

TEACHING AND LEARNING

SMALL-SCALE ENGLISH SEMINARS POPULAR

Johor association set to hold series to improve language

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BUOYED by the success of the 10th Johor English Language Conference last week, the Johor English Language Teaching Association (Jelta) plans to hold more small-scale seminars catering to teachers as well as parents and students.

This year's conference, themed "Multiple Perspectives in the

Teaching and Learning of English as a Second Language", was organised by Jelta with the cooperation of the Johor Education Department and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

Jelta chairman Vincent D'Silva said this year's conference saw a breakthrough in the topics presented by participants.

"It was a breakthrough as teachers and students were exposed to social media usage, mobile applications and online learning techniques for the English Language classroom.

"We had the honour of having experienced teachers and trainers as speakers.

"Jelta will continue to expand, but we will be realistic and cater to the needs of educationists. We

appreciate the cooperation given by schools in Johor.

"Most importantly, we are grateful to the Johor Education Department, which has been supportive of our efforts to improve the English standard.

"Many have spoken and written to us, expressing their interest in attending our conference, should it be held in 2020," D'Silva said.

The main sponsor, New York Hotel, provided meals, venue and accommodation for the speakers and secretariat staff.

The *New Straits Times* (NST) was the collaborator in English language teaching for the events, which ended on Monday.

Other sponsors were Oxford Fajar Sdn Bhd, University Book



Jelta chairman Vincent D'Silva (right) with PTA chairman Dr Othman Ibrahim and principal Marsitah Mohd Noor going through the 'New Straits Times' with 100 Fifth Formers at the Newspapers for English Language Enhancement Workshop at SMK Medini recently. PIC BY MOHD

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Store Malaysia, GBW Hotel, British Council, Rotary Club of Puteri Lagoon and Mase Marketing.

The NST received the Iconic Media Award from Jelta for promoting and supporting the development of English.

The award was presented to NST group editor Rashid Yusof by D'Silva in recognition of the newspaper's efforts and contributions to developing the English Language.

Four teachers received the Excellent English Language Teacher Award, two principals received the Appreciation Award and two students received the Student Leadership Award.

On next year's conference, D'Silva said he hoped New York

Hotel would continue its support as part of its social responsibility commitment to support education.

In the first of its series of small-scale seminars, Jelta will organise a seminar on Aug 24 themed "The Strength of Newspapers for Educational Purposes" at GBW Hotel.

Some 100 teachers will attend the seminar, which will be fully sponsored by the hotel. The registration fee has been waived.

Rashid will speak and mix with participants.

Other workshop presenters are Universiti Utara Malaysia Assoc Prof Dr Hariharan N. Krishnasamy, NST School Times writer Rokiah Ahmad and D'Silva.