

The English Channel partners SGEM 2012 to help students do well in the O Level English examination.

The English Channel (TEC) is partnering the Speak Good English Movement (SGEM) 2012 for the first time this year to help further the movement's cause of encouraging better communication through the English language. TEC will conduct a series of workshops focused on the main components of the O Level English examination, including essay writing, reading comprehension and spoken English. In conjunction with the launch of SGEM 2012 on 27th September 2012, TEC will start off with a workshop for 200 underprivileged students from community organisations such as SINDA and Mendaki.

Commenting on the importance of helping students for the O Level English exams, Ms Lorraine Tham, founder of The English Channel said, "The O Level English exam is the final key assessment for students before they move on to tertiary education. How well they perform affects their confidence and interest in using the language beyond their studies. Helping students do well in their O Level English exam gives them the confidence to use the language in their everyday lives, and the more they use the language, the better they will get at it".

The first of a series of 2-hour workshops will be held on Saturday 29th September 2012 at Queenstown Public Library. Each workshop will accommodate 200 students. It will comprise of a 45-minute lecture, a 45-minute hands-on session and a 30-minute Q&A.

Noting the benefits of competency in the English language, Ms Tham said, "The English Channel specialises in English bridging and enrichment programmes for foreign students in Singapore and we've seen how competency in the language affects how well and how quickly they assimilate into the local culture. By giving them tools to help them communicate meaningfully with others, they gain confidence in using the language. This allows them to interact more smoothly with the local community".

TEC is an English Language enrichment company that specialises in preparing foreign students for the O Level English and A Level General Paper examination. The company has an extensive range of programmes including argumentative and discursive writing, comprehension skills, current affairs and critical thinking as well as public speaking and presentation skills. The most popular programme is the Scholars' Bridging Programme, which has been used by many top schools with consistently good feedback. It is designed to help foreign scholars who enter the local education system at Secondary 3 to achieve a distinction for their O and A level exams within a few short years.

TEC programmes are designed to create an immersive and engaging learning environment for students, where learning happens both in and beyond the classroom. The students are also actively engaged through relevant and stimulating current affairs and topical issues which help them to reason, argue and persuade effectively. The overall aim is to foster greater social cohesion and understanding of different cultures through facilitating communication. At the end of the programme, the students feel that they have gained more than just being prepared for the examinations.

Ms Lorraine Tham, an ex-MOE teacher and a seasoned educator with over 10 years of experience in the industry, is also one of the founding partners at School of Thought, an education-focused social enterprise.

ABOUT US

The English Channel is a Singapore-based education company that specialises in English Language training for foreign scholars and international students studying English as a second language. The company believes that language is the basis for meaningful communication and so our mission as English Language specialists is to bridge cultures through the English Language. The English Channel aims to nurture students who can think critically and use the English language to communicate meaningfully.

Founded by an ex-Ministry of Education (MOE) school teacher who taught in the Gifted Education Programme (GEP) and the International Baccalaureate Programme (IB), the company graduates top students in the GCE O Level English and A Level General Paper examinations every year.

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