

## A PRESENTATION OF THE WEBSITES 'LEARNING SHOULD BE FUN'

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**Abstract.** *The primary goal of the paper is to present the websites I have been working on over a few past months. One of them is titled "The English Tea Lounge with Nada Radenković", whereas the other is titled simply "Nada Radenković". The titles themselves may be misleading at first glance, intending to draw the audience's attention to the creator's need for self-promotion, which may be partly true. However, the true stories behind the two titles are much deeper in meaning and broader in context, tackling the issues of teaching and learning the English Language, the use of IT, promoting educational, cultural, creative-artistic aspects in the most general meaning of the word. For this purpose, I have relied not only upon my personal experience, yet, also, on the experiences of the teachers and educators who are hard-heatedly involved and concerned with the Educational system today, which has, adversely, become not only the local but a global issue. On the other side, there is another aspect I will try to bring into the light for the reader: having fun during the process of learning that can be accomplished only when a learner/teacher feel the joy while teaching, learning and creating, within which we help ourselves and others grow and develop into better selves and thus help humanity head for the positive direction. Due to the nature of the topic and the content itself it was rather topsy-turvy to follow the specific rules of the abstract writing form. Therefore, I sincerely apologize for being personal with the intention of reaching the impersonal aspects of the issues presented. Also, I apologize if I have stepped out, in any way, of the set abstract-writing form boundaries.*

**Key words:** *Fun, Learning, Website, IT, Creation, Humanity, Personal, Diverse, Purpose, Meaning, Personal, Impersonal Setting the Boundaries*

### 1. LIFE LONG LEARNING

It is a common knowledge, at least in Serbia, that teachers are obliged to take and pass the obligatory state-exam, after a one year working experience is over, if they are to be issued the official approval/certificate that they are competent enough to teach. However, ever since the reforms have been introduced into our educational system, the teachers have been obliged to attend seminars, panel discussions, lectures, presentations or any other kind of professional development training so that they could, after a 5 years' assessment period, have their license renewed or reapproved.



To be more specific, ever since the school reforms have been introduced, the teachers are obliged to continuously work on their professional development, to participate in the so-called Life Long Learning Policy. This would not be an issue if the offered professional development options are not being re-questioned for a few reasons:

- Are they really useful and applicable in practice?
- Do they actually introduce a positive change into the educational system?
- Are they designed by the colleagues or professionals directly involved into the teaching process so that the trainings and seminars are the result of their own experience so that they offer practical solution that the teachers – participants face; or are the teachers exposed to a pure ‘borrowing ideas’ system from the countries that have been, over a very long period of time, analyzing, assessing and giving objective judgment, developing, thus, a successful educational system which has been applicable in their country solely?

Generally speaking, most of the seminars, trainings or projects are useful in the sense that they allow the teachers to brush up on the things that they already know or they offer a different or new perspective into the teaching/learning process, which is, in return, enlightening, inspiring and what is more important, applicable. However, the impressions of any teacher training program are, in the end, very individual, as the interests vary according to the individual personality,



needs, subject taught, interests and aspirations. Therefore, the idea that some colleagues from the district schools, advocate that teachers should be given the opportunity to choose a professional training program need, unquestionably, be supported and warmly welcomed. However, the teachers are often forced into trainings that make no sense and very often boil down to simply ‘copy/paste’ system, only to earn, as I have previously mentioned, extra points that will ensure the renewal and re-approval of their teaching license. Thus ‘quantity over quality’ principle is being encouraged and not vice versa. To be more precise, it turns out that it is the number of points that an individual teacher earns after 5 years of continuous training that is more important than the quality, the knowledge and the competence that a teacher adopts, embodies and passes onto the next generations.

