

There is no limit in learning. Even as a teacher, a person who teaches people does not stop learning. Learning is the way to open up opportunities for our life and greater knowledge for ourselves. The purpose of this paper is to look at many ways of how to continue in learning professionally in the field of teaching English. It is divided into four sections, which each one of them has examples of many ways that we can learn, along with information of each source as my opinion and perspective of how it helps me personally.

Professional organization

TESOL Society

TESOL society is an organization that Brigham Young University-Hawaii has established. The purpose is for the TESOL students to participate in different kinds of activities that focus on opportunities for students such as internship, job interviews or teaching experiences. This organization also updates news or any event that related to TESOL in order to help students to be familiar with the environment. Moreover, there are little conferences that are held often on campus whether to listen to TESOL professors or the students get to present their own information. Many great things are provided for students by TESOL society. Obviously, all information are precious and great sources for students to start their profession. In my perspective, it does not just help in that aspect, but in a way of allowing students to build connection.

TESOL Asia

TESOL Asia is another organization that provides opportunities for people who is a member of this organization. This organization is broader and bigger than TESOL society. They focus on different things that they provide for members. They focus more on technology and media that contribute to TESOL profession. In 2014, they introduced the Apps for teachers and students to use in order to access information and sources easier. There is a lot of benefit from this organization that assist in teaching. It is one of the standout organization in the world. In this generation, simply teaching from the text book is not enough. Technology is a big part of life almost in every aspect. In education, technology has been very useful in helping learners to be successful in their education. TESOL Asia offers information and benefits that is needed and useful for me as a future teacher.

Thailand TESOL

Another name for Thailand TESOL is Thai TESOL. This organization is under the patronage of one of the princess in Thailand. It is a non-profit organization that is non-political. It is composed of English teacher volunteers from anywhere and any type of school. The purpose of this organization is to support English language education in every aspect. They do this by research all information in teaching English, even small concerns that people have. Every year, they hold an international conference which have many

good presentations on English teaching in Thailand. There are also workshops and seminars that train local teachers at all level around the country. Personally, I never heard of this organization before. As I was researching about them, I was amazed by the information and opportunities it's provides to help English language teacher in Thailand. The unique thing about this organization was it is there to help develop English teaching for Thai teachers. They gather concerns of teaching English for Thai people that majority of them are not familiar with English. I can see it benefits me as a teacher there to know the specific are that I have to look out for and improve.

TESOL International Association

This organization covers almost every aspect considering TESOL. It has all information that people needs to know about ongoing professional learning through news, article or even connection with other TESOL organizations. I think this is a great source of researching everything about TESOL world. It will help me to know TESOL in the same perspective of others around the world, instead of only my community.

Word Count: 556

Professional publications

El Gazette

El Gazette is an online international newspaper in the English language. It is an independent publication and it publishes monthly. There two different readership available, in a print edition and digital edition. Both of them contains news about language, market report or even on teaching aspect. Occasionally, the magazine will include exams, job opportunities or theme issues. Moreover, they publishes the major conference from all around the world. Being a readership of this magazine seems like you will never miss out any information on teaching English in any part of the world. El Gazette allows the teacher in anywhere around the world to be updated with a good information and opportunities. They have their own professional journalist in some countries to report the conferences there. It is known for a magazine that provides the latest news. I can see how much it will benefit me in my profession and open up more opportunities in my career. I found out that they have their journalist in Thailand as well to report the conferences and anything going on considering TESOL in Thailand. Some of them also teach English there as well. Learning about this makes me see the broader path in my profession.

TESOL Quarterly

This journal is concerned with teaching English and learning it as second language. It covers many aspect in teaching English such as psychology, sociology, methodology of language and others. Those are the theoretical information that is provided, there is also practical information concerning teaching, curriculum, instructional method and many others more. Information that is written is for everyone to

read, even for those that are not familiar with the topic. This journal focus differently from El Gazette in a way of just write on teaching aspect. It is very specific and details on what to know on teaching English. In my perspective, TESOL Quarterly benefits new English teachers a lot because of the information is more practical and is used in the real world of teaching English by the professional.

The Journal of English as an International Language

This journal is an online access journal for all people who involved in teaching and learning English as another language. The journal focuses on the structure of English across the world and the affects from culture. It also seeks to develop English teaching around the world and how other language effect in teaching English. This journal most likely support me as an international English in a country that English is not used much. It helps me to learn how the culture of my country can affect who I will be teaching. Sometimes, you can look over small details or aspect of people that you teach.

