

# THE NAETSA MIRROR

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS OF SOUTH AFRICA



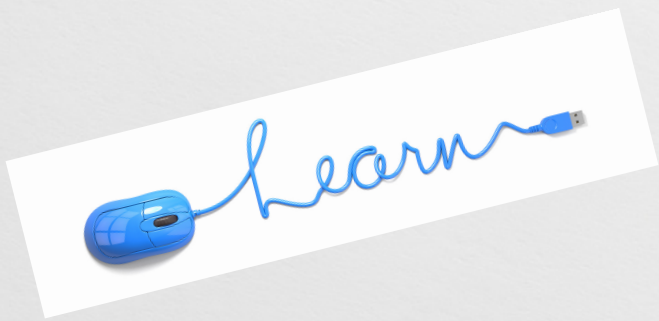
## A NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT :SIKHUMBUZO SIBANDA

*Proud to be president*

It has been an overwhelming two years for the education sector, which had to adapt to a global pandemic. This world event led to changes in teaching approaches and methodologies and a quick but inevitable shift in the way in which we think about education.

Needless to say, many of our teachers and Education professionals stepped up to the challenge. NAETSA as well, attempted to shift their focus to meeting the needs of English teachers and colleagues by collaborating with ELTAs from Africa and beyond, to offer conferences and workshops on online teaching and collaborative learning spaces.





“

NAETSA has outgrown the teething stage and we believe that we are on an upward trajectory to greater things in 2022.

Our intention for this year was to focus on the membership and formalisation of NAETSA structures and whilst we have made much headway finalising our constitution and sorting out the administration of our membership; we felt a pressing need to put our energy onto teacher development. With the help of the British Council, NAETSA was able to offer excellent workshops on online teaching during our first National Conference. We also offered members of our Provincial Committees an opportunity to participate in a COELT course, providing them with hands-on knowledge and experience on using tools such as WhatsApp and Zoom to teach classes from primary to senior school. Our National Executive Committee has also worked closely with SACE and the English Languages Board of PANSALB to offer teachers information about workshops, conferences and training in this regard. Myself and our Deputy President, Patricia Sechogela presented at the LITASA Conference further aligning NAETSA with key stakeholders in English teaching in South Africa.



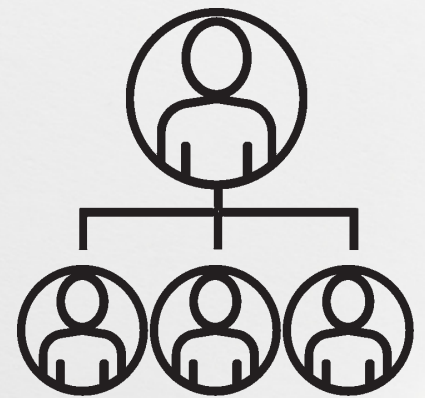
NAETSA has outgrown the teething stage and we believe that we are on an upward trajectory to greater heights in 2022. Our Executive Committee members, many of whom who are teachers themselves, and are situated across all our provinces, have now slotted into their roles within the organisation. We have found ways to engage with each other and stakeholders to ensure that we meet the goals of our two-year plan.



We take this opportunity to thank the British Council, the US Embassy, the Department of Basic Education (and their representatives), SACE as well as our fellow members for their support and enthusiasm during this time. Some individuals although representing organisations deserve special mention viz: Mr Bully Munyaki, your perennial support is our pillar, Joe you will be greatly missed, Terry we value you!

Lastly I would like to call on all language teachers who are not yet part of NAETSA to kindly join this lovely association. A special invitation goes to Limpopo teachers as it is the only province which is not part of the association.

Helen Caldicott (Australian physician, author, and anti-nuclear advocate) said: “Teachers, I believe, are the most responsible and important members of society because their professional efforts affect the fate of the earth.” We salute you all!