## 2. THE ICT SEMINAR OR JUST A CLICK AWAY

One of the seminars that offers an opportunity to introduce new methods into the teaching process is the ICT (the Information Communication Technologies) seminar. That is a seminar about a variety of programs and applications that can be used for structuring lesson plans and presentations, among other things. Yet, it also offers a possibility for teachers’ further development of personal IT skills. On the other hand, it can open doors into the world outside our own professional boundaries. By using those programs teachers can get connected to the colleagues worldwide, for example, by creating free websites that can serve, for example, for sharing ideas and exchanging experiences and opinions, or just to keep in touch with the latest trends around the world. The possibilities are numerous, and websites are just one of them.



To make things clear: This does not mean that we should totally depend on the IT technology, the Internet or virtual world. It is an absolute truth that technology has taken a great part of our lives and has actually become an integral part of our lives. Yet, we should not totally depend on the IT as, in my opinion, it develops an addiction that ‘separates’ us from our deepest selves, ‘deletes’ our natural need and necessity for creativity, not to mention the alienation and the isolation from the real world. In conclusion, the IT technology should be viewed only as an additional teaching tool that, on one hand, makes the teaching/learning process up-to-date and more practical, whereas on the other, it should be an exit or entrance into the world outside the classroom.

Keeping this in mind, my primary concern in this paper was and is the creative attitude towards the site building that is versatile in content. To be precise, in the process of websites building, I have tried to maintain the curiosity of a child that is eager to play, have fun, enjoy arranging and rearranging posts, pictures, photos, articles, add and remove sites and blogs. What is more, all of it for the purpose of making a small contribution to the world of Education and Humanity. I see it as a never-ending story that keeps the site builder and creator always alert, with the ideas constantly popping up and out, raising questions of what else can be done, improved and altered, shared, discovered or restored. It is a journey into the world that is constantly revealing its secrets, possibilities – magic. During this process it is not only the creator who enjoys the game, but the learners/visitor as well. That is, in my humble opinion, the essence of every learning process: the eagerness, the drive, the need, the love for creation and knowledge, with its ups and downs that makes the whole adventure interesting and unforgettable. The awareness that you can do it is sufficient enough, let alone actually doing it.



### 3. THE WEEBLY WEBSITE - A JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN

Among other things, (Edmodo, Prezi, Linoit, to name just a few), that the attendants of the seminar practiced and learned about, the focal point was building up a free Weebly website. A great opportunity to keep everything stored at one place and still being available for students, parents, colleagues, website visitors, the world in general. It is free, it is fun, a great adult toy-tool, especially for the website building beginners and easy to use, once you get into the system of how it works. And, I repeat, an excellent opportunity to develop and present your teaching skills, yet also explore the ideas and topics that one is personally interested in and share them with other colleagues.



#### 3.1. Learning Weebly

The process of learning the Weebly site building is a mechanical one which means that there are a few guided instructions that you need to follow, repeat them a few times

until they become automatic. Knowing the structure of a particular site is highly important. The Weebly option to me seems like a ‘puzzle’ option. There is a set of buttons on the left-hand side that you slide onto the page and simply insert a content, link, image, text, photos and save them. The rest, like adding the pages and sub-pages, choosing the site theme, font, color is a matter of personal choice, depending on one’s artistic/professional inclinations, creativity, matching it with the purpose of the site and the topics or the content it covers. As the “English Tea Lounge with Nada Radenković” is intended for the ESL students and teachers primarily, it focuses on the practical aspect of the learning/teaching process. Let me be more precise, its main purpose is to share useful educational material, experience, tips, advice, articles with the students, parents and respectable colleagues. This was the starting idea that the site was built upon. The rest of the pages just popped up as a product of the personal, logical consequence of the previously mentioned structure or as a result of a variety of excellent articles that promote education, Arts, personal presentation and impressions on specific issues, use of other applications, like ‘Photo-face-fun’ application, that I personally find amusing and a nice hobby for all those who are not talented or educated in drawing or painting, yet like to play with colors, shapes and images. This would be just a general presentation of the site. Yet, to make it more vivid and understandable, the table of contents that follows will, hopefully, supply a better overview of the site navigation. As far as the detailed comments on specific contents are concerned, I would be more than glad to give a further insight at the conference. Meanwhile, feel free to visit the site and explore the content [www.nadaradenkovic.weebly.com](http://www.nadaradenkovic.weebly.com)

