

A DIFFERENT DIMENSION TO ENGLISH



For roughly over a month, Ivan Muhov from the School of Languages will mark his territory at DIMENSIONS' Main Campus to contribute his expertise in an English Oral Communication Skills Training programme for GCE "O" and GCE "A"-Level students.

The Certificate in Academic English lecturer from Bulgaria who usually teaches at the City Campus has put his own spin to the approach of conducting the lessons here at the School of Preparatory to best refine students' English-speaking skills.

His focus on continuous in-class practice of passage reading is valuable for application during the oral exams.

Ivan use to be an Examiner for an Entry Exam to a foreign language school back in Bulgaria. Now, he provides students with exam techniques before many of them tackle their English oral exams for the GCE "O"-Level and GCE "A"-Level assessment.

"I'm quite surprised by the high level of students' English competency during my first week of class

assessment here," said Ivan.

He continues to comment about the only two classes that he felt had a lower command of English, but they are new batches and will only be taking their oral exams next year so they have plenty of time to learn. Ivan will not be lowering his standard of teaching for these few classes as he feels that the new students will be able to be fueled and acquire more through such strong lessons.

"The lessons Mr. Ivan teaches in class are very good. He makes good points and places much importance on our reading punctuation and pronunciation. It's good to have him around to show us the right way of saying English words and sentences," remarked one of Ivan's students named Yan Kun, 17, from the Preparatory Course for Singapore-Cambridge General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination.

DIMENSIONS continues to provide for its students where required. Currently, the college is also providing extra one-hour Evening Coaching in English and Mathematics for students who are weak or feel less confident from the Preparatory Course for Admission to Government Schools.

在接下来的一个月中,语言学院的Ivan Muhov老师将要在博偉主校区为GCE "O" 水准和GCE "A" 水准的学生提供专业的英文口语沟通技巧课程。

学术英语课程的Ivan老师来自保加利亚,之前一直在市区分院任教。他将通过自己的教学方法提升预科学院学生的英文口语能力。他的教学侧重于让学生加强课堂阅读理解练习,这在口语考试中是很重要的。

Ivan老师以前在保加利亚是名外语学校入学考试的考官,现在他为参加GCE "A" 水准和GCE "O" 水准英文口语考试的学生提供考试技巧培训。

"在第一周的班级考核评估中,我惊讶地发现一些学生的英文非常好。" Ivan说。

他继续点评道,其中只有两个班的学生英语基础还不够扎实,但他们是新生,明年才参加口语考试,所以有足够的时间来提高英文。但Ivan老师表示,他不会因此降低教学难度,因为他认为新生可以通过这种高强度的教学更快速地提高英文水平。

"Ivan老师教得很好,他一直强调阅读中标点符号和发音的重要性,并且教我们如何准确表达英文,我觉得他是个非常棒的老师!" 17岁的GCE "O" 水准学生Yan Kun是这样评论Ivan老师的。

博偉始终坚持尽量满足学生的各种需求。目前,学院还为成绩比较差或考试信心不足的学生在晚上提供额外一小时的英语和数学辅导。

EDITOR'S NOTE

We have reached half of 2014! That means some students are that much closer to sitting for their examinations which are just around the corner.

In this issue of DIMENSIONS Insight, we have an exciting lineup of stories as usual and our first ever interview with a lecturer. The year keeps on getting better and better as we go along!

Read on to get inspired! ♥ Anne

Editor : Ms. Foo Mei Anne
 Contributors : Ms. Lan JiaJing | Ms Wei Shuang
 Designer : Ms. Ally Ng
 Proofreaders : Ms. Carey Tai, Mr. David Loi
 Advisors : Mr. Vincent Tan, Dr. Ler B.C
 Mr. Henry Chan, Ms. Zhao Huirong



TAKE THE SHOT TO WIN



Icez Concept located above SuperBowl Hougang was the place where 15 participants from DIMENSIONS International College contended with their cue sticks in hopes of rising as the champion in the 8-Ball Pool Competition held on 10 May 2014.

The light sounds of impact and balls in play continuously rolling and spinning across the pool tables brought heat into the room as participants showcased their skills and precision in the game.

After winning numerous sets, Ling Bing Chuan from the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Business Administration programme beat Chen Guang from the Pearson BTEC Level 5 HND Diploma in Hospitality Management (QCF) programme to take home the first prize, which is S\$150 in cash! Song Bo Han from the Preparatory Course for Admission to Government Schools (Secondary 3) was placed third in the competition.

On the whole, everyone had a fun time playing the game and all were rewarded with a Certificate of Participation.



8-BALL POOL COMPETITION



2014年5月10日，由博偉国际教育学院组织的8球制桌球比赛拉开帷幕，这场比赛在 SuperBowl Hougang 的Icez Concept 举行，总共有15位选手参加比赛。

在选手们的激烈角逐比拼中，球在桌上激撞和摩擦而产生的清脆声响为如火如荼的赛场增添了不少乐趣！

几轮比拼之后，企业管理本科的学生Ling BingChuan 夺得了冠军头衔以及150新币奖金。BTEC酒店管理高级大专的学生Chen Chen Guang 获得亚军。就读预科学院政府中学预备班的学生Song BoHan 获得季军。

总体来说，这是一段充满乐趣和体育精神的休闲时光，所有的选手都获得一张比赛参与证书！

THREE IS A CHARM

Three is definitely a lucky number! This year, DIMENSIONS would have paid its third visit to the lovely folks at Tai Pei Old People's Home in three successive years!

