

NOVEMBER 1, 25

SATURDAY

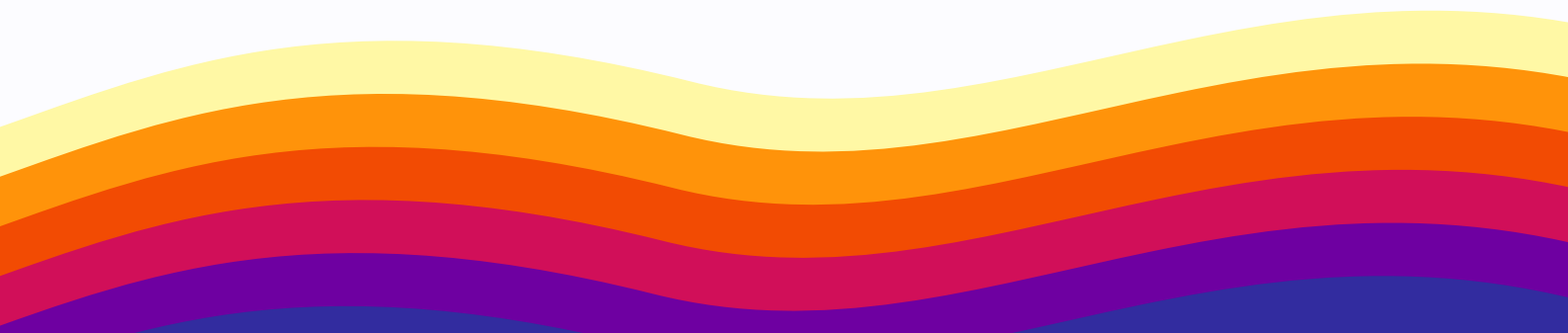
8:30 — 18:00

# Teacher Empowerment Day

at Bronevoy Lane, 15a  
Minsk, Belarus

**33** SPEAKERS    **6** STREAMS

Join the **Methodological English Teacher Conference** — a day of inspiration and growth to learn, and empower your teaching journey!



# **BRONEVOY LANE, 15A, FLOOR 4**

## **8:30 — 9:15 AM: REGISTRATION**

### **Location: Central Hall**

Start your day with a warm welcome and pick up your conference materials.

### **Meet & Greet**

Connect with fellow educators and build new professional relationships.

Stay ahead with insights into the latest teaching trends and methodologies in language education with 33 lectors.

Navigate legal challenges to strengthen your educational organization.



9:15 — 09:30

**Opening Speech by Dmitry Mironov****Dmitry Mironov***The Republican Institute for the Control of Knowledge*

Welcome remarks from Dmitry Mironov.  
Kick off the day with inspiration for teachers' empowerment.



9:30 — 10:10

**Hippo The English Language Contest for Students****Galina Kaptiug***CEO and Founder of Moonlight Language School, Cambridge Celta holder, Cambridge Delta holder, Teacher Trainer, Material Designer, Regular Speaker at ELT Events***10:10 — 10:30 AM: COFFEE BREAK**

## STREAM 1

**Beyond the Drill: Transforming Test Prep into Engaging, High-Impact Learning****Kate Naumovich**

*TEFL holder, General English teacher with over 20 years of experience, CT expert, teacher trainer, creative tutor, MA in linguistics*

Feel like test prep is a necessary evil that drains your classroom's energy? It doesn't have to be.

This session is dedicated to rescuing test preparation from monotony and transforming it into a time of high engagement and measurable growth. We will tackle the central challenge of covering necessary content while keeping students actively learning and mentally resilient. Discover practical strategies to replace monotonous drills with dynamic, collaborative review that builds critical thinking and confidence. Leave ready to foster a studying environment where test prep is an engaging challenge, not a tedious chore.

## STREAM 2

**Common Myths About Reaching C1/C2 That Hold You Back****Shukufa Suleymanova**

*English teacher and teacher trainer for C1–C2 levels*

Many teachers feel dissatisfied with their own level of English, often because they fall into hidden traps when working on their language development.

