The English Department Putting the Joy Back into Learning

At Lingnan Hang Yee Memorial Secondary School, we see the teaching of English as an exciting challenge to make learning as fun and practical as possible. We know that the best way for students to become engaged in the lesson is to have them become active rather than passive learners.

1. Teaching English through Language Arts

We have incorporated a lot more Language Arts components into the teaching of English in our lower forms. These activities have been developed in-school and include a wide variety of fun experiences for our students. Those activities include:

- S.1 Story Telling Festival
- S.2 Radio Drama Competition
- S.3 TV Commercial Production Competition
- S.4 Speaking Bee Cup

Together these initiatives all form part of the strategy to equip our students with the skills they need to meet the demands of the curriculum.

2. Whole-school Based English Activities

We also aim at providing students with an English-rich learning environment. To encourage more students to actively participate in English learning activities, we have English Day every Fridays. In the morning, we have students being the hosts of the English Morning Assembly. There will be English announcements, book sharing, and speeches. In the afternoon, we have English Speaking Bee in which students are rewarded when they take the initiative to speak with teachers in English. Besides, we have English Reading Period and students are assigned to read and have discussions in English. The reading material is well-selected by the English teachers and all subject teachers lead students to do some follow-up discussions. All the activities are meant to provide students with more English learning opportunities and motivate them to use English actively.

3. English Learning and Cultural Exchange Program

Our school holds a study tour to an English speaking country every summer. The purpose of the trip is to give all the students who participate an opportunity to improve English by immersing themselves in an all-English environment where they have to use English every day in basic communication. The students attend formal English lessons in a school and they are taught by fully qualified teachers. Afternoons are then spent on special field trips to various tourist spots. At the weekends, special field trips are planned. It is believed that such a program can foster students' desire for lifelong learning by opening the world to them through experiential education.

For almost ten years, the Program is funded by the S.H. Ho Foundations. It funds students with financial difficulties and provides scholarship to academic achievers; so, even the underprivileged students can also enjoy the benefits of such learning program.

4. Providing English Learning Opportunities

English Language learning at Lingnan Hang Memorial Secondary School does not only take place inside the classroom. A range of co-curricular activities run in parallel to lesson activities, in order to give students access to an authentic English-speaking environment. Every year, we encourage our students to participate in the Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival. Students of all levels participate in the competition and the result is always promising.

Besides, there is a live theatre performance for our S.4 students. It is also organized after school and the activity gives students a chance to experience a live theatre performance which students are rarely get themselves exposed to in their daily life. Over the past years, they enjoyed in performances such as "Sherlock Holmes", "Around the World in 80 days", "Emma" and "Les Misérables". It is believed that such activities can help cultivate students' interest in appreciating English works.

5. English Ambassadors and English Society

What makes the English Learning and Cultural Exchange Program more meaningful is that the students, who return from the immersion program, become the English Ambassadors to help other students overcome their fear of communicating in English. They help as student assistants to the English teachers in the English Society and also help organize various English activities.

1. Teaching English through Language Arts



S.3 TV Commercial **Production Competition**



S.4 Speaking Bee Cup

2. Whole-school Based English Activities



English Morning Assembly



Speaking Bee

3. English Learning and Cultural Exchange Program





Destination: Sydney, Australia (2013) Destination: Auckland, New Zealand (2014)



Destination: Cairns, Australia (2015)

4. Providing English **Learning Opportunities**



The 67th Hong Kong Schools Speech Festival

5. English Ambassadors and English Society



S.1 English Quiz Competition



English Week