



# P/H/E TESL NEWSLETTER

## Fall 2004

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am pleased to report that the Peel/Halton/Etobicoke affiliate of TESL Ontario continues to grow, with a current membership of close to four hundred sixty members. This affiliate is the second largest in the Province of Ontario.

In the Spring 2004 Newsletter I suggested that our membership should begin to review the number of hours of professional development that they have accrued over the past four years. In 2005, many of our members will need to update their TESL accreditation. Twenty-five hours of professional development is required by TESL Ontario in this process. I recommend that you don't delay your renewal.

In the past year I have visited several ESL sites, answered email questions and telephone calls with regard to glitches in certification. As the grand mothering clause for TESL accreditation is now dead, it is essential that all members comply with the rules that TESL Ontario has created. If you require one or two additional courses in order to get your accreditation, you can probably complete these courses on-line, as well as at institutions such as Brock University and Humber College. Please email me if you require further clarification.

As I finish my two-year term as President of the Peel/Halton/Etobicoke affiliate of TESL Ontario, I would like to offer my grateful thanks to all the Executive for its unfailing support, to Jyotsna Inamdar for all her guidance and wisdom, and finally to wish the incoming President, Vesna Nikolic the best of luck as she begins her two-year term as President.

## Affiliate Director's Report

Members of TESL Ontario, of which number 3337, are invited to visit TESL Ontario's newly designed website at [www.teslontario.org](http://www.teslontario.org). Members have an opportunity to share information, receive updates, learn of upcoming events and read affiliate newsletters.

TESL Ontario is preparing for renewal of certification in 2005. Members of TESL Ontario who took out their certification in 2000 will be up for renewal in the New Year. Since the TESL Ontario board meeting January 25, 2003 the renewal of certificates requires continuous membership and 25 hours of professional development over five years. TESL Ontario will notify in writing two months before renewal of certification is needed. The cost of renewal is \$80.00.

TESL Ontario is involved at this time with final details for the TESL Ontario Conference being held on November 18-20, 2004 at the Holiday Inn On King. It has been a wonderful experience to be part of the conference committee and realize first hand the magnitude of work involved in preparing a conference at a provincial level.

## Book Reviews

**By: Maureen Stewart**  
**LINC 4 Instructor**  
**Toronto Catholic District School Board**

**Title: The Life and Times of Lillian**

**Writer: Fran Marshall**

**Available From: Fran Marshall at [www3.simpatico.ca/ross.marshall1](http://www3.simpatico.ca/ross.marshall1)**

**ISBN: 0-9681126-0-9**

Lillian's Story is a wonderful true-life adventure of a girl born in the U.S. in 1904 to immigrant parents. Lillian's mother dies giving birth and Lillian's father travels to Toronto with her seven siblings only to leave them in an orphanage. Here begins Lillian's many adventures.

The book is written by Fran Marshall, a former ESL teacher who wanted to share with her students the story of her mother's life. Fran is a gifted storyteller who knows her audience. Each chapter is a cliffhanger and inspires discussions about what Toronto was like in the past and Canadian history in general. I used the book with my LINC 4 class and they loved it. They anxiously awaited each chapter and related to the characters.

I found the excellent use of page space to be especially helpful. Each chapter consists of one page of text and accompanying exercises that can be modified. Congratulations to Fran for sharing with us such a heartwarming story!

**By: Vicki Brookes  
Linc 4 Instructor  
Toronto Catholic School Board**

**Title: Grammar Sense 1  
Series Director: Susan Kesner Bland  
Publisher: Oxford University Press  
ISBN: 0194365654**

**Grammar Sense 1: A discourse Based Approach.**

Grammar sense is a comprehensive three-level grammar series based on the authentic use of English grammar in discourse.

Level 1 focuses on the basic level. It concentrates on building elementary, oral language skill in short conversations and discussions.

There is a strong focus on natural language. The book uses authentic reading texts and examples that are based on actual English language sources thereby providing a realistic picture of language use.