## **NAETSA CONFERENCE 2021**





## **The British Council congratulates NAETSA on the publication of its first newsletter.**

The British Council is a long-standing supporter of NAETSA since its inception. We have been providing the association with ongoing administrative support and teacher development. In the last year and a half, the British Council has partnered with the Department of Basic Education in responding to teaching challenges caused by the pandemic and we have created COELT (Certificate in Online English Language Teaching), which is designed specifically for teaching online in low resourced contexts. The COELT certification is now in high demand across South Africa and we also provide Key Digital Skills Training to assist those who have little or no experience in teaching online. Several NAETSA members have already successfully completed the course and are utilising the skills that they gained to enhance their online teaching.

The British Council is now developing a Professional Learning Community (PLC) to further support NAETSA members and all teachers who have certified in COELT. The PLC will be launched on 18 October 2021 and will enable English language teachers to share best practices in online teaching. In October and November 2021, we will also be running our Story-making workshops, which NAETSA will be participating in. The British Council continues to provide free resources for all English language teachers worldwide, which can be accessed through our Teaching English website: <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/> and we have recently introduced the Teach English Africa site, which contains materials from our African context. This can be accessed at: <https://africa.teachingenglish.org.uk/>

We salute the executive team at NAETSA for all their hard work and for introducing this newsletter to help English language teachers share information and resources to improve English language teaching and professional development. Please check the upcoming NAETSA Mirror newsletters for updates on the British Council's resources, courses, and events.



**Nicoleen Janneker**  
**British Council: Head of English for Education Systems**  
**[www.britishcouncil.org.za](http://www.britishcouncil.org.za)**



# NORTHERN CAPE ASSOCIATION FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS



*Since its inception the NCAET has been involved in the following activities*

## Teacher Exchange Programme :

Three delegates represented the NCAET to participate in a teacher exchange programme to USA at the University of Massachusetts in Lowell in 2020. Sponsored by the American Embassy in partnership with the Department of Education. Mr Sikhumbuzo Sibanda (Former Chairperson), Lerato Tsotetsi (Provincial Secretary secretary)3. Estelle Bezeidenhoud

**The workshop took place on the 10- 14 February 2020 in Durban at Garden Court Marine Parade.**

Four members application were successful from NCAET

- > Sikhumbuzo Sibanda ( President NAETSA)
- > Lerato Tsotetsi( Z.F Mcgawu District.)
- > Tshepiso Magaswa (John Taolo Gaetswe District)

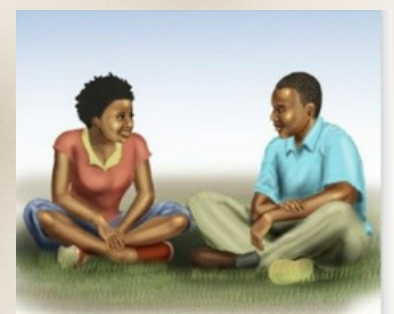
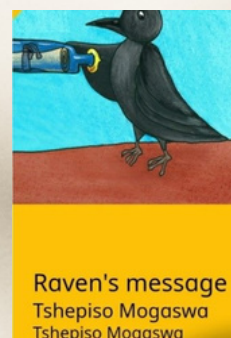
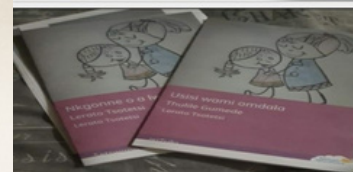
## Storybook Writing

The British Council in partnership with the National Department of Education invited Provinces to participate in the story book project. Saide's African Storybook in partnership with British Council worked to achieve these objectives.

They wrote and published digital childrens book in English and Setswana . .Some were translated to Isizulu.

