

# Annual Convention **Amsterdam** 12 Novembre 2017

## Creative Methodology in the English Classroom

MLA Convention  
12 November 2017  
Mövenpick Hotel  
Amsterdam City Centre

## Programme

Introduction and coordination  
Prof.ssa Gabriella Frezza  
Teacher Trainer

17.00 / 18.00  
*Creative Methodology  
in the English Classroom*  
Judit Fehér  
Teacher Trainer

18.00 / 18.45  
*Creativity to engage students  
and build collaboration*  
Judit Fehér  
Teacher Trainer

### Abstract

**Judit Fehér** is a teacher trainer and materials writer. She has extensive teaching experience ranging from pre-school to post-graduate. As a trainer, she has been running courses and workshops mainly in the UK and Hungary and has given workshops at many international conferences. Most of the teaching materials she has written target secondary students. These include textbooks, workbooks, resource books and online materials. Some of her creativity-related publications are Creative Resources with Bonnie Tsai (IAL, Atlanta), a series of articles on the British Council Learn English website, and a chapter in *Creativity in the English language classroom* (British Council).

### Plenary-Key: Creative methodology in the English Classroom.

Why is creativity important in language classrooms? Language use is a creative act: we transform thoughts into language that can be heard or seen. We are capable of producing sentences and even long texts that we have never heard or seen before. By giving learners creative exercises, we get them to practise an important sub-skill of using a language: thinking creatively.

We will define the essence of creativity: an ingredient that can turn a usual activity into a creative task. We will do it through experiencing and analysing a simple creative task and through examining what some creative thinkers and researchers say about the essence of creativity.

### Workshop: Creativity to engage students and build collaboration.

Creative work in the language classroom can lead to genuine communication and co-operation. Learners use the language to do the creative task, so they use it as a tool, in its original function. This prepares learners for using the language instrumentally outside the classroom. We will experience a variety of creative language tasks. Some of these will be based on art, others on a poem or an object. But all of them will also be based on you. Finally, we will add this essential creativity ingredient to some activities ourselves.

**Gabriella Frezza** 's working life has been centred on education. She started as a teacher of English and became the Principal of a large paritaria school in Sanremo. She worked in many important foreign universities abroad as a coordinator for programmes of English Language Learning for Italian students. She started a bilingual school with the British Council support. She was asked to speak at many conferences on the development of bilingual education and second language early learning. She is working for MLA at the moment and her main task is the improvement of the teacher training branch in the company.