

CDC Committee on English Language Education 2009 - 2011
Gist of the Fourth Meeting

Date: 23 June 2011
Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:40 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room, 53/F Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 8 July 2010

- The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without any amendments.
- The Chairperson expressed gratitude to all the members for their contributions during the term of office, especially those who had served the committee for six years.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

- The revised 'Listening and Integrated Skills Descriptors' were uploaded to the webpage of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) in July 2010. A supplementary sheet had been inserted into the remaining information packages and the revised version would be printed after all the existing packages had been sold out.
- No additional examples in the information package would be included to further illustrate the range of written sentence structures as depicted in the 'Listening and Integrated Skills Descriptors' as permission from parents and students had to be sought to include the students' work. Teachers were advised to refer to the past CE papers for the range of sentence structures candidates were expected to demonstrate at different levels.
- The proposal of developing an online anthology for school use was not feasible due to the high costs. It was not desirable to change the texts in the syllabus too frequently as schools or parents had to purchase new books for the subject.
- It was confirmed that the practice papers of HKDSE would be disseminated to schools in January 2012.
- It was not possible to include additional reading time for candidates to read through the questions in the graded parts before the examination began as the duration of the examinations had been announced to the public and the time for reading the questions had already been considered when the paper was moderated.

3. Presentation of the findings of the Evaluation Study on the Implementation of the Revised English Language Curriculum at Primary Level (Part II)

- The research team members from The University of Hong Kong continued to explain the findings of the Evaluation Study on the Implementation of the Revised English Language Curriculum at Primary Level (The Study). Members gave comments on the findings and the recommendations made. The following areas were discussed:
 - enhancement of learning and teaching through timely and constructive feedback
 - effective use of 'e-books'
 - deployment of NETs to facilitate students' learning
 - TSA
- It was agreed that timely and constructive feedback should be given to students in order to let them know how they could improve their learning.
- It was agreed that better use should be made of 'e-books' to develop students' reading skills.
- Starting from the new academic year, schools would have the flexibility to deploy NETs to either key stage. It was hoped that the arrangement could also enhance NETs' understanding of the school curriculum and encourage more collaboration between the local teachers and the NETs in future.
- It was advised that the analysis of assessment data should be strategically used to enhance the holistic curriculum planning of schools and teachers should avoid conducting excessive drilling practices for TSA.

4. A.O.B

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40p.m.