The aim of the project is to provide:

- > high quality picture story books in South African languages.
- > to encourage bilingual story making and story use with learners.
- > to introduce developmental activities that can be cascaded through the Provincial English and African language teacher associations supported by British Council.
- > create interesting and relevant books in local languages and English and African languages.
- > to help increase the availability of books in area where there are few.
- > to empower teachers to develop their own books and share story making with colleagues





### The launch of Districts.

NCAET was the first Province to successfully launch their local district. It was also the first to launch the first virtual meeting. NCAET launched the following districts:

- > John Taolo District on the 07 February 2020
- > Z.F McGawu on the 13 August 2021
- > Francis Baard District on the 13 August 2021.

### Future plans

- > To launch the remaining two districts in our province.
- > Orientation for all DEC on their roles and responsibilities.
- > To establish successful programmes and activities that focus on the challenges that impact our English teachers and learners in our different districts.
- > To create professional opportunities for our teachers.

### Challenges

- > Funding :

For example teachers had to provide their own data to attend the two launches. We as a province having to source funding to run programmes and activities.

- > Due to Covid 19, face to face meeting are very restricted. Having virtual meetings with districts that have difficulties with network connectivity makes it difficult.

### Conclusion

NCAET can proudly mention that our former Chairperson Mr Sibanda was elected as the first President of NAETSA.

As Province we are making positive strides and we hope to continue to contribute Nationally to improve the teaching and learning of Our English Teachers and learners.

### Chairperson of Provinces - Vernon Meremetsi



# NCAETSA

# TOGETHER

### Provincial Structure contact information:

<b>1.Vernon Meremetsi</b>	<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Gomotsegangmeremetsi@yahoo.com</b>	<b>082 930 1479</b> <b>060 843 5911</b>
<b>2.Lerato Tsotetsi</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>harmony.tsotetsi@gmail.com</b>	<b>078 431 5602</b>
<b>3. Alana McAnda</b>	<b>Publicity Secretary</b>	<b>alana.mc@gmail.com</b>	<b>082 408 1225</b>
<b>4.Tshepiso Magaswa</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary</b>	<b>tshepisoonyane@gmail.com</b>	<b>068 189 8101</b>
<b>5.Rochell Topkins</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>rochelltopkins27@gmail.com</b>	<b>082 922 5405</b>



# KWAZULU NATAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



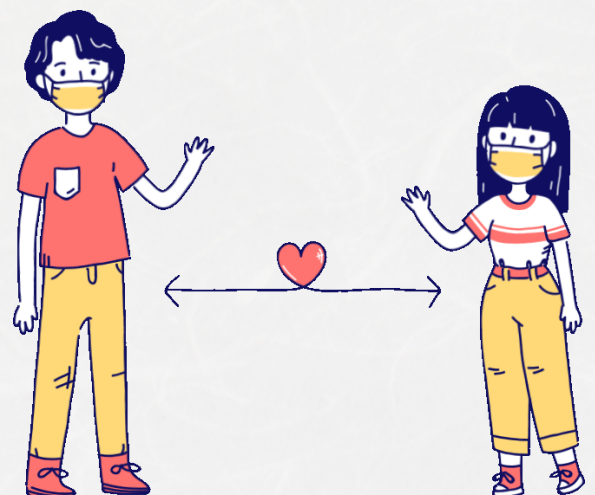
## KZNELTA report

Despite the numerous challenges to teaching and learning caused by the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns and rotational learning timetables, KZNELTA is pleased to report that teachers of English in the province have made great strides in innovative language teaching and support to overcome these challenges.

“Although we are so diverse, being the biggest province with 12 districts, we are pushing forward in language teaching and overcoming challenges to support our learners,” explained Thuli Mbangwa, president of KZNELTA.

The challenges of social distancing and restrictions on gatherings may have made the face to face events planned by KZNELTA impossible but it did not deter its members from reaching out on other platforms and creating new ways to support language teaching and learning in the province.

The Resource portal, a National academic resource provider is a WhatsApp group founded by two KZNELTAmembers. The group was started at the inception of lockdown 2020, primarily to provide English FAL and HL resources for gr 8 and 9 as at the time there was little to no support in terms of resources for this. It soon became evident that language teachers were in need of other subject and grade resources for their students in lockdown. Being the generous and innovative souls language teachers are, this request was met with ready enthusiasm to assist and soon other subject and grade experts became members of the group. The portal soon became a go-to for free resources for all subjects.



