**English and Writing Workshops in Singapore**

**Teacher: Mrs Katherine Barg (see details on pg. 5)**

**Starting end of June**

**Looking for Professional English Teacher/Tutor?**

* Experienced and qualified English tutor
* Ex-MOE, Ex-DET(New South Wales) Teacher (BA with Dip Ed, specializing in English and English Literature, MCom)
* Ex-Principal of Einstein’s Planet English and Writing School in Sydney
* Professionally designed lesson and learning materials
* Writer of several English assessment books
* New English and Writing workshops (group lessons) opening end of June
* Limited vacancies (maximum 8 students a group)
* High expectations and result oriented teaching

Email englishworkshop.sg@gmail.com for more details!

Individual tuition starts at $80 per hour.

Group tuition starts at $35 per hour. All workshops are 2 hours long.

Sorry, all afternoon slots for 1 to 1 sessions are taken. Waiting list is on first-come-first-serve basis.

**\*Please see workshop and teacher’s details below.**

**English Workshop (Primary and Secondary)**

In this workshop, students will acquire an impressive repertoire of vocabulary through our specially designed and copyrighted lesson format and materials. This result-oriented workshop will equip your child with skills and tools to achieve excellent results in English. Students are exposed to various activities and learning tasks that will require them to employ and practise the strategies taught to them. Close monitoring of your child’s progress will also ensure that no one is left behind.

* Specially designed lesson materials and format
* Covers all essential English skills and examination strategies. E.g. comprehension strategies, composition.
* Teach students to read effectively, understanding inferential meanings
* Teaches grammar and vocabulary in context
* emphasizes versatile usage of learnt words
* Summary writing (skills and methods) for secondary school students
* Meticulous analysis of your child’s level of competence
* Constant feedback and suggestions on how to improve from current level
* Helping children to understand learning processes
* Experienced teacher with excellent track records in both Singapore and Australia
* Help students set high expectations and help them achieve their goals
* Small group size

**Writing Workshop:**

“Writing is reading from the inside out”- Calkins

Writing is a very complex activity; hence it is an area where many students struggle with. To make matter worse, many students are given bad advice in their attempt to improve their writing. They are told to either read more or just practice writing regularly. Unfortunately, without explicit instructions in writing (and reading) strategies, repeated writing simply becomes frustrating and defeating for students.

Teaching writing well involves multiple teaching strategies that deal with both process and product, both form and content. This course offers students the rare opportunity to integrate content, process and skills. Students are required to complete a mandatory set of homework each week to achieve maximum results.

**Primary School Writing Workshop:**

* Only for Primary 3-6 ( local system ) or Grade 3-6 ( international system)
* Story-Writing Strategies and Activities
* Helps children write dazzling descriptions with appropriate vocabulary
* Teach children to generate, analyse, plan and organise ideas.
* Emphasize awareness and application of strategies
* Individualised and tailored instructions

**High School Writing Workshop**

* Secondary 1-4 ( local system) or Grade 7-10 ( international system)
* Writing Strategies and Activities covering different genres
* Teach students to analyse topics and generate ideas
* Teach essential structures and vocabulary
* Teach mechanics and conventions of writing
* Emphasize an awareness and application of strategies
* Opportunity to practise with detailed feedback on how to improve

**Basic English or Conversation for Adults**

**Only selected morning time-slots are available. ($25 per hour for group, 2 hours workshop)**

**Please contact** **englishworkshop.sg@gmail.com** **for more information.**

**Group English or Writing Workshop**

**(Maximum 8 students per group, all classes taught personally by Mrs. Barg)**

**Prices:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grade** | **Price (per hour)** | **Price (per 4 sessions)** |
| Primary 1 to 6 | $35 | $280 |
| Secondary 1-4 | $40 | $320 |
| JC 1 and 2 | $50 | $400 |

**\*No additional charges for workshop materials. Each workshop is 2 hours long.**

**\*\*Writing workshop is not available to students under Primary or Grade 3.**

**Private 1 to 1 sessions start at $80 per hour. For afternoon sessions, waiting list is open. Only selected morning time slots are available.**