Form is introduced with practice exercises before meaning and use. This reinforces students' knowledge and understanding of what form looks and sounds like before moving on to more challenging activities that focus on meaning and use.

There are specific sections on each book specifically devoted to:

1. **Writing Skills (Beyond the Sentence)**
2. **Informal Language (Informally Speaking)**  
Students will love this section as its focus is showing the difference between written and spoken language.  
Reduced forms, omissions, and pronunciation changes are included.
3. **Pronunciation (Pronunciation Notes)**
4. **Vocabulary (Vocabulary Notes)**

The series includes: the student book, audiocassettes and CD's, workbooks, and teacher's books. TOEFL style test and answer key are available for teachers to download.

Grammar Sense 1 is a great book. It would be suitable for any basic learner level (up to LINC 2). There is a lot of flexibility for teachers in terms of exercises. You can skip chapters or continue sessions in chronological order. It does not have an American-dominant theme but touches on a variety of very interesting and current topics, which are very refreshing.

If you are interested in reviewing a book for our newsletter, contact Daniela Del Mastro at [ddelmastro@sympatico.ca](mailto:ddelmastro@sympatico.ca). You can choose a book from the copies donated by the publishers. We ask you to read and use the book in class. Write about its structure, intended audience, benchmark target and your opinion. Send us the review and keep the book as a thank you.

# TESL CANADA

**TESL Canada Conference 2005: May 26-28, 2005**

TESL Ottawa and TESL Canada are thrilled to be co-hosting the 18<sup>th</sup> TESL Canada Conference – **Building a Profession: Building a Nation!** It will be a wonderful opportunity to network with colleagues from across the nation.

**DATES:** Thursday, May 26 to Saturday, May 28, 2005

**PLACE:** The Westin Hotel, Ottawa, On

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

The conference will include a research symposium, many workshops, a technology fair, a special “Breakfast with the Stars” event, various thematic discussions over lunch, keynote addresses by Karen E. Johnson and Elana Shohamy, a learners’ conference, and much more!

## **CONFERENCE OVERVIEW**

**Thursday, May 26:** Research Symposium & Educational Visits, Opening Ceremonies and Publishers’ Wine and Cheese Reception

**Friday, May 27:** Keynote address, Presentations & Dinner

**Saturday, May 28:** Keynote address & Presentations

## **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

The Conference Registration packages will be mailed out to TESL Canada members with the next TESL Canada Journal (Fall 2004). The information will also be made available online on this site.

**Q:** What’s on the registration form? Do I choose my individual workshops?

**A:** The registration form gives you many choices.

First, you register for the conference and can choose: Full registration (Friday & Saturday), Friday only, or Saturday only. Your fee allows you access to all the presentations/workshops that you want to attend. You don’t sign up for individual sessions. Each one is on a first come, first serve basis. Your fee also includes the Publishers’ Displays, keynote addresses, and refreshments during the coffee breaks.

Then the registration form has many additional events/activities that you can choose. Each event will have a price listed beside it that is added on top of the registration fee. For example, on Thursday, there will be a choice of morning or afternoon research symposia, and morning or afternoon educational visits. On Friday, you can choose to attend the Friday night dinner and banquet and there will also be breakfast seminars to choose from too; or you can choose to join in on one of the thematic discussions over lunch.

## **VOLUNTEERING**

Interested in volunteering at the conference?

If you live in the Ottawa area, would you like to join one of the conference committees? We’ll need a lot of help before and during the conference. Drop us an email to let us know you’re interested!

Out-of-towners can volunteer too. We’ll need a lot of extra help during the conference! Just send us an email at [teslca2005@yahoo.ca](mailto:teslca2005@yahoo.ca).

Have any questions for us? Let us know and we’ll do our best to answer them!

Email: [teslca2005@yahoo.ca](mailto:teslca2005@yahoo.ca) Telephone: Carolyn Wood- Co-Chair (613)236-7178

Fax: (866)832-0450 (toll-free)

# Membership Update

By Rehana Zuberi

At the time of the Annual General Meeting 2003 membership in TESL Peel/Halton/Etobicoke stood at 438. At the time of writing this report it has risen to 494, which amounts to 8 new members or renewals since September 30,2004. After Toronto we are the largest affiliate of TESL Ontario. Below is the breakup of our membership as of month end September. The largest number is still from LINC and then Adult ESL.