Today with over 257 members from across SA, including active, resource developing and sharing KZNELTA, GELTA and other province members, the portal works in collaboration with Professor Mariam Seedat

Khan and her SMART (Simply Managing Academic Tasks) Facebook and webpage to develop, upload and share free resources to the SMART pages. The SMART Facebook page alone has 11 000 members from 12 countries and the like the website can be accessed globally. We are proud that resources developed for language teaching by our own KZNELTA members are being used nationally and internationally.

Apart from social media platforms, KZNELTA members also had the opportunity to develop and present Eng HL radio lessons as part of the KZN Dep of Education Lockdown Radio Lessons for Gr 12.

KZNELTA members were also active participants, resource developers as well as facilitators for the English HL and FAL Gr 10-12 Step Ahead workshops and the recent JIT (Just In Time) Gr 12 learner and teacher support programme.



KZN also had the most number of participants registering for Naetsa's first online conference. Many members of KZNELTA are also actively participating in the Naetsa British Council Coelt course showing that our members are not afraid to use technology and overcome challenges to enhance language teaching and support in our province.

As an organization, passionate about language teaching and support in the province, KZNELTA has many plans for exciting initiatives in the year ahead across various digital and other platforms.

No matter what challenges we face we are determined to always find ways to spread the love and learning of language and knowledge in our beautiful land.

#### **KZNELTA representataive**





# GAUTENG ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



education

Department of Education  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Despite a time of medical treachery, loss, pain and fatigue, NAETSA has emerged resilient and triumphant in its mission to address English language teachers' pedagogical challenges. Under the authentic leadership of Mr Skhumbuzo Sibanda and his team, the skill-specific workshops on offer, conferences for teaching and learning and forging a professional relationship with South African Council for Educators (SACE), are commendable. NAETSA offers a space for the teacher who wishes to experiment with inclusive pedagogies for developing the English language in the multilingual classroom and in the face of inequality and social injustice. On behalf of the Gauteng English Language Teachers' Association (GELTA), I wish to congratulate NAETSA for yet another accolade in launching its inaugural newsletter – I look forward to see in print the diverse intellectual landscape and creativity of our educators and learners. *Docendo discimus.*



**Dr Visvaganthie Moodley**  
**University of Witwatersrand**  
**Chairperson: GELTA**



# **TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY – INTRODUCING THE COELT COURSE TO TEACH ONLINE ON WHATSAPP AND ZOOM**

## **Introduction**

This summary of a talk presented at the National Association for English Teachers of South Africa's first annual conference on 27th March 2021 focuses on the COELT course (Certificate of Online English Language Teaching) and covers four main areas:

- Overview of COELT
- Course structure
- How to present WhatsApp lessons
- Key considerations for using WA to deliver live lessons

