



CANBERRA REGION LANGUAGES FORUM UPDATE

MAY 2019

1. MOTHER TONGUE MULTILINGUAL POETRY NIGHT

- Monday 13 May 7 pm
- Smith's Alternative, Alinga Street, Canberra, ACT

Don't miss the next multilingual poetry night at Smiths Alternative in Civic.

All languages and styles of poetry welcome, as long as the poem includes at least one language that is not English! Four minute slots, including any introduction or translation. Or just come along and enjoy the night.

See <https://www.facebook.com/mothertonguemic/> or email mothertonguemic@gmail.com for more details and/or to reserve a spot in advance.

2. ANU LANGUAGE TEACHING FORUM

A discussion platform for language teachers and researchers across ANU colleges as well as for language educators from outside the university such as secondary school teachers and educators from community schools. The Forum's main objective is to foster the exchange of research and new approaches in language education.

- Monday 13 May 4.15 – 5.15 pm
- New approaches to language education: Japanese pronunciation in online course in global MOOCs
- Room W3.03, Level 3, Baldessin Precinct Building #110, ANU.
- Presenter: Takako Toda

For more information and/or to join the mailing list, contact Wesley Lim at Wesley.Lim@anu.edu.au

3. CALL FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS TO ASSIST ANU PhD RESEARCH

The study calls for participants who are native speakers of English, have at least 5 years experience teaching English, have not taught Arabic speakers of English or lived/taught in Arabic-speaking countries and have no hearing difficulties. Participation will involve

- assessing L2 speech intelligibility and comprehensibility of English learners.
 - Intelligibility assessment will involve listening to a set of short audio-recordings and then identifying/transcribing them.
 - Comprehensibility assessment involves listening to a different set of audio-recordings and rating the speaker on a 9-point Likert scale.
- completing a short post-assessment survey

Participation is totally online, at a time and place convenient for participants. Those who complete all tasks can receive \$50.

For more information, contact Turki Alharbi on u6147058@anu.edu.au

4. NCACL CULTURAL DIVERSITY DATABASE: AN AUSTRALIAN FIRST

The National Centre for Australian Children's Literature at UC is pleased to launch their Cultural Diversity Database. This was an 18-month long project involving many people at NCACL reading and discussing Australian children's books. It is aimed at the very youngest through to those of secondary age. All 340 books feature cultural diversity from a broad perspective.

You can search by author, illustrator, title, series, publisher, date, key concepts, Australian Curriculum, the Early Years Learning Framework plus a combination of these. There are annotations for each book.

- To read about the background to this project:
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/resources/databases/welcome-to-the-ncacl-cultural-diversity-database/>
- To access the free data base: <https://www.ncacl.org.au/ncacl-cultural-diversity-database/>
- To support the creation of a Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Database,
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/make-a-donation/money/>

5. LANGUAGE RESOURCES AND SERVICES AT ACT LIBRARIES

- Books, DVDs, CDs, magazines and newspapers in 23 languages other than English, some online: <https://www.library.act.gov.au/books/music/movies/in-your-language>
- Learn over 70 world languages, basic or in-depth courses, with Mango Languages (free)
<https://learn.mangolanguages.com/login?gymToken=NmRkYzlwYjg0NjI0NDk5MmY6dXVpZD0tMSxleHA9MTU3MjU3NDUwNixpcD0wLHVybD0xLGE9NDA5NyxbGllbnRfaXA9MTlwLjE4LjQxLjU5>
- Free English conversation groups and/or learn in home language with Mango languages app: <https://www.library.act.gov.au/services/multicultural-services> (Click on 'Adults')
- Bilingual books and story times for children and their families:
<https://www.library.act.gov.au/services/multicultural-services> (Click on 'Children')

6. RESOURCES FROM THE UK NATIONAL LITERACY TRUST

The UK National Literacy Trust has a wealth of resources, available in several languages, to encourage multilingual families to maintain home languages and to assist their children to succeed at school, and for professionals working with CALD families?

These can be explored at:

- <https://literacytrust.org.uk/early-years/bilingual-quick-tips/>
- <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/understanding-bilingualism-early-years/>

7 OPPORTUNITIES FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Arabic weekend course for beginners (8 hrs)

A course organised by the by Institute of Australia Middle East Business & Education for those with no previous knowledge of Arabic. Maximum class size 10 students

- Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 June 2019, 10 am – 2pm
- Level 5, 1 Bowes Place, Phillip, ACT 2606
- Early bird fees \$240 (until 10 May) then \$330 (includes course materials)

More details: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/arabic-greetings-and-language-8-hrs-tickets-47980419727?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

French with Alliance Française de Canberra

Not-for-profit organisation in Turner offering extensive variety of programs and services:

- Language Centre: Courses for all levels and ages from pre-school up
- Cultural Centre: music, art exhibitions, open days and café style discussions on science, history, literature and the regions of France
- Resource centre: over 8,000 items — books, magazines, newspapers, travel guides, comics, children books, CD and CD roms, videos and DVD's.
- Café Bar open daily
- French Channel TV programs including TV5, Euronews, Eurosport — screened daily on a giant TV screen from 9am.

For more information: <https://www.afcanberra.com.au/>

Indonesian

Organised by the Australia Indonesia Association (ACT), these classes are designed to cater for the very advanced through to the novice beginners and attract a range of very interesting mature students who share a common interest to develop Indonesian language skills, and for some to help prepare them for work (paid and charity) in Indonesia.

- Classes commence week beginning Monday 29 April 2019
- Each class runs for 8 weeks
- Classes held at a private address in O'Malley
- Cost: \$140 for the semester (\$20 discount for AIA members)

For details: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=486979&>

Japanese with the Awesome Japanese and Culture School

Fun, high-quality Japanese language lessons for students of all ages and abilities provided by friendly professional, native Japanese teachers living in Canberra.

- More information: www.awesomejapanese.com.au

Persian 5 week course

ANU Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies is offering a five-week course in Elementary Persian II to develop listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. There will also be an emphasis on culture through the in-class use of audio-visual material. This course assumes an introductory knowledge of the alphabet and basic grammar.

- Five hours of classes per week over five weeks starting Tuesday 7 May
- Tuesday & Thursday 5.00—7.30 pm
- Cost: \$450

More details at <http://cais.cass.anu.edu.au/events/persian-short-course-autumn>

Year 11 and 12 French and German in 2019 and 2020

Organised by Canberra Academy of Languages. Students commencing now can complete a major by the end of 2020.

More details at <https://cal.act.edu.au/>

Polyglot Club ANU

Conversation groups in French, Spanish, German and Danish.

- Every Monday 5.30-7pm
- Cellar Bar, University House ANU
- Cost: \$20 per year (\$10 for students and retirees)

New members always welcome! More details: <http://canberrapolyglot.org/>

Other language learning opportunities

See website of the ACT Bilingual Education Alliance for links to various programs

- For adults: <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/language-programs-for-adults.html>
- For children: <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/language-programs-for-children.html>

FEEDBACK ON UPDATES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES WELCOME

Copies of previous Forum Updates are available at
<https://canberralanguages.blogspot.com/p/forum-updates.html>