

From the classroom: Using padlets to build and share knowledge on World English(es)

Padlets have become a popular teaching and learning tool because the platform allows for crowd-sourced knowledge, making it a great tool for collaborative learning and group exercises in the classroom. For the course ENG 2232 - English Across the World¹, offered by the Department of English, students were given the task of analyzing different varieties of English. Instead of the traditional 'group presentation', the assignment integrated Padlet as the platform where students collaborated on the information they gathered which also incorporated digital media such as online quizzes, video clips, etc.. The final result is a digitised data-pool of varieties of English(es), with easily linked references to external resources that can be used by anyone for teaching learning purposes.

1. **Nigerian Pidgin English - No Wahala!**

This padlet reviews Nigerian Pidgin English. The padlet has information on the historical origins of Nigerian Pidgin English as well as contemporary standards of this variety.

Student contributors: Sithmi Edirisinghe, Hansy Paboda, Seth Ganepola, Sayuri Mohotti, Vibhath Jayasinghe

2. **Talk Singlish, can or not lah?**

This padlet reviews Singlish - Singapore English. The padlet provides information on the history of Singlish, and also of its current status. It further analyses both the linguistico-cultural and political aspects of Singlish.

Student contributors: Piyumini Buddhika, Thanuri Somasiri, Taniya Senevirathne, Pramudi Lankanadee, Kalani Apsara

3. **Jombies? - Indian English as the epicenter for South Asian Englishes**

This padlet looks at Indian English and its many aspects. From postcolonial history to the current status Indian English holds, the padlet gives an overview of the power dynamics surrounding the evolution of English language varieties in South Asia.

Student contributors: Rasani Sonali, Chamathka Bandarachandane, Madhurya Dhanasekara, Vinuri Aparna, Ishini Ramachandra

4. **'Don't Lose Your Accent'- South African English**

Reviewing South African English, this padlet contains information as well as fun activities for a more engaging digital experience. It looks at the many dynamics of power - both in terms of linguistics and politics - that determine the make-or-break case for a variety of English.

Student contributors: Azra Jabbar, Anudi Karunaratne, Jonathan Cruse, Muminah Hakeem, Senadie De Alwis

¹ Co-taught by Pawan Wijesinghe and Lilani Dias

Lab Resources

The Digital Humanities Laboratory (DHLab)
Department of English, Faculty of Arts,
University of Colombo
dhlab@english.cmb.ac.lk



Attribution

This '*From the classroom*' resource is hosted by the Digital Humanities Laboratory, Department of English, University of Colombo for anyone who studies and investigates Englishes across the world.

If you are using this resource in your classroom, workshop, research, etc. please use the recommended citation below.

Recommended citation

Digital Humanities Laboratory, Department of English, University of Colombo (2022). *From the classroom: Using padlets to build and share knowledge on World English(es)*. <https://dhlab.cmb.ac.lk/resources>

(August, 2022)