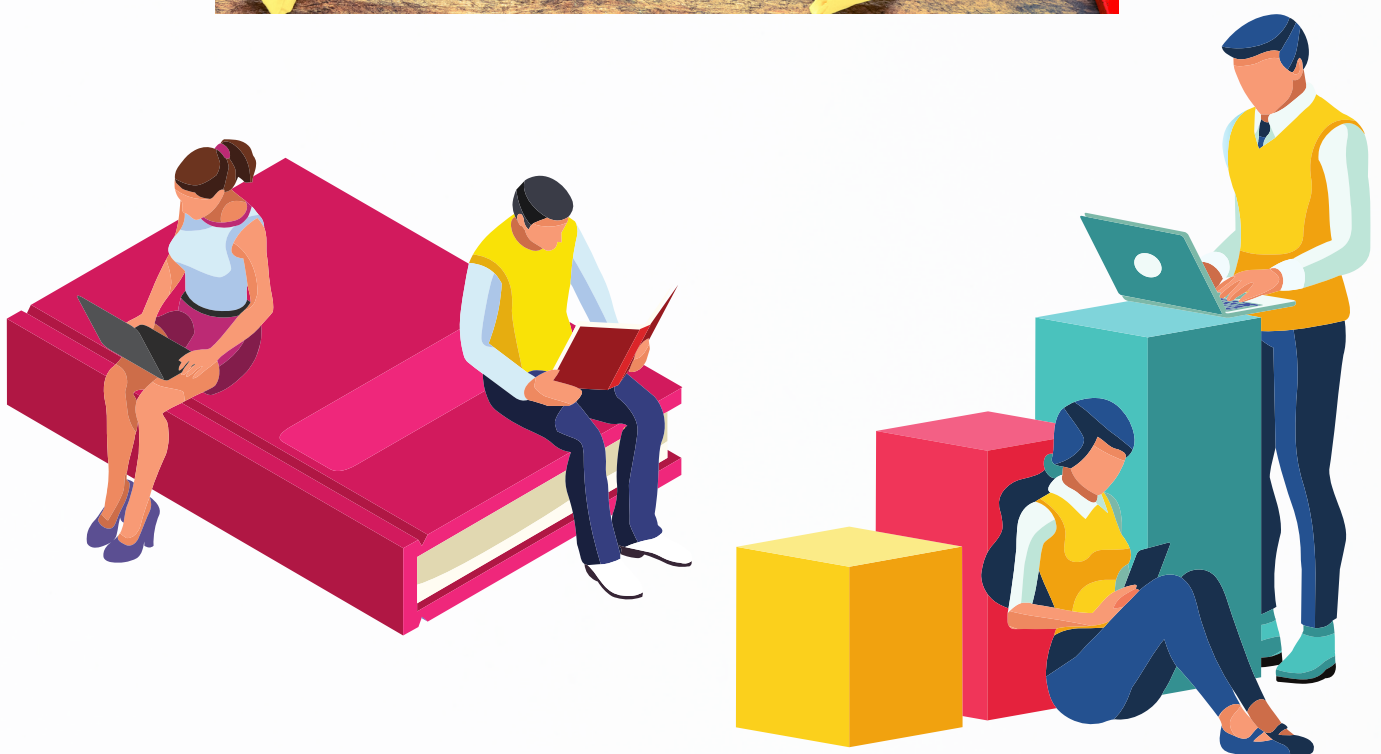
## **Overview of COELT**

The greatest challenge facing contemporary South Africa is the level of inequality in society. Online teaching and learning have often been perceived to widen the gap in the inequalities in education as the preserve of the privileged - those with access to resources like devices, data, software and apps. The Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown meant that children in poor households, 80% of all learners, had very limited access to the online curriculum materials and virtual classrooms. Hence new ways to continue to support learners who do not have these privileges needed to be found.

The COELT (Certificate in Online English Language Teaching) was developed in 2020 by the Department of Basic Education and British Council's Certificate in Online English Language Teaching, with support from specialist online learning experts at The Consultants-E (TCE), specialist online learning experts in collaboration with the South African Department of Basic Education (DBE), British Council and local South African educationalists. COELT aims to make language and literacy teaching more equitable by bridging the digital divide and drawing on local open-source materials like the DBE's workbooks, the PSRIP and LEAP projects. COELT introduces entry level, data-light online teaching skills which support collaborative learning through WhatsApp Live lessons and Video Conferencing. In February 2021, 90 lead teachers and subject advisors took the COELT course; 45 of these were then coached and mentored to become fully qualified Master Trainers, responsible for rolling out the COELT to more teachers. By June 2021, an additional 539 teachers had been successfully trained as online teachers. A second phase of the project is currently underway, and 150 Master Trainers and at least 2,250 teachers to be trained by December 2021.

In early 2021 90 master trainers from 9 provinces were trained and then mentored and coached while delivering the course to 750 teachers. The project is on track to reach 10,000 teachers by 2022.

