



Beyond TEEL

Developing readings of texts and voice in writing

Monday 22 July 2019

If we want to develop students as sophisticated readers and writers, replacing one formulaic approach to writing about texts, TEEL, with another formula will not work. The aim of this day is to help teachers in Years 7–12 develop student readers through providing strategies which will enable students to find their own reading of a text; to develop students as writers with voice through a program which builds from year to year; and to work with students on the principles of essay writing so that they are enabled to express their own thinking about texts in a confident and fluent style.

Session 1: Reading as an imaginative process

In this session, we will model strategies teachers can use to enhance students' reading comprehension to develop their own internalised and richer knowledge of the text. We will provide alternatives to the essay structure for students to enable them to develop and express a deep understanding of texts in writing in Years 7–10.

Session 2: Writing with voice

In this session, we will show you how to build the fluency of your students' writing in Years 7–10 in preparation for their VCE years. Particular focus will be placed on how to foster writing that captures what students want to say and is also elegant, succinct and fluent.

Session 3: The essay pathway

In this session, we offer ways in which students can develop their essay writing through providing students with the principles of essay writing and opportunities to draft and perfect their understanding of the genre. They will be using their own readings of texts and their enhanced writing style to create essays which are authentic and original.

All of the speakers in this workshop have participated in the DET funded VATE Reading Community of Practice. They are all experienced secondary educators. Teachers will take away a range of resources from each of the sessions which will help them on their return to their schools and will additionally help less capable students develop their reading comprehension in order to enhance their own voice when writing essays.

Venue: AEU, 126 Trenerry Crescent, Abbotsford



Overview of the program

8.30am – 9.00am: Registration

9.00am – 11.00am	Session 1: Reading as an imaginative process
11.00am – 11.20am	Morning tea
11.20am – 1.00pm	Session 2: Writing with voice
1.00pm – 1.45pm	Lunch
1.45pm – 3.45pm	Session 3: The essay pathway

Presenters

Mary Mason is co-convener of VATE's Professional Learning and Research Committee. She is the author of several texts for English teachers and has worked as Head of English in a number of schools. She has also worked on the Literature setting panel and various committees connected to VCAA. For the last four years, she has been both instigator and Critical Friend for the VATE Reading Community of Practice, supported by the Department of Education, where teachers in secondary schools work on developing their understanding of reading and developing pedagogies to engage student readers.

Tegan O'Dea is a member of VATE's Professional Learning and Research Committee and has been a Years 7–9 English and Humanities curriculum team leader, as well as a Years 7–12 English leader. In 2016, she and her team participated in the VATE Reading Community of Practice research. This involved building the capacity of her team to enable them to explicitly teach reading comprehension skills at a secondary level, whilst ensuring students engaged with their texts in effective and meaningful ways.

David Lee has had leadership responsibilities in a range of school settings, especially focused on whole school literacy and teacher professional development. He has worked as a regional literacy coach in the western metropolitan region of the Department of Education, working with teachers across different schools to improve their pedagogical approaches to enhancing students' literacy. He has for the last two years been a Critical Friend in the VATE Community of Practice project supporting teachers in the schools he has worked with to engage students as critical and powerful readers.

Price details

VATE Individual Member	\$200
VATE Institutional Member	\$220
VATE Concession Member	\$185

Registrations close Wednesday 17 July 2019. Contact events@vate.org.au for more details.