Table 1 The website content

THE ENGLISH TEA LOUNGE WITH NADA RADENKOVIĆ	
PAGE 1 Home	Introductory note followed by you-tube clips and Google images
Sub-page 1 My Place	Self-Presentation including the portfolio and a few pictures
Sub-page 2 Quotes	Beautiful quotes on education, arts, humanity
PAGE 2 For Teachers	Containing the teacher-related articles, clip, quotes, experiences
Sub-page 1 Lesson Plans	Innovative lesson plans
Sub-page 2 Projects	Projects that the Grammar school has taken part in
PAGE 3 For Students	Intended only for students to help get acquainted with the UK culture
Sub-page 1 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	Containing study material
Sub-page 2 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	Containing study material and photographs
Sub-page 3 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	Containing study material
Sub-page 4 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Containing study material and photos
Sub-page 4 Need help with the Material Studied	Intended to contain the material for the students who are backward in learning
Sub-page 6 Students’ Achievements	Students’ Outstanding Achievements, poems or other accomplishments
PAGE 5 For Parents	Containing articles that will be of use for the parents’ and their better understanding of the students’ needs and contemporary teaching trends
PAGE 6 Professional Development	Teachers’ Professional Development page, offering possibilities for further learning
PAGE 7 Miscellaneous	A variety of articles, tips, stories, images concerning Humanity in general
PAGE 8 Blog	A variety of articles and topics

Putting everything together, The Weebly site building was and is a consequence of a wonderful journey into the world of the website creation possibilities, a wonderful playground for individuals who enjoy creating, having fun, and trying out something new. Apart from this, for me, it was also an introduction into something more serious and rather professional.

### 3.1.1. About the content

In the previous section you have had the opportunity to get acquainted with the basics of the site content. In this section, I will try to clarify some of its aspects that I currently consider to be highly important.

To start with, let me say something about the sources used to build up the pages. As my primary approach towards building this website was for the sake of learning through playing, I have used a variety of fun, yet educational resources to build up the site. Most of them were found among the Google images, You tube, Facebook (Brainpickings) 'Zelena učionica' ('Green Classroom') – a Serbian website for the teachers who teach grades 1-5. However, there are a lot of articles that can be shared among the teachers, regardless of the grade they are teaching), 'Peščanik' (a much debated website containing articles on a variety of topics, that the other media do not talk or write about. Many of them cover the area of Education, Morality, problems of the society today, not only in Serbia but worldwide).

Though, some may not find the above mentioned sources relevant, professional or competent enough for sharing information for academic purposes, I must strongly disagree. The reason is simple: there are many people from all walks of life, including academics, teachers, doctors, workers, freelance writers and artist employed or unemployed, people of all ages, that have the need and the necessity to be heard and to write on a variety of issues, expressing their opinions, either positive or negative, their problems, with one and only purpose: to tell the truth and help people open their eyes to the issues, to make their own contribution, so that the world would be a better place to live, or try to make a slight change. This always reminds me of a clip that has been circulating around the web for years and has been seen by millions of people. A clip about 'The Girl Who Has Silenced the World for 6 Minutes'. The girl, at the time only 12 years of age, gave a proper lecture to the UN audience packed with highly intellectual and brilliant minds who have been trying to save the planet for years, that has, on the other hand, been being devastated by the people and their impulse to empower and rule the planet:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHPgEqctPYU>

(S.C. – Suzuki, a quotation/an extract taken from her speech held during the UN Conference in Rio Earth Summit, 1992, retrieved January, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015)

This emotional, still very well-rounded and fact-supported and empowering speech, should be a good example for us, the adults, who are raising, up-bringing and educating the students, to question the quality of our educational system and the quality of our