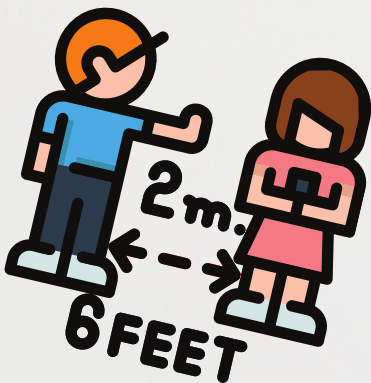
From the comments in the feedback surveys on the first roll-out of the COELT course, it was evident that teachers had found this course to be extremely useful. All of the participants remarked on a tangible increase in their confidence to be able to teach online and a new-found enthusiasm for experimenting with digital tools. Participants highlighted the trust, support and encouragement they had felt from their tutors and colleagues during the course and how they felt 'rejuvenated' and ready to take on new digital challenges. Each new roll-out of the COELT course will bring a unique combination of energy, knowledge and vision. Our duty as Master Trainers and future COELT participants is to pool our resources and create a positive environment where there is no fear of failure, only a desire to succeed in teaching online. It is now important to document and disseminate findings and new methodologies that arise from these experiences so that the COELT course becomes a springboard for adapting ways to effectively teach online in a South African context.



# POETRY CONTRIBUTIONS:

## COVID 19 - WHERE TO FROM HERE?

The start of 2020 seemed like a well-rounded school year,  
Until COVID came to South Africa and gave us all a scare.  
In the beginning nothing was out of reach and we were able to rule,  
Who ever knew a tiny virus could be so cruel?  
Before the virus, death had so much of permission to ask,  
The next thing we knew we had to wear a face mask.  
Things were so bad at home,  
Retrenchment meant no money to plant seeds in the loam.  
Back to school,  
Did not feel so cool.  
Concentrating in class was a huge nightmare,  
Present in body, but mind elsewhere,  
Through every pencil stroke and eraser rub,  
I counted down the seconds to receive my sandwiches from the school sponsored lunch club.  
Social distancing at school led to seeing half my friends today and half my friends tomorrow,  
As a youngster I am told to be brave, there is no time for sorrow.  
My time in school is not very long,  
Let us trust upon God and remain strong.



**Author: CBM - Educator  
Montarena Secondary School**



## SELF-CANNIBALISM

The road South Africa is taking is perilous  
Today, people take law in their own hands  
Daylight robbery is the order of the day  
Dying in the hands of a brother is a norm  
Is this the democracy blood was shed for?  
Oh South Africa, would you ever learn?  
The road is leading to self-cannibalism  
Four men still leading the country to doom  
And play blaming games under our noses  
The white man blames it to a black man  
The black man shifts it to an Indian man  
The Indian says it's coloured, Oh Lord!  
If the road is not changed sooner than  
later

It will get to the point of no return...  
Extremely narrow, with very sharp curves  
The law of the survival of the fittest shall be  
in full practice.

The land of grains shall be the land of  
blood  
South Africa shall be the country once  
existed.

This is the road many African countries  
chose

This is the road that deprived Africans of  
the dreams

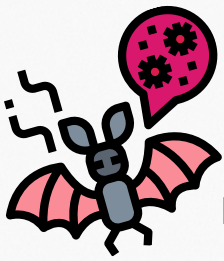
This is the road that had sentenced Africa  
to lifetime slavery

This is the road Mandela bypassed when  
Hani was murdered

Why do you want to take this road today?  
Nobody will destroy South Africa but itself.