This session uncovers some of the most common myths about reaching and maintaining C1/C2 proficiency, and explains why they can hold even experienced teachers back. Participants will gain an actionable framework for improving or sustaining an advanced level of English. By the end of the session, you will be able to design a personalized study routine that fits your goals and preferences.

## STREAM 3

**When Local Meets Global: Designing a Coursebook That Made It to the ELTons****Yauheni Radzetski**

*English language educator, curriculum designer, materials writer, teacher trainer and translator*

Every teacher knows how challenging it is to find materials that suit their learners' needs. But what happens when you take the liberty of creating your own?

In this talk, I will share the journey behind 'Converse Across the Universe: Managing Cross-Cultural Communication', a bespoke coursebook I co-authored for Belarusian adult learners of English, which went on to become an ELTons Award finalist in the category 'Local Innovation'.

I will reflect on the difficulties encountered and lessons learned along the way and show how teachers can turn small ideas into meaningful content.

## STREAM 4

**Let's Discover Belarus Together****Natallia Sedunova**

*CELTA tutor, one of the authors of Magic Box series*

The presentation is offering an overview of the series 'Read and Discover Belarus'. It will give you a glimpse of how the books were born and how a group of authors combined their experience and their love to the country where we live.

You are going browse the range of topics and formats at different levels, which can motivated schoolchildren. You will also look at the main principles behind the methodology and see what's in it for you.

You may enjoy being in learners' shoes and experience some of the stories first hand to get the taste and shares our attitudes.

**STREAM 5**    **Task-Based Learning with Young Learners****Maria Demenchuk**

*My Baby, Brest, IELTS-certified tutor with 30+ years of experience and international qualifications*

Master one of the hottest ELT trends of 2024, TBLT is an approach that encourages students to actively use language as a tool for achieving a goal, regardless of level. Thanks to the method, teachers identify the educational needs of students and ensure more effective development of productive skills. At the workshop we will delve into: Challenges of using TBLT with elementary and middle school students. Examples of tasks that correspond to different levels of development and abilities of students. How and when to use these tasks to develop language skills.

**STREAM 6**    **Level Up Your Vocabulary: Gamifying the Grind****Anna Podoliaka**

*Cambridge Celta holder, game designer and gaming teacher, material writer and methodologist*

Here it is. A page packed with topic vocabulary, phrasal verbs, prepositional phrases, word formation units, word patterns and what not. We've all been there, right? Faced with this... "vocabulary heap". How to approach it? The traditional approach? Read, translate, memorize... feels a bit like climbing Everest in flip-flops, ineffective and awkward.

By gamifying vocabulary exercises, we can transform the often-dreaded grind into a truly engaging and effective learning experience.

Let's empower our students to 'use' the language, not just memorize it.

## STREAM 1

**Transforming Grammar Chaos into CT Clarity: Mind Mapping the Path to Exam Success.****Marina Zarembo**

*EFL Teacher, CAE holder, CT expert, Teacher Trainer*

This presentation addresses the challenge of grammar overload faced by students preparing for the Centralized Testing (CT) exam. It introduces mind mapping as a powerful tool to extract essential grammar concepts and create a structured, accessible knowledge base. Attendees will learn practical techniques for constructing both theoretical and applied mind maps tailored to the CT format. The session will demonstrate how to analyze exam questions, identify common traps, and use mind maps for efficient problem-solving. By transforming grammar chaos into clarity, this workshop aims to equip teachers with strategies to empower students, foster a deeper understanding of grammar, and ultimately improve exam performance.

This targeted approach will unlock grammar mastery and navigate students towards confident CT success.

## STREAM 2

**Teaching High Level Students****Volha Sak**

*EFL Teacher, MA in Philology, Cambridge Delta holder, Cambridge CELTA holder.*

In her talk, Volha will share some useful tips on teaching students with a high level of English proficiency C1 (an IELTS score of between 7 and 8).

This practical session delves into the specific challenges and opportunities of teaching C1 students. We will explore strategies to push learners beyond their comfort zone, moving them from understanding complex texts to producing sophisticated, spontaneous language.