Severn Cellus-Sizuki, the girl who silenced the world in 6 min.

work, devotion, commitment and competence, just like this young woman did. Why? The answer is simple: the educational system, the teachers, the ministry and all the participants of the system are probably the most important area and branch of the human existence, as it is one of the primary springboards for the future generations that will shape our lives and the world we live in. So far, the educational system has, at least in Serbia, undergone, I am free to say and absolutely stay by each word written, a number of reforms that have brought nothing but the collapse of the quality in the educational system due to the incompetence and professional inadequacy of those who are, ironically, in charge of bringing the importance of the educational system to a higher level, making it a priority. Instead of seeing the system improve and bring about the positive changes that would be of benefit for the society as a whole, what did we get? Lack of motivation, lack of competence, no financial support for the teaching/learning process improvement, to mention just a few, though the problems are much greater than this. And if you ask if I were angry, my answer is YES, I am angry. And I am not alone. Hence, my decision to make a contribution by writing this paper, although, I am aware of the fact that I am not saying anything new. Yet, the purpose is to make a contribution by presenting my own example and proof of the idea I believe in.

The idea is the one that promotes radical and immediate changes into the educational system. For this reason, I strongly support Sir Ken Robins and Prof. Noam Chomsky, who advocate the ideas of the educational system revolution by introducing the personalized approach to the teaching process incorporating more of Arts into the system (both of their clips are available on my Weebly website).



Thus, I am absolutely convinced that the students will be more involved into the teaching/learning process and consider it not an obligation imposed by society or their immediate environment. Instead, they will find it fun, creative, research inspiring, meaningful and necessary for their own personal growth and development, so that, one day, they would make a positive impact onto the world.

#### 4. WORDPRESS SITE OR THE MOMENT WHEN YOU GET HOOKED

It is a common knowledge that a person feels absolutely proud and satisfied with oneself, once a job is done, especially when being fully committed to it. Alas, I am not absolutely sure if it is a curse or a blessing, yet, once you start circulating around the web you definitely get hooked.

Over the past 17 years of experience in teaching I have had an opportunity to visit a variety of websites and pages, searching for the material that I might use in the classroom: <http://www.ego4u.com>,



WORDPRESS Logo

[www.onestopenglish.com](http://www.onestopenglish.com), [www.grammarly.com](http://www.grammarly.com), to name just a few. Still, I have never paid attention to its design, structure, images or other elements that help build up a site. I would just type the key words in the search box and wait for the answers to pop up. However, once I have gone through the Weebly website building training, my point of

view has changed. I still visit the same website, others as well, yet I no longer just type the key words in the search box. In the past few months I have paid a great attention to the design looking at the way the design matches the context, the arrangements of pages, choice of images, the ways to publish the site and make it visible worldwide. It is astonishing to what extent the sites vary and differ. The amount of creativity is amazing: from the ones that promote fun learning to those that promote highly intellectual and academic content, Maria Popova and the <http://www.brainpickings.org>, being currently my favourite.



Spot the difference

This is a site that is simple, yet effective in design, with nourishing and nurturing content on literature followed by unique visual drawings and cartoons. In addition to this one, I would like to add all the sites dedicated to famous Dr. Seuss, his quotes, poems, books, Facebook profile that is constantly being updated, offering a sea of creative solutions for teaching children at lower grades. Being inspired by one of Dr. Seuss poems, I have planned and carried out a class with the topic ‘My Many Colored Days’, during which the 15,16 years old students were asked to express their feelings by drawing their portraits, revise and expand the adjectives on emotions. The Lesson plan is available on my Weebly website, page ‘For Teachers’, subsite ‘Lesson Plans’.<sup>1</sup>

