Louku Kankanamage Chandrika Peiris	Grades 2 and 3
9	G/ Navinna Muslim K.V	Thivanka Ranchigoda Wijesekera	Grade 3, 4, 6, 9 10
10	G/ Uswathun Hasana M.V.	Maduwege Niranja Lasanthi	Grade 6, 7, 8 and 9
11	G/ Thittagalla Dombagoda M.V.	Deegala Durage Sisira Nishantha	Grades 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 12
12	G/ Panchaliya Maha Vidyalaya, Dikkumbura	Mugana Kanakamge Kamala Wijenayake	Grades 6, 8, 9, 10 and 11
13	G/ Sulaimaniya	Rajika Edirisinghe	Primary and Grade 8
14	G/Ihalugoda Vijaya Maha Vidyalaya	Mrs. Kasun Gana Gangoda Vithanage	7, 9, 10, 11, 12
15	G/ Pinnaduwa Jayanthi M.V	Chandrika Suranganie Weerasinghe Pathirana	3, 4, 8
16	G/ Paramananda Maha Vidyalaya	Nootunna Badalge Mangala Preethi	3 and 5
17	G/ Martin Wickramasinghe V	Samanthi Deepika Wijesekera Abeynayake	5 and 11
18	G/ Keembiya Gamini M.V.	Kottawa Gamage Yamuna Nandani Jayathillaka	6, 7, 8, 9, 11
19	G/ St Anthony's College – Baddegama	Luise Anthony Vidanelage Nayanna Darshanee	6, 7, 8, 9
20	G// Hinidumgoda Vijayananda K.V	Puwakdandawa Lokuarharige Sangeethika Jothipala	Grade 5, 7, 9, 11
21	G/ Thiththagalla Atanikitha Kanishta	A.A. Palliyaguru	Grades 5, 7, 8
22	G/Welhengoda Sri Gunarathna MV	K.A. Deepika Kamard	Grades 3, 7, 9
23	G/Welideniya K.V.	Midipolawatta Kankanamge Damitha Jayodanie	Grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
24	G/Thotagoda Attadassi M.V	Aththotage Priyantha Jayasiri	Grades 9, 10, 11
25	G/ Ukwatta K.V	Thibbotuwa Deniye Kankanamge Sumithra	Grades 3, 4, 5, 11
26	G/Dangedara Jayawardane M.V.	Adikarana Galgodallage Bianka Lalani Dias	Grades 6, 7 and 4
27	G/Dikkumbura Sr Siddhartha Navodya School	Mrs. Nayana Janakie Delapalage	Grades 4, 9, 10, 11 and 13
28	Ahangama Rohana School	J.N. Pandigama	

29	Presidents College	M.K.G.S Ariyawansa	
30	G/ Aththiligoda Sudharshi Maha Vidyalaya	Hewa Kondaramage Saroja Kumari Wijesekara	Grades 6, 7, 8 and 11
31	Marawala M.V	D.J. Jayasinghe	Primary
32	Dangedara Jayawardena MV	Ashoka Gamage	Secondary
33	Rathanasara MV	M.K. Hapuarachi	All
34	Dangedara Jayawardena MV	H.P. Vitahatchi	All
35	Dikkumbura Sri Siddartha	Mr. Buddhika Rathnayake	
36	Dikkumbura Primary	Mrs. Manek Dissanayake	Primary
Attendees not requiring Duty Leave through Galle Education Zonal Office			
37	Thalpawila Mihindu Model Primary	K.M.P.Rajawaththa	Primary
38	Thalpawila Mihindu Model Primary	Ruchira Milani Liyanaarachchi	Primary
39	Thalpawila Mihindu Model Primary	N.C.Basnayaka	Primary
40	Thalpawila Mihindu Model Primary	S.R. Sriyani	Primary
41	Wellengoda and Tittigalla	Emily Marshall	1 to 10
42	Mihiripenna and Welhengoda	Beth Perry	Primary
43	Thomas Gall International School	M.S. Malkanthi	Grade 2
44	Rainbow Centre - Bentota	Harry	All
45	Rainbow Centre - Bentota	N. Kumarasinghe	All
46	Dhamarama, Dikumbura Primary, Andugoda	Mary Yuille (UK)	Primary
47	Ihalugoda Vijaya	Susan Allen (UK)	High School
48	Ihalugoda Vijaya	Ava Hunt (UK)	High School /University



Morning Registrations



Ava Hunt's Drama Class Demonstration



Sue Allen's Workshop



Ava Hunt's Drama Workshop



Mary Yuille's Primary Class Demonstration



Mrs Menik's Listening Activities Workshop



Mr Buddhika's Speaking Activities Workshop



Evaluation Discussion