The talk will address how to effectively correct errors at this advanced stage and help students develop their ideas with greater depth and coherence. You will also gain insights into preparing learners for the unique demands of C1-level exams and presentations. Ultimately, we will discuss what it truly means to be a C1 student across all skills and how to ensure they are genuinely operating at this advanced tier.

Join and discover actionable techniques that will empower your high-level learners to achieve greater fluency and accuracy.

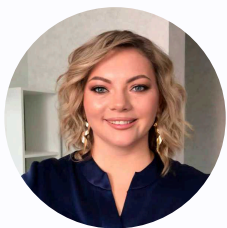
**STREAM 3****The Art of Teaching Unplugged: a Dogme Workshop****Yana Shavyarnovskaya**

*ELT teacher, Master of Pedagogy/ Pedagogical Sciences, TEFL/TESOL*

Have you ever dreamed about teaching students without books, presentations, handouts, audio/ video materials? I'm sure- yes!! Good news, colleagues! It's possible, exciting and professional.

Dogme approach can help us.

You'll plunge into 'materials- light' and conversation- driven lesson full of new ideas and experience.

**STREAM 4****Learning English Grammar and Vocabulary While Teambuilding****Natalia Maksimuk**

*ESL Teacher, 20 years' experience Material Writer*

Learning English grammar and vocabulary while engaging in team-building activities can be an effective and enjoyable way to enhance language skills.

Welcome to the workshop and you will learn how to Encourage team members to teach each other new words or grammar rules, fostering collaboration and reinforcing learning.

## STREAM 5

**Beyond the Fear: Making Mistakes Your Greatest Teaching/Learning Tool****Tatiana Varabyeva**

*English teacher, material designer and positive educator with a passion for creating engaging learning experiences*

What if the mistakes we diligently correct are actually the hidden engine of profound learning? We'll explore how to stop avoiding mistakes and start strategically using them to accelerate progress and unlock potential.

We'll discover how to empower our students to embrace challenges and speed up their journey to fluency.

## STREAM 6

**Present. Simple. Alive.****Alina Starikovich**

*English teacher, material designer and positive educator with a passion for creating engaging learning experiences*

What's more powerful than plans? What's more powerful than techniques?

What is it, without which any method falls apart?

What is it, that makes every system and concept come alive—or remain dead?

In this session, we'll explore the true power of Presence in teaching—how being fully in the moment transforms classrooms, connects with students, and brings learning to life beyond any plan or technique. This knowledge is not limited to the classroom; it has the power to transform every aspect of your life, creating deeper connection, awareness, and effectiveness in everything you do.

## STREAM 1

**Bridging the Gap: Helping Low-Level Students Build Confidence and Progress****Maryia Bylina**

*General English teacher, certified coach (ICF), CT exam expert, 20+ years of experience, teen motivation & exam preparation specialist.*

Many teenagers start learning English with low self-esteem and a strong belief that they “just can’t do it.”

In the presentation, I will share practical strategies and coaching-based techniques that help low-level learners rebuild confidence, notice their progress, and take ownership of their learning. Through emotional support, clear goal-setting, and visible success tracking, students begin to believe in their abilities — and that belief becomes the foundation for real progress.

Participants will leave with ready-to-use tools to create a safe, motivating classroom environment where every student can thrive.

## STREAM 2

**Rewriting Dictation: From Old School to Cool****Lena Okulskaya**

*International House, Minsk*

Dictation might feel like an old-fashioned classroom activity, but with a few fresh twists, it can become a fun and effective tool for improving listening, writing, and comprehension skills.

You’ll walk away with practical, easy-to-apply ideas that add variety to your lessons and make language learning more interactive and enjoyable for everyone.

## STREAM 3

**Festive Fun: Mastering Thanksgiving and Christmas Classes!****Heather Rice**

*Native Speaker, Cambridge Celta holder, Moonlight Language School*

In my workshop we'll explore innovative strategies for teaching Thanksgiving and Christmas classes!

This interactive session will provide educators with a treasure trove of creative activities, lesson plans, and cultural insights that bring the spirit of these holidays into the classroom.

Participants will learn tips for fostering student engagement, promoting cross-cultural understanding, and creating a warm, inclusive atmosphere. Whether you're a seasoned teacher or new to the profession, this workshop will equip you with practical tools and fresh ideas to make your holiday lessons memorable and impactful.