#### 4.1.1. Weebly/Wordpress – compare/contrast

As I have previously mentioned the Weebly website is my ‘first-born’ website-child. With the ‘first-borns’, a parent is usually confused, asking myriads of questions, asking experts for advice, getting annoyed when things are not going well, trying to figure it out yourself what to do in order to solve a problem. Questions and doubts. Still, when you see it ‘grow and develop’, getting its form and shape, the parent feels proud of the work done well. ‘The English Tea Lounge with Nada Radenković’ is still growing and undergoing changes. However, in its nature, content and design it is closer to the wide range or visitors. Hence, it is created accordingly, containing information for everyone, covering a variety of topics. To make the story short, it is designed for the audience that is interested in the English Language primarily, regardless of the fact if they are just ESL students or people of other professions. For example, whenever I get a chance I post some students’ achievements of a different kind. Doesn’t that make parents’ heart sing with joy, pride and positive emotions? Of course it does.

<sup>1</sup> Weebly website, ‘The English Tea Lounge with Nada Radenković’ <http://nadaradenkovic.weebly.com/lesson-plans.html>

Considering the site system structure, however, there are some downsides. The Weebly site is not, for the time being, available for sharing with social network other than Facebook. On some occasions, there are technical problems. Some button options do not work properly. Also, very often there is a problem publishing the post, so the site administrator needs to go back a few times and repeat the process until it becomes visible for the visitor. In addition to this, due to these technicalities, the site may appear a bit clumsy. Yet, I am rather certain that the inventors of the Weebly Free Site Creation, will in the time to come consider the technical problems and work on those problem. Finally, I hope that the site will eventually be available for sharing with other social networks and websites.

This was one of the basic reasons why I decided to look for other options for site building and create a new website. Having consulted the colleagues, IT teachers, they proposed Wordpress. Experience works miracles. With the Wordpress I decided to make things more serious, or better to say, to raise the quality of the site and its content to a higher level. The “Nada Radenković” Wordpress site deals with the English Culture primarily, Education and Language. The Wordpress is more professional, in its design, structure and content. Also, it is a lot easier and clearer to navigate through the site. Every single step is explained and visible to the extent that you do not need any instructions whatsoever. As an administrator you can make necessary changes the moment you publish a post. You also have the opportunity to get feedback and follow the site status, which is very important for the one who has put quite a lot of effort in building it. In addition, you can get connected with a number of popular social networks or other site holder that you relate with via common interests or issues. Thus, the “Nada Radenković” has become more academic in the approach and the topics when compared to the Weebly site. As a consequence, I am proud to say, that according to the statistics of the site, “Nada Radenković” Wordpress has been viewed in various parts of the globe: the USA, the UK, Brazil, Serbia, Japan, Kuwait, Greece, to name just a few countries, in less than two months.

#### 4.1.2. The “Nada Radenković” Wordpress site Table of contents 2

I have started this section with the table of contents so that the structure of the Wordpress site would be easier to understand and follow. In the sections to follow each page and subpage will be explained primarily for its purpose. In addition, this is the current content of the site that is liable to change.

Table 2 Table of contents

“Nada Radenković”	
▪ The Blog	1.Home, Posts and Articles
▪ Teachers’ Corner	1.Lesson Plans
▪ Students’ Corner	Articles intended for students needs, interests and information
▪ The History of the English Language	1.A Brief History of the England 2. The History of the English Literature 3. The History of the British Art
▪ The Historyof UK Music	1.A Map to Explore England’s Rock Music 2. 1970’s till the Present Time, A Brief Overview
▪ Gallery	1.Gallery 1 2. DIY Cards for all Occasions 3, Decoupage 4. Photo Gallery



#### 4.1.3. The blog

##### Full Definition of the word 'BLOG'

A Web site that contains online personal reflections, comments, and often hyperlinks provided by the writer; *also*: the contents of such a site

- **blog** *verb*
- **blog•ger** *noun*
- **blog•ging** *noun*<sup>2</sup>



According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, I am not quite sure that my blog-page follows the definition. Also, having visited some of the other Websites, bloggers do not often blog their opinion or comments. Therefore, with all due respect, the word will undergo a different definition in this paper. Most of my posts are articles written by people that are more experienced than me, have similar opinions as I do, still there are a few of my comments that follow some of the articles, or quotes. There is even one post that sprang out of my own personal experience. Let's, in this respect, analyze and explain a few of the posts.

