

Web-Based Resources for English Teachers

By SHALINI KHANDUJA

The Internet is, obviously, a gold mine of information, tips and materials for both teachers and students. But navigating through it to find the best sources and user-friendly sites takes time. That's why this is the age of "key pals," an update from "pen pals." Programs that make it possible for teachers to get together and share the best tools they have found are being encouraged by Richard Boyum, the U.S. Embassy's regional English language officer in India.

At a recent workshop in New Delhi for English teachers from secondary schools and colleges, Boyum shared one of the best Internet resources: Teaching English as a Second Language Journal (<http://iteslj.org>).

The site contains articles by well-known and unknown authors. A section on techniques gives tips on "business English," "classroom management," "grammar" and much more. Teachers can have fun with the questions section and learn how to make their classes more interactive and interesting. Educational games and jokes are also available.

The teachers from Amity International, Jamia Senior Secondary School, Ramjas School, Sri Aurobindo College and others in the New Delhi area voted on which other sites they found most useful after the workshop. Here are their choices:

1. Dave's ESL Café (English as a second language for everyone)

<http://eslcafe.com>

2. University of Oregon Online English Language Center

<http://oelp.uoregon.edu>

3. Voice of America Special English

<http://www.voanews.com/specialenglish>

4. The Gutenberg Project

<http://www.gutenberg.org>

5. International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language

<http://www.iatefl.org/>

6. Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc.

<http://www.tesol.org>

On the completion of the workshop, the teachers also received a CD of the last 10 years of ELT (English Language Teaching) Forum Magazine, published quarterly by the Department of State. For more information:

<http://exchanges.state.gov/education/engteaching/>