## STREAM 4

**Talk the Talk: Using Text-to-Speech Generators to Zhuzh Up Your English Classroom****Svetlana Kukharevich**

*English teacher, material designer and positive educator with a passion for creating engaging learning experiences.*

Discover creative ways to use text-to-speech generators to enhance learning, boost engagement, and zhuzh up your English classes! This webinar will show how AI voices can help students improve listening and fluency, and adding fun, variety, and authenticity to classroom activities.

Walk away with ready-to-use ideas, demo tools, and practical tips for integrating text-to-speech generators into your lessons to support student progress and creativity.

## STREAM 5

**Client Feedback as a Gem****Natalia Kaliuzina**

*ELT teacher, mentor, Head of Educational Centre, Master of Arts, CELTA holder, 20 years' experience*

In this talk, I will focus on client feedback as an important tool to promote you and your business.

At which stage do we collect client feedback and how do we do it? How do we deal with it and what do we do with the data? It's a talk about tutor / language school — client relationship and further promotion of our educational services.

Come if you are eager to understand a couple of marketing abbreviations and would like to upgrade your services to the next level.

## STREAM 6

**Effective Tools for Reducing Exam Anxiety****Aksana Starykava**

*Head of the Department of Philosophy and Humanitarian Problems in Education, Candidate of Pedagogical Sciences, Associate Professor at the Minsk City Institute for Educational Development*

This session will provide practical strategies to help students manage exam-related stress. Participants will explore innovative techniques to create a supportive classroom environment that fosters resilience and well-being. Additionally, the workshop will address effective collaboration between educators and families, empowering teachers to implement holistic approaches to student care. Enhance your teaching toolkit and discover valuable resources to help your students thrive during exams. Don't miss this opportunity to make a positive impact on your students' academic experience!

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*English teacher, material designer and positive educator with a passion for creating engaging learning experiences*

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**STREAM 2 Simplify to Amplify****Ivan Novik**

*MSLU teacher, Interpreter, Corporate Teacher*

Lesson preparation takes a tremendous amount of time and teachers may end up feeling overwhelmed. What if I suggest a powerful strategy and practical approach to teaching and rediscovering the power of simplicity?

A fresh perspective and a toolkit of high-impact techniques guaranteed.

## STREAM 3

## Hack Your Curriculum: The Power of Pragmatics



### Nadezhda Ushkevich

*Mentor, English & Spanish teacher, DELE C2, author of AI & methodology courses for foreign language teachers.*

Tired of the same coursebook exercises?  
What if you could transform your teaching, create instantly engaging lessons, and reclaim hours of your week?

Discover how Pragmatics—the secret tool of modern language teaching—is the key to diversifying your materials and slashing your lesson prep time. Stop teaching the language; start teaching communication.

This session will give you the blueprint.

## STREAM 4

## What makes a good educational game?



### Daria Yashchenkova

*Trendy English Russia*

It's common for teachers to use games with young learners in primary school. However, as students grow older, they often find simple «roll-and-move» games and quizzes boring.

But does that mean teenagers don't like to play? Even adults love games—the games just become more sophisticated.

In this session, we'll explore which types of games to avoid with learners aged 10+, and which ones you should definitely add to your teaching arsenal.

## STREAM 5

**Elevating Excellence: Mastering the Art of Teaching High-Level Students****Andi Akwa**

*Corporate teacher, Cambridge Celta Holder, 10+ years of teaching experience, Native Speaker*

Andi specializes in inspiring high-level students. In his talk, you will discover innovative strategies and practical tricks of the trade that empower advanced learners to reach their full potential.

Andi will share insights on fostering critical thinking, encouraging independent research, and creating a dynamic classroom environment that stimulates intellectual curiosity. With real-life examples and interactive discussions, this session will equip you with the tools needed to challenge and motivate your brightest students. Whether you're a veteran teacher or just starting out, this talk promises to transform your approach to high-level education

## STREAM 6

**The Power of Gamification in Your English Class****Olga Struchinskaya**

*International House, Minsk*

In this session we will:

- Discover engaging strategies to captivate students with fun, interactive learning.
- Master game mechanics to motivate even reluctant learners.
- Learn to replace dull textbook activities with creative exercises that encourage participation and teamwork.