Most of the posts cover the topics of the English language study. For the majority of teachers, that is not a novelty. However, over the past few years, I have noticed, through my professional practice that the students do not practice the language skills properly. Majority of them rely upon video games, cartoons, low rated teen magazines, yellow press, adopting this way, only, the colloquial or so to say "street English".

Also, having conducted an interview with the students, it appears that they are rather pleased with their knowledge: they can 'communicate' (read – talk) with their friends from abroad, using only slangish form of language and that is absolutely sufficient for them.

Moreover, they do not understand that the communication does not imply only the speaking skill, which is in their case questionable, as they rely only on a limited grammar rules, vocabulary and audience, their peers. Just, for the sake of clarification, I do not mind students reading magazines of that sort and using colloquial language. On the contrary, I do support it, yet only as a way of learning the varieties of the English language or get acquainted with current communication trends. Nevertheless, I strongly oppose when any language is practiced and learned only in this way. As we all know language is such an affair that it needs to be studied from different angles and different sources.

Thus, I felt I was called upon to react adequately. Therefore, for the purpose of helping students understand the importance of developing all the language skills, I have searched the web for the articles that would support my constant effort to explain to them that

<sup>2</sup> Word definition taken from the <http://www.merriam-webster.com/inter?dest=/dictionary/blog>

communication is much more than simple ‘chit-chat’. Hence, the posts “How to speak so others listen”, “Why is writing important?”, “Active Listening”, “Are you reading?”, “Why are Grammar and Punctuation Important?”. To round up the mission, the article “Anton Checkhov on 8 qualities of Cultured People” followed. For the purpose of promoting literacy among young people, I have also created a Facebook group, “English Tea Lounge”, providing a variety of links, articles, cartoons, songs and video clips that will help the students understand the language structure, study standard English but also learn and listen to other dialects and work on language acquisition and learning in myriads of ways. In addition, they have the opportunity to study and learn about the English culture as a whole, in a relaxed, informal, fun way. Though I am the administrator of the group, the students have the access and post articles, stories, photos themselves. The link to the Facebook group “English Tea Lounge” <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1565096480380211/>.

All that has been mentioned above has been done for the purpose of helping the students grow and develop into complete persons who will be able, as much as possible, to face and live their lives in all its complexity. That, in my humble opinion, should be the purpose of education. The logical conclusion of this chapter would be the extract from my website blog-post “A Wise Teacher”:

***“Let me put it this way, it is important for each one of you to understand that you all have this privilege to become better and more successful people. The privilege is called – EDUCATION. Do now whatever it takes in this journey so that in the future you could use its fruits for accomplishing whatever you want, skillfully, and quickly going round-about the ones who have decided to remain in the last rows, still searching for excuses and putting blame on the others.”***<sup>3</sup>

#### 4.1.3. The teacher’s corner

This page is specifically designed for a wide audience of teachers, covering different topics and issues, lesson plans with the aim of sharing ideas, experience, opinions and problems. So far, it contains a range of different lesson plans, concerning English Language Learning and more.

As for the lesson plans, they are a result of the moments of inspiration and the necessity to step out of the basic curriculum boundaries. Although the course books my school has been using so far, have all been good and offered interesting study material, however, after a few years of using one sort of a course book, a teacher and the students inevitably get tired of it and are looking for something different, more involving and creative. Therefore, every now and then, I change the basic curriculum in a spur of moment and offer the students classes with a difference.

