

2nd APPI Tavira SEMINAR 'Challenges and Opportunities'

28th (14.00-18.45) - 29th September (9.00-18.45), 2018

Venue: [Escola Básica D. Manuel I](#), Tavira, PORTUGAL

Key Topic of the Seminar

English language teachers face many challenges in their classrooms particularly dealing with preparing learners for the unknown future of our society which is becoming more global in a world that is shrinking fast.

Such challenges as motivating students with a special focus on encouraging less motivated ones; managing classroom discipline successfully; taking action about mixed ability classes; teaching a huge syllabus to too large classes in a too tiny schedule, together with a number of further challenges not mentioned here, keep on showing in any teacher's list of challenges to be met every day. As English teachers we are aware that each challenge per se covers a range of challenges to be dealt with knowledge and talent: take the challenge of dealing with mixed ability classes – the varying levels of performance (fast and slow learners); ages (less experienced and more experienced learners); dependency of the teacher (more autonomous and less autonomous learners); learning styles (visual, auditory, kinesthetic, etc.); personalities (extrovert and introvert learners) just to call on for some of the challenges involved.

If the above are but some critical components of EFL teaching and learning, teaching for “the four Cs” – communication, collaboration, critical thinking and problem solving, creativity – are at the heart of the message conveyed here in paragraph 1! As a matter of fact, the challenge of teaching these termed 21st-century skills effectively to students in the English classroom goes hand in hand with the challenge of learning English...

All in all challenges should turn into opportunities for teaching and learning at all times!