Transform your classroom into an exciting learning adventure!

## STREAM 1

**Can we encompass the unencompassible while preparing for the centralized test?****Irina Kuzminova**

*Has over 30 years of teaching experience, founder of AstraEnglishClub и Astra School, co-author of books on English grammar, IELTS expert*

Is there a holistic technique that enables teachers to encompass the unencompassible while preparing students for the centralized test?

Is it possible to cover the multifarious material that school leavers have to study to nail the test and not struggle to navigate the preparation for it?

Is it feasible to juggle grammar, vocabulary, functional language, the list is inexhaustive, in one task?

It surely is, and this is what we are delighted to share with you in our presentation.

## STREAM 2

**Out of the Rubbish Bin****Anna Kiselyova**

*International House, Minsk*

This session focuses on everyday items we often throw away without a second thought. For young learners, these “throwaways” can become exciting, hands-on tools for learning and play.

You’ll discover how to give “garbage” a second life in your ESL classroom and use it to make lessons more engaging, creative, and fun.

## STREAM 3

**TBLA — Authentic Testing is the best!****Richard Fisher**

*USA certified Teacher with 25+ years of experience*

This session explores how task-based language assessment (TBLA) can transform the way English language teachers evaluate learners' real-world communication skills.

Unlike traditional tests that focus on discrete grammar or vocabulary items, TBLA emphasizes performance on meaningful, authentic tasks. Participants will learn how task-based assessment aligns with communicative teaching principles and supports deeper language use. The presentation will outline key features of effective task design and criteria for assessing task performance fairly and reliably. Practical examples from classroom and testing contexts will illustrate how TBLA can be integrated into existing curricula. Attendees will have opportunities to reflect on their own assessment practices and consider ways to make them more authentic and learner-centered. By the end of the session, teachers will gain concrete strategies and tools to implement task-based assessments that both measure and promote genuine language ability.

## STREAM 4

**Journey to Excellence: Elevate Your Teaching in England!****Yuliya Shareika**

*Coach, Travel Enthusiast*

Embark on an enriching adventure with my unique workshop designed for English teachers eager to enhance their professional skills! «Journey to Excellence» invites you to explore exciting travel opportunities in England that will transform your teaching practice. Discover how immersing yourself in the rich cultural tapestry of England can inspire innovative lesson plans and deepen your understanding of English language nuances.

Connect with like-minded educators, share insights, and gain fresh perspectives that will invigorate your teaching approach.

## STREAM 5

**Level Up Teaching: International Programmes for Professional Power****Tatyana Tolpeko**

*English teacher and UNESCO club curator at State Secondary school №4 of Soligorsk*

Discover how international programmes like Fulbright and ITEC can become powerful catalysts for your professional growth as an English teacher.

Explore global opportunities, gain practical insights, and inspiring examples to level up your professionalism through intercultural competence.

## STREAM 6

**Visualization in English Lessons: From Images to Thoughts****Olga Sikorskaya**

*English teacher at the State Educational Institution "Gymnasium No. 22 of Minsk", has the highest qualification category with 23 years of teaching experience.*

This interactive session will explore innovative strategies for incorporating visual aids into English language instruction, enhancing comprehension and retention. Participants will discover how to effectively use images, videos, and graphic organizers to stimulate critical thinking and facilitate deeper discussions among students.

Through hands-on activities and collaborative exercises, teachers will learn to create a dynamic learning environment that encourages creativity and expression. By the end of the workshop, educators will leave with practical tools and techniques to transform their lessons, making language learning more accessible and enjoyable for all students.



**16:25 — 17:15 PM: CLOSING PLENARY,  
SWAP SHOP & RAFFLE**

## **Closing Ceremony and Awarding Certificates**

# **Thank You for Joining Us!**

We hope you found the day inspiring.  
Share this file and tag a teacher who needs empowerment!



**Организатор:** ЧУП «Методики преподавания иностранных языков» УНП 192241642