Also, I am proud to say, the students of the English Language and Literature almost every year visit our school in order to practice and develop their teaching skills. It is a special feeling when your former students, now colleagues, turn to you for help and advice on how to structure a class, make lesson plans, get a few tips of advice. During those classes, it is not only me who enjoy the process of mentorship and passing on the knowledge and skills of teaching, but the former and current students enjoy the classes



<sup>3</sup> An Extract taken from the article “A Wise Teacher” by Natalija Laketić, translated from Serbian into English by Nada Radenković

immensely, as each and one of them is different, innovative, creative, fun and, what is more, educational. I call it “The Fruits of Joy” – once you were their teacher, a few years later they are colleagues. What can be more fulfilling than this? In the past few years my doors have been open for the students who need to gain some teaching practice before they take the exam. Again, I need to say, that I am proud of my former students since all of them have passed their exams with flying colours. Hopefully, in the times to come there will be more of those lesson plans posted on the website.

My next idea is to keep on filling this page with the specific issues concerning teachers’ problems. Some of them being: the lack of necessary equipment, inadequate working conditions, inadequate trainings and seminars, the Ministry of Education indifference for the teachers needs and wish to gain some professional experience in foreign countries by attending seminars, trainings or conferences abroad. Thus, the foreign language teachers are deprived of being directly involved in the community the ESL teachers worldwide. This is a major problem that no one in the Ministry, so far, has tried to solve. To have the teachers organize themselves individually requires major costs and expenditures which they are not in a position to afford. Thus, the only way is to go online and depend on the professional websites concerned with the English language learning. There are many more problems that need to be discussed, yet, one at a time. The future will reveal the truth.

#### 4.1.4. *Students’ corner*

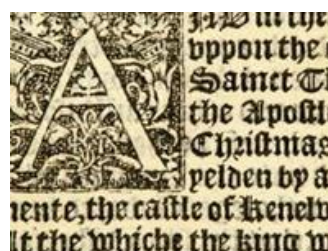
This page is currently empty for one and the simple practical reason. At the beginning of this school year our school has introduced new course books, Way up 1-4, Klett Publishing House. As it usually goes, with the new material, yet according to my experience, it takes about one school year to see if the course book functions and are its tasks appropriate or not. Therefore, I have decided to leave this open empty for the time being and start filling the page at the beginning of the next academic year. Also, both of



my websites appeared rather late when compared to the beginning of the school year, so I found it, at this point, inadequate to fill up the page with the material that is currently being studied, leaving aside the entire first term material that has already been covered. However, there is an interesting article about one of my students who reads and writes English poetry and prose. Moreover, she has begun writing a novel. More information about Jelena Kvačić is available on the website.

#### 4.1.5. *History of the English language*

For some of the respectable colleagues, it may be strange why I have posted this article. This article is a reaction to a discussion on language that I was participating in some time ago. The crucial sentence of the discussion follows: “Language is an ‘Artificial Invention’ referring not to any of IT, a software or a programme language. The sentence referred to the languages people speak, to be blunt. I intentionally will



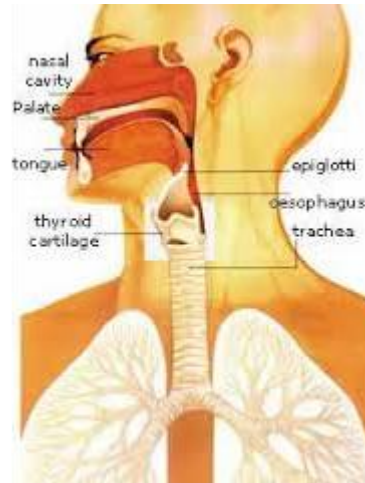
not name the person who produced such an ignorant statement. My only reaction was: “OK. Tell me, then, who is the person who invented it?”. Naturally, the person in question got confused and offered no answer. Therefore, this page is only an online answer to all those who are not familiar with the language studies.

Let alone medicine or biology which teaches that there are speech organs and the speech center in the brain that have developed in the human race through the process of evolution. The same or similar rule, I am free to say, applies to all languages. Through ages and centuries and milleniums, the language and languages have been developing, evolving for different reasons, needs and conditions. Although the linguists, reading the article, are familiar with this briefly explained scientifically proved fact, my decision was to post it anyway for the sake of all those who believe that the language is artificial or exists only as long as we are living. What is missing, as an addition to this post, are the articles in Medicine that explain the structure of the human brain. Instead I have posted images that prove the scientific statement.