P/H/E September 30,2004

Teaching Level	Number
Elementary School	19
Adult Credit	21
Secondary School	15
Private School	19
College/University	38
Cont. Ed (Adult ESL)	127
LINC	200
No Mark	47
TOTAL	486

The year 2005 will be re-certification time for a great many of our members. Members can download a checklist sheet from the TESL Ontario Website ([www.teslontario.org](http://www.teslontario.org)) that will help them organize their papers to fulfill requirements of re-certification.

The P/H/E website is not linked to the TESL Ontario website and newsletters from the time we went online are posted there. The easiest way is to go to the TESL site, go to Affiliates and then click on websites in the box on the right. This leads to a list of Affiliate website addresses and all one has to do is to click on the P/H/E site to be taken there.

## Looking for free newcomer resources?

*Canadian Newcomer Magazine* is a free glossy, quarterly magazine with full colour cover and interior. The mission of the magazine is to connect the regions diverse ethnic communities using one voice and language by providing free information, advice, entertainment and encouragement to new immigrants. To that end, the magazine is written in English, but the vocabulary and grammar are kept as plain and simple as possible – complex ideas written in entry level English. Subjects covered include employment, housing, Canadian lifestyles, health, finances, ethnic media and education. The publications is being used as a teaching tool at many schools throughout the GTA. An online version is available at [www.settlement.org/cnmag](http://www.settlement.org/cnmag).

Want to check out some useful ESL-related Web sites? Try these:



1. <http://iteslj.org> (articles, lesson plans, classroom handouts, captivating teaching ideas)
2. [www.everythingsl.net](http://www.everythingsl.net) (lesson plans)
3. <http://englishbanana.com> (numerous worksheets, role-play, classroom activities; grammar games and flashcards?)
4. <http://a4esl.org/> (quizzes, crosswords, exercises and puzzles)
5. <http://www.eleaston.com/> (excellent resources for ESL beginner teachers)
6. <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~leslieob/pizzaz/html> (writing skills for advanced students)
7. <http://www.eslpartyland.com> (over 75 interactive quizzes, discussion forums, interactive lessons, student E-mail exchange)
8. [www.rong-chang.com](http://www.rong-chang.com) (lesson plans, quizzes, and games for adults and kids; business English section)
9. <http://esl.about.com/library/lessons/blreadingplans.htm> (reading)
10. <http://www.hio.ft.hanze.nl/thar/reading/htm> (reading)

**Do you know a website that is great? Do you have an article to contribute to the newsletter or an excellent idea to share? Let us know at [ddelmastro@sympatico.ca](mailto:ddelmastro@sympatico.ca)**

# Teacher Resources

Lydia Aiello, a Peel/Halton/Etobicoke TESL member, has published a user-friendly, comprehensive, and thorough pronunciation skills and listening textbook, suitable for instructors who have little knowledge in pronunciation as well as those used to working in this area on a regular basis. The textbook is entitled **Word P.A.L.S.**, published by Alfra Arts Limited in Mississauga, Ontario. Lydia moves through consonant and vowel sounds, carefully explaining place, manner of articulation, and other related details. Examples of lengthening, voicing, nasals, affricates, and stress simplify and demystify the intricacies of understanding and teaching pronunciation skills. CDs accompany this excellent resource.

Lydia plans to lead a five-evening working in Mississauga in February, beginning on Tuesday, February 8, 2005 at The Peel Adult Learning Centre located at Dundas and Confederation Parkway in Mississauga. Many thanks to Effat Ghassimi for providing the venue.

If you are interested in attending the workshops, contact Denise Copland at (905)-822-4597 or [deniseandtony@sympatico.ca](mailto:deniseandtony@sympatico.ca). You can contact Denise for further information about Lydia's textbook if you wish to purchase a copy.

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