**Author: Shoaneng Sefali**



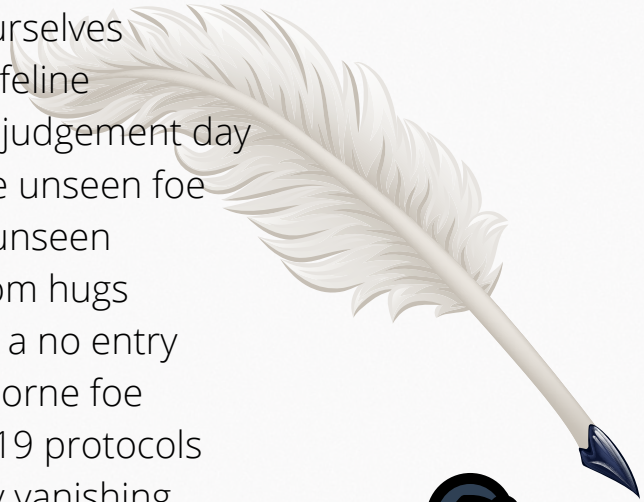
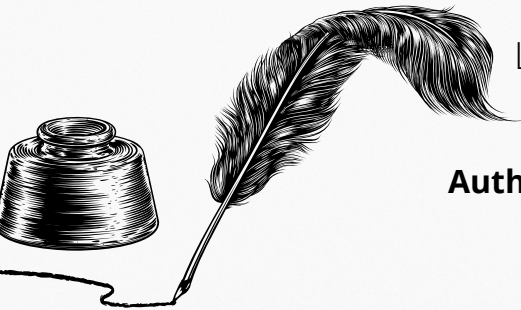


## WHEN WUHAN-CHINA SNEEZED ...



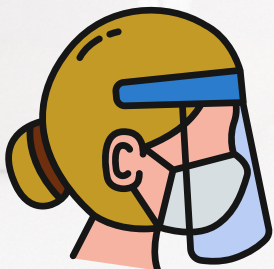
... the globe caught the corona virus  
 Boom – like wildfire; the unexplained, the unexpected blazes  
 Global classroom grinds to standstill,  
 Inducing a novel normal  
 Learners, brace yourselves  
 Mask denotes a lifeline  
 Washing hands postpones judgement day  
 Sanitising annihilates the unseen foe  
 Learners, see the unseen  
 Detach thy souls from hugs  
 Unsanitised surfaces – a no entry  
 Ventilate – repel airborne foe  
 Learners, live the covid-19 protocols  
 Alternative to untimely vanishing

**Author: Dr Zamokwakhe Thandinkosi Ncokwana**

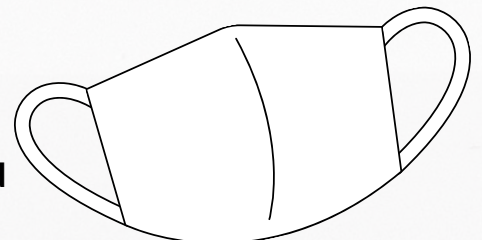


## CORONA IS THE ENEMY

So my task before the world panics and runs out of all the masks,  
 before discrimination of Asians becomes something we let pass  
 Forgetting that the problem stems from something we can't grasp  
 , before you yell conspiracy  
 , before you tweet you at cyril like it's really gonna fix the situation but you have  
 no validity,  
 before the stocks plummet  
 , before every industry realizes that's it workers who slave actually run it  
 , before total lockdown and depression and anxiety, and long nights alone and  
 no with contact with society  
 , the riots, the tanks, 90 days of sobriety, and social validation off IG notoriety,  
 before you go crazy, way before you choose the worst time in making to have a  
 unplanned baby,  
 just know  
 We're all part of the remedy  
 we're on the same team  
 And corona is the enemy



**Author: Raees Kaka Muhammad**



# MAKING THE MOST OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE INTERNET IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

**NEW**★  
**POST**

## Introduction

The purpose of this article is to share how social media and internet are used in teaching and learning. Social Media are interactive technologies which allow sharing of information or ideas, using forms of networks and internet connections. These technologies allow the use of Movable Technological Gadgets (MTG), (Masilo, et al., 2018). MTG includes all electrical equipment's such as smart phones, tablets, laptops etc, the electronic advancement allows educators to work smart in their own space and settings. This implies taking advantage of using mobile devices during teaching and after as it allows anytime and anywhere learning (Masilo et al., 2019). Mobile devices have interactive ebooks with features such as images, videos, audio, simulations and links to other technologies (Soffar 2017). Social media uses internet connections which is active only if data is available. Data is purchased from service provider such as MTN, VODACOM, CELL C, etc.