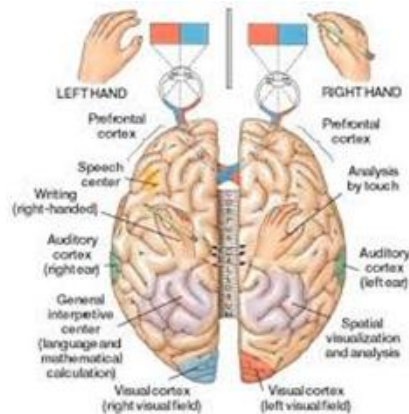
As a logical continuation of this post, I have deliberately posted the article on the history of the English Literature, to indicate that all the wonderful pieces of writing have been produced to explain and give an insight into the complexity of life and Man, through words used in trillions of beautiful ways: poetry, novels, essays or articles. Thus, it again proves that the language is not an artificial invention but rather a tool for the Human race to understand each other’s feelings, life-stories, opinions and connect in millions of ways. Literature is, to me and I strongly believe to many, the extension of life. If you cannot travel the world literally and get to know different cultures, people, customs, life stories, you can grab a book and take a journey of a different kind with almost similar effect. A well written book with its richness and the riches, whatever the language it is written in, nourishes the soul, the brain, the entire being. It makes us human and humane.

The same applies to the posts and the rest of the pages “The History of British Art”. Visual Arts, like painting, music or films are nothing else but different languages that have been used since the creation of a man to explain the world he lives in, to pass the stories of the problems of the mankind and offer solutions to fill in the cracks where natural science cannot. Therefore ‘Hail’ Language Arts and Arts in general.

Apart from this, through my teaching practice and conversations I have had with my colleagues, the curriculum is not ‘programmed’ by



Speech organs



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the Ministry of Education to teach about the UK culture. Hence, the pages on Language, Literature, Arts, culture in general.

All of my posts mentioned above, including the one on the History of Britain have been posted for the purpose of spreading the word of knowledge and education among my countrymen, history is not only the First and the Second World War and the national history. Literature is not only national literature, a few Russian or French writers, art is not something that is used as a pass time yet, much more. Moments of contemplation, moments of beauty, moments for expressing emotions. That is the purpose of all arts, including language arts.



## 5. IN THE END

In the end I would like to say that I have deliberately left out explanations of a few posts that are available on my website. As I have stated earlier, if there are any questions concerning those posts I would be more than happy to explain as much as I can, though I am entering a field of study that is rather new to me, like Quantum Physics and Medicine. Yet, as much as it is in my power, in this moment, I will be happy to answer additional questions on the articles and posts not mentioned in the paper.

Finally, I would like to apologize again to all the readers for any non-standardized approach to writing this paper. Also, I apologize for any typing errors that might have appeared in the paper (although it has been proof-read a few times) and for occasional repetition of some of my thoughts. Nevertheless, I believe that certain ideas need to be repeated so that the message could get across to the audience that is not closely linguistically related.

In the very end, I just have the need to say that, considering that this is the first paper I have written based solely on my own experience, I feel both excited and thrilled for having an opportunity of this kind to come up in my professional development. Therefore, I am truly looking forward to the upcoming Conference. Lastly, I owe my greatest gratitude to my dear friend Nadežda Stojković for inviting me to the conference event in May. As a closure of the paper I would just like to quote Friedrich Nietzsche:



***“I am a forest, and a night of dark trees: but he who is not afraid of my darkness, will find banks full of roses under my cypresses.”  
Friedrich Nietzsche, Thus Spoke Zarathustra<sup>4</sup>***

<sup>4</sup> Friedrich Nietzsche. 1999. *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*. Dover Publications; Unabridged edition.