**Available Timing for New Groups:**

**Monday:** 3:30pm to 5:30pm, 5:30pm to 7:30pm

**Tuesday:** 2:30pm to 4:30pm, 7pm to 9pm

**PSLE Writing Workshop**: Every Tuesday 5pm to 7pm (for P5 and P6 students only)

**\*\*\*Group for either English or Writing Workshop can be formed in the above stated time-slots, if there are 3 students ready to start the class.**

**Placement is on a first come, first serve basis.**

**Please contact** **englishworkshop.sg@gmail.com** **for Conversation English for Adults (morning classes only)**

**The Teacher**

Mrs Katherine Barg (BA in English and English Literature with Dip Ed, MCom) is an ex-MOE (Singapore) and DET registered (New South Wales, Australia) teacher. She is a highly sought after teacher in both Singapore and Sydney.

Living and teaching in Sydney and Singapore showed the reflective teacher that students need explicit help to learn English and Writing skills, whether they are first language learners or not. Sometimes, schools or teachers simply do not have the time or resources to manage students of different abilities and profiles effectively. This is especially so in the teaching of English and Writing skills or strategies.

It was a brave move for a Singaporean Chinese lady to pioneer Einstein’s Planet - one of the premier English and Writing school in Sydney, in an environment where native English teachers abound. However, Mrs Barg believed in her unique learning system and courageously took a plunge that changed the lives of many students.

Mrs Barg started Einstien’s Planet (EP) in 2003 with a handful of students. The company conducted classes specialising in teaching school children English and Writing skills. When the enrolment expanded, Mrs Barg personally trained teachers (from Australia, US, Europe and Singapore) to use her methods to teach their classes. With skilled staff, further efforts were put in to enhance the company’s learning programmes and materials. Within a short time, most children showed tremendous improvement in English. The incredible results achieved in the UNSW Writing Competition and scholarship examinations in elite schools created an urban legend among parents. Within a short time, enrolment to the school shot through the roof. The little school was teaching scores of students every week. The programmes were so well-received that students travelled from all over Sydney (this means at least 2 hours journey for some!) and waiting lists in various classes were long. Needless to say, Mrs Barg’s classes were always bursting in the seams! Some students had to wait for a whole year before gaining entry in her class, due to her huge popularity.

Despite the incredible success of EP’s programmes, Mrs Barg had chosen to close down its operation in Sydney, before relocating to Singapore with her husband’ investment banking job in December 2007. With her young children in mind then, she felt that it was too difficult to maintain the high standards of EP running the company from Asia. One thing Mrs Barg has always insisted on is delivery exceptional values to her clients. As a result, many clients had a close connection to the school. Many parents had marvelled at their children’s willingness to come to EP for tuition and at their apparent enjoyment of the lessons. Although all lessons were 2 hours, even the little Grade Ones did not feel the passage of time because the lessons were well designed and fun. Many parents had also delightfully reported on the improvement in other school subjects, due to improvement in their children’s English and Writing skills. Students began to “write to learn”, excelling in content rich subjects as a result of their confidence and proficiency in writing.

While living in Singapore in 2008, Mrs Barg was recommended to tutor some local and foreign students. She was astounded that some students have started tuition since they were five but still could not do well in English. This is especially so for English Paper 1 - Composition. When working with these students, she realised that many unsound methods of teaching English are still in practice to this day. Many students “learn” English by practising worksheets, memorising isolated words for spelling and write composition without explicit instructions. Worst, the daily environment of the average Singaporean students is crammed with Singlish, thus challenging correct English usage further.

Her success in Sydney is once again duplicated in Singapore. Familiar with the MOE syllabus and best practises of teaching and learning English, her students have shown marked improvement. Mrs Barg believes in setting high expectations and helping students to achieve them. Lately, a student from an elite school, who has never passed English for 5 years, has regained his confidence and interest in the subject. After 9 sessions with Mrs Barg, he has passed English for the first time! Other students have also shown great improvements and several has attained A or A1 for their examinations.

Due to the increased demand for her teaching, Mrs Barg has decided to start teaching students in groups to make her teaching accessible to more students. Don’t miss out!

If you have been looking for a good English teacher who is passionate and professional in her teaching, do email **englishworkshop.sg@gmail.com**for more detailstoday!