## Background

The world is currently experiencing the period of transition from face to face teaching to online remote teaching. This came as the results of COVID19 Pandemic. The closure of schools as the results of high infectious rate caused by this pandemic, created space for switching to online teaching. Online teaching and learning were introduced in trying to cover the lost time caused by the lockdown. Using social media such as Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and so on provides free access to online communication and information (Willbord, 2019). Most education institutions transform teaching and learning to E-Learning and find innovative and creative ways to keep learning in disruption (Huang et al., 2020).

Teaching and learning using Social Media and internet

Teaching is a form of transferring information or imparting knowledge, between two people. Whereas learning take place when someone take initiatives to study. These terms are two-way traffic as they rely on each other, the teacher teaches, and the learner will learn. Technology make it possible for teaching to take place online, with or without the teacher. There are tools used when teaching online in order to reach the lesson outcomes. The Internet has become a major tool for effective teaching as well as a learning tool.

**SWIPE UP**

Therefore, teachers can use it as a teaching tool by posting their teaching materials such as, notes, pictures and videos on the school website or forum (Willbold, 2019). The use of WhatsApp became prominent as it is no longer used for only social purposes but also for learning. In a form of a classroom interaction could take place and group work could be done. There are search agents such as Google and Bixby which helps students for information searching. Audio recordings are the best tools to train listening and speaking skills and reading comprehension. These tools became effective when used daily because students enjoy them more as they support both personal and personalised learning. The learning process becomes interesting and diverse with the use of tutorial videos and notes (Willbold, 2019).



# SOCIAL MEDIA



## How Social Media helps improve teaching and learning

The use of social media in education provides students with the ability to get more useful information, to connect with learning groups and other educational systems that make education convenient. Social network tools afford students and institutions with multiple opportunities to improve learning methods (Willbold, 2019).

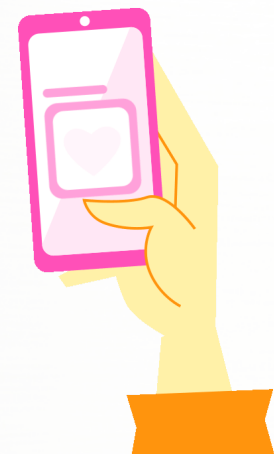
This is because it uses various methods which are suitable for differentiated learning.

Students can use their own style of learning allowing them to improve as they are working according to their abilities i.e. individualise learning. It supports collaborative learning and improves literacy and communication skills in general. It can also spark a new trends trend for increasing student engagement in a Virtual Learning Environment. (Whitfield, 2020)

## Conclusion

The use of social media and internet in teaching and learning reinforce the sense of ownership as students can use their mobile devices for learning. There are many applications which are available, and these are tools to be used to find answers to many questions on the internet. Therefore, I can conclude by saying social media and internet are most efficient and reliable means of communication in teaching and learning.

**Author: Masilo Glanice Mmantshabi**





## THE WORLD STANDS STILL

The world stands still  
As hearts stop  
An unwelcome visitor has come to earth  
Not to visit, but to stay  
An invisible enemy has created a new set of rules  
A mask hides our emotions, our expressions, our very identity  
The doorbell does not ring  
No one stops by for a cuppa  
We treat our friends, as our enemies - with distance  
The gift of life is precious  
If I should die, I remain  
Because of whose I am

**Author: Sivanandini Moodley**  
**Educator at APAX**  
**Bachelor of Education (Honours)**



"Congratulations to NAETSA on the inaugural publication. The contributions are testimony to our resilience."

**Publication Secretary: Sivanandini Moodley**



**Mpho Ntsane: Treasurer of the National Committee**



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