Essential Teacher

This is another journal that offers information for people that focus in practical ways more. It offers news, teaching practice or reflections on teaching. Unfortunately, it stopped publishing in 2009, but the information that were published still available for everyone to read. I think it helps me a lot in getting to learn the teaching aspect in the past and what was effective and compare with the way of teaching now. I think it could help me develop the way I teach to people with different ages.

Word Count: 542

Professional websites

Dave's ESL cafe

This website is very unique and organized. There are different section for teachers, students, people that looking for job and everyone. I pay attention particularly to the job section. There are information that is very specific for people that looking for teaching English in different countries. There are links to many different website and company that needs teachers for teaching English. I think it could be a great start for new graduated students to start looking for job, or even people that is professional but looking for experience in different countries.

TESOL Online

This is a website that offer many different TESOL online courses. The courses cover all aspect of TESOL and all level. For people that already graduate from college, there is also courses that are offered online. There courses are training courses that designed specifically for beginner teachers of English who has a TESOL certificate already. The course support people who wants to gain an advantage in the job market. The tutor is provided online as well to help you along your courses. This website is a great source to continue in learning professionally from anywhere around the world. This will obviously help

me in the future when I want to further my knowledge in TESOL, to learn all the skills that I need specifically in what I will be doing.

Asia TEFL

Asia TEFL focuses on facilitating understanding on the culture among people that teaching and learning English in Asia. It publishes the journal, hold conferences and seminars. It also improve methods and guidelines for teaching English in Asia. Being part of membership in Asia TEFL is you will receive the information on news and activities of Asia TEFL. This is a great chance for educate ourselves more into our profession by participating in activities and involve or work with people in the same profession. Personally, this will help me to focus on how I can better teach people in my own region and give myself more advantage into teaching English when I research and study information from this website.

Global TESOL

Global TESOL is known for producing excellent teachers that will answer the needs of English learners. They offer courses that will make you certified for TESOL field. Their program focus on how to use the language and not just theory. Their specific purpose is to give opportunities for all people around the world that wants to learn English and lack of opportunity. They produce good teachers and get them started on the TESOL world. Personally, I think this website is good for everyone. Again as I mention in other sources that we can always learn from others and look at the way they teach to develop our teaching methods. Even though you have a degree already but teaching world is wide and so broad. There will always be interesting thing for us to learn more.

Word Count: 488

Other ways to learn

Volunteering

By being a volunteer in conference, whether to be a small or big conference, it helps you build the connection with people and many opportunities to talk and learn from others in same profession. I think it helps to see different and broader perspective of teaching. There are also workshops that train teachers in different areas occurs every year. Those are also great opportunities to educate yourself in how to hold a workshop and what are activities that are good for learners to practice.

Writing an article about TESOL for local newspaper

This way might not look like it will help you continuing learning professionally because writing an article, you basically educate others. However, it is for sure advertise yourself for opportunities from the readers of your article. The path might lead you to work with the people that are in the same profession and educate you in a higher degree. Moreover, writing an article makes you educate yourself by doing a lot of research on the topic that you write. Sometimes, people might want to co-writing with

you. If you are really good in writing, people might offer you information or a chance for you to come and write about information that they have.

Creating a blog

This is one of the way that is very common these days. Social media is a huge part of education, even for people in previous generations that they have to admit that social media and technology is a big part of education. By creating an opened blog that allows people to come and share information on teaching English and anything concerning TESOL field. People might question who would come and write a blog for you. However, if you advertise your blog and create to make it look attractive for people that want to learn about TESOL by rewarding them with the share of money that you would get when your blog is famous and searched a lot. In this way, you are learning more on TESOL from many perspective and earning money in the same time.

Take an English class in different places and observe the teaching

This is one of the way the sounds the most fun for me because I love looking at the way of other teaching. By observing with a purpose, you learn and recognize ways of teaching in different ways. All teachers are different and with the differences that we have, it allows us to create new ideas or ways of teaching. This educates you in a way of experiencing teaching and trying to understand the feeling of students that are taught in those ways. In my perspective, by knowing different kinds of teaching will benefit the students that you teach because everyone is different. Observing classes allow you to think outside your way and develop new way of teaching.

Word Count: 480

Each section has great information of different ways to access information about TESOL. No matter which way you choose to learn, at least there is something you learn. All of this organizations, publications, websites and other ways are all leading you to more opportunities and interact with people within the same profession, to give you more knowledge. It might even start an idea for you to develop yourself in your profession. As a teacher, we teach and we also keep learning.