This is part of DIMENSIONS' Community Involvement Programme, where a total of 23 students volunteered on the afternoon of 7th June to extend their charm and cheerfulness to the elderly folks. Goodie bags were pre-packed and gifted to each elderly folk as a little token of love.

Principal Lecturer from the School of Hospitality, Mr. Joseph Chan and his friends further charmed audiences with their Chinese Opera-style performances. There was even a special song belted out by DIMENSIONS' Director of Quality Management Dr. Ler Boon Chong which got everyone cheering!

The evening closed with a buffet dinner where students helped to serve the elderly with delicious food. Through simple gestures and interaction with the elderly, the visit managed to achieve its objective of providing opportunity for students to learn to help people in need.

DIMENSIONS may very well make this an annual event for a long time. We are proud to keep the bigheartedness going three times in a row and hope that this will be our charitable custom for years to come!



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME

3无疑是个幸运的数字！在3年里，博偉已经第3次访问大悲安养老院了。这个活动是博偉参加的社区活动之一。

2014年6月7日，23名学生来到大悲安养老院，给老人们带来了精心准备的礼物和欢声笑语，向老人们献上了爱心！

博偉酒店管理学院的首席讲师Mr. Joseph Chan和他的朋友一起表演了中国传统戏曲。博偉质量管理董事Dr. Ler Boon Chong也为大家献唱了一首非常好听的歌曲，获得大家阵阵掌声！

傍晚，学生们帮着准备和分发老人们的晚餐，通过简单的交流和互动达到了活动的主要目的，用自己的爱心给予需要的人有意义的帮助！

博偉将来会坚持举办这类活动。我们为自己连续3年举办这类活动感到骄傲，并希望在未来做慈善活动会成为我院传统。



VOICE OUT!



DIMENSIONS INSIGHT caught up with the Certificate in Academic English lecturer from Bulgaria, **IVAN MUHOV** for an in-depth session to provide some fitting advice matching his new role as a lecturer in practice and theory at our Main Campus.

We like to think of him as a live BBC News Presenter for the classroom but the passionate lecturer prefers to be known for his approachable character and unlike a distant on-screen commentator, he is someone who is available to tutor and provide feedback to his students.

Here are some of what he shared that may help students with their progress in learning English.

Q: Is English a complicated language?

A: Where I come from, English can be easy even though we don't use the same alphabets in Bulgarian but many of our pronunciations are the same. As for Asians, it may be quite difficult due to differences in the way they normally pronounce words in their native language. Also, the structure is different and thus may cause some students to make more mistakes. Therefore, it is important to leave the confines of

the mother tongue and surround oneself with English-speaking people to get a better grip on the language. English can be easy if you practice and focus on improving slowly.

Q: How would it be best to improve one's level of vocabulary?

A: For me, it isn't about how many words you know but having good acquaintance with a small cluster of words that are expendable. An example would be to know the family of words so that when you come across a word that isn't familiar but similar to a familiar one, you can roughly guess how it sounds like or what it means. Also, you can predict what a word signifies through the context of the article or story you are reading before finding the meaning in the dictionary.

So, take things slow. Learn and understand one new word at a time without rushing it. Having a huge vocabulary that you can't articulate well isn't much of a benefit; making people understand you is worthier!

Q: How does one practice their pronunciation?

A: Find an audience and perform in front of them.

This will help in getting use to speaking in front of a moderator or an examiner in the future. You need people to listen to you and understand you.

Speaking in front of a mirror or listening to yourself reading out loud are good practices but will not get you very far. Speaking to a group of friends better allows for feedback and interaction that are valuable.

Again, try to distinguish words of the same pattern or look. Most of the time, they sound the same too.

Q: What is your best advice for learning?

A: It is important for learners to first want to learn. The inner-motivation cannot be taught or unearthed by a teacher but requires their own effort. So if a student is unmotivated, even an Oxford lecturer wouldn't be able to bring much assistance.

As a lecturer, I can only be optimistic about my teachings and whether it will reach the heads of my students. For those who have a passion for learning, I would be more than glad to help and guide them along the way. These are the pupils I look out for, and look after.

Featured Courses 课程资讯	Intakes 开课时间	Featured Courses 课程资讯	Intakes 开课时间
GCE O-Level (Intensive) (Full Time) Duration: 12 Months GCE "O" 水准预备班 (密集班) (全职) 学制: 12个月	2014 MONTHLY (每月)	Pearson BTEC Level 5 HND Diploma in Hospitality Management (QCF) (Full Time) 酒店管理高级大专 (全职)	2014 AUG OCT (八月、十月)
GCE O-Level (Full Time) Duration: 24 Months GCE "O" 水准预备班 (全职) 学制: 24个月	2014 SEP OCT (九月、十月)	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Hospitality Management (Full Time) 酒店管理本科 (全职)	2014 SEP (九月)
GCE A-Level (Intensive) (Full Time) Duration: 12 Months GCE "A" 水准预备班 (密集班) (全职) 学制: 12个月	2014 JUL SEP (七月、九月)	Master of Business Administration (Full Time / Part Time) 工商管理硕士 (全职 / 业余)	2014 SEP (九月)