



Welcome to the third issue of [GLOBAL EDUCATOR](#) for 2021. This issue focuses on the theme: **English as "*Lingua Franca*" in Development Education**, enjoy the read and on this occasion a [podcast](#) on the topic. A selection of themes in future issues include: Girls Education, Schooling Without Schools, Indigenous Education, Food/Nutrition and Education, Science & STEM and more.



Editorial

Teaching English is fraught. Not just because it can be difficult to do. It can be more of a political act than the well-intentioned teacher, or learner, might appreciate. It can make one complicit in the diminution of important, diverse, life-affirming cultural heritages.

While learning English might appear to provide locals with paid employment in popular tourist destinations like Bali and Fiji, how much better off are they as a result? Has it not enabled their exploitation and contributed to excessive tourism supporting cultural as well as environmental damage to their homelands? Are the biggest beneficiaries only really those privileged tourists

and international Hotel chains who maintain intergenerational control over the world's resources, while perpetuating the lie of trickle-down economics?

Palms Australia scopes placement requests for English teachers carefully to avoid this outcome. We appreciate that cultures evolve, but wish to play no part in transculturation; the transference of cultural traits, symbols, meanings, values, or institutions of a specific culture to almost all other cultures. We do not support English teaching as a means of proselytizing, as once might have been (or is it still?) the intention of missionaries and mercenaries.

Can English teaching really threaten the diversity of cultures; just as those of us privileged in the dominant culture start to realise the important answers they can offer ongoing human survival?

It does not have to; is the most positive answer I have. The articles in this GE alert us to some of the dangers; perhaps some of the damage already done. They also highlight the importance of English to communities seeking participation in the global economy and highlight the multi-lingual advantages newcomers to English can obtain. They underscore the importance of context.

Have a read. See if you agree that the simple hypothesis, that English teaching is good for individual and community development, is not perhaps too easy a perspective to assume. And while doing so, it might be interesting to reflect that you are reading this in English, likely as not because you belong to the dominant culture; a clear influence on your perspective, and mine.



Feature Article

English as “*Lingua Franca*”: Education, Development and the Dilemma of English

The question of which language should be the medium of instruction in the developing world is a complex and perplexing one. The issue actually goes back well over 100 years when mass education programs were introduced in various countries. [Read more...](#)



From The Field

Teaching English: Context is Everything

Kevin Wilson, Palms staff member and returned Program Participant in Bougainville, discusses the need to understand how English will be used in societies where it is at best a third language. [Read more...](#)

Learning English in Timor

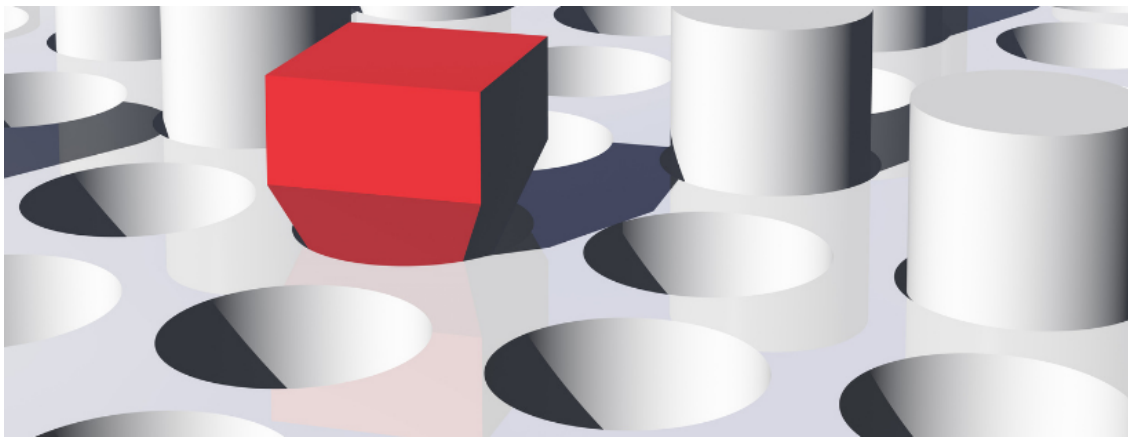
Marino Fernandes from Balibo Community Learning Centre explains the challenges in supporting those wanting to learn English in Timor. [Read more...](#)

COVID: Adding to the Challenge of Teaching English in Cambodia

Aaron Ong, a Catholic Lay Missionary, outlines challenges and efforts to bridge the gaps in English Education in Cambodia. [Read more...](#)

English Teaching in Remote Thailand

Palms Program English teacher Liz O'Sullivan provides professional skill development for local teaching staff in remote Northern Thailand and teaches students from the Nu Po refugee camp and villages in this region. [Read more...](#)



Squaring the Circle

The Tension between English for Communicative Use and the English Industry

In this squaring the circle discussion, I invite readers to think about English and how it is used in the various countries and communities around the world where it is spoken. My main purpose is to leave the reader with a framework to engage in the conversation regarding English as a *lingua franca* and to highlight some of the complexities to think about. [Read more...](#)



Publisher's Reflection

Four languages are recognised in the Timor Leste constitution. While Portuguese is the official language, English has remained the second language of choice and Palms has received many requests for English teachers across the country. [Read of the impact in the village of Atabae...](#)



Opportunities to Teach Beyond

Qualified and experienced **Australian teachers are needed.**

APPLYING NOW will ensure you are fully prepared to go to the communities who have requested teachers when it's safe to do so. [Re-imagine our world by watching our short placement video.](#)

Above we spotlight two current positions but there are [many more listed here.](#)



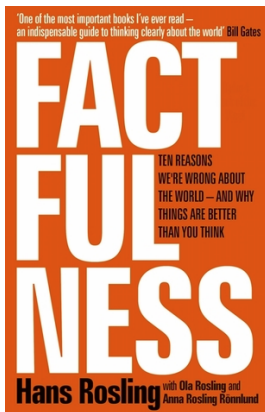
Lesson Possibilities

Using the articles to generate discussion

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of children in the developing world learning English?
2. Can poorer, more disadvantaged children gain social mobility by learning English? [More questions...](#)



Reviews



FACTFULNESS: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World – and Why Things Are Better Than You Think

by Hans Rosling, Ola Rosling & Anna Rosling Ronnlund

This book is a gem. Factfulness is about dealing with the evidence — the facts. These are not obscure or otherwise difficult to find. Yet the book shows that too many of us harbour opinions about the state of the world based on what was rather than what is. It is also a fun book because it invites the readers to answer 13 simple questions... [Read more...](#)

Copyright © 2021 Palms Australia, All rights reserved.

Forward this email to a friend.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your contact information or unsubscribe from this list.