Implementing LAC in PSHE subjects: A reflection on a 4-year practice

30 November 2013

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Who we are...

- Part 1
 - Ms. Teresa Wong Siu-ling, Teacher of junior Geography and History, Kowloon True Light School
 - Ms Tracy Cheung, LAC curriculum support officer to Kowloon True Light School, Senior Research Assistant, The University of Hong Kong
- Part 2
 - Dr. Tammy Kwan, The University of Hong Kong

Today's outline

- Experience sharing in implementing LAC lessons in PSHE subjects
 - Getting to know our school context
 - Trying out LAC elements in PSHE subjects (History / Geography) from 2010/11 to 2013/14
 - Reflection
 - Concluding remarks
 - Q&As

Experience sharing in implementing LAC lessons in PSHE subjects





Historical background of Kowloon True Light School

- We are a Christian girls' secondary school situated in Kowloon Tong.
- In 1872, True Light School (a primary school) was founded in Guangzhou. Later in 1917, True Light Middle School was established in addition to the primary section.
- In 1949, the school was transferred to Hong Kong.





Our School-based MOI Policy

- Owing to the implementation of the fine-tuning of the M.O.I. policy in 2010-2011, our school has started to teach Integrated Science and Geography in English in all four S1 classes while three of them have Mathematics, History, Computer Literacy and Home Economics taught in English as well.
- One class has Chinese Language taught in Putonghua.
- When S1 moves on to senior secondary level(SS1), all classes will have all subjects taught in English for the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education.

MOI Arrangements of our school

- CMI / EMI for all subjects by class / group
- CMI / EMI by subject for some classes / some groups

2015-2016	SS3		1	History, Chin		ature,
2014-2015	SS2	Chinese La	anguage and I	Liberal Studie	es)	
2013-2014	SS1					
2012-2013	S3	A(1)	A(2)	В	C	D
2011-2012	S2			Mathemat	Science	, Geography, ory, Economics in

Getting to know our school context

Strengths	Weaknesses
1.A young and energetic school principal	1.A number of teachers are not familiar
2.A team of hard-working and dedicated	with EMI / LAC (knowledge / pedagogy /
teachers	awareness)
3.Most students are cooperative and can	2.A number of teachers might not be
stay on-tasks	comfortable to use English as the medium
4.MOI decision was discussed and	of instruction (proficiency)
supported by most teachers before	3.English proficiency of some students still
implementation	needs improvement
Opportunities	Threats
1.The English Department has applied for	1.Recruiting S1 students is competitive in
the REES \rightarrow Collaboration & PD with HKU	our school district
for 3 years	2.Teaching load and other duties are heavy
2.The English Department has invited LLSS,	among colleagues / departments / teams
EDB to have school-based projects	3.Teachers are worried of declining
	HKDSE results
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Trying out LAC elements in PSHE subjects (junior History / junior Geography)



Understanding EMI and LAC

- Language Across the Curriculum (LAC) = Academic Language Awareness + Academic Content Awareness
- Every content subject teacher is also a language teacher.
- "One of the ways in which we come to possess knowledge is through our possession and use of language"
- When we adopt English as the Medium of Instruction, we help our students to master:
 - "Knowledge of content"
 - Knowledge of language
 - Language skills, grammar and vocabulary
 - Generic skills: Critical thinking etc.
- Genre-based approach offers an authentic context to link up everything

An overview of T/L activities attempted

Year	History	Geography	Professional Development
2010-2011	 S1, LLSS (+Eng / comparison) 		• School-based WS: Genres to Academic Literacy (Dr. Angel Lin)
2011-2012		 S1, with HKU S2, with LLSS (+Eng / cause- and-effect) 	• School-based WS: Academic Literacy and Language Across the Curriculum: Scaffolds & Collaboraiton (Dr. Angel Lin)
2012-2013	• S2, with HKU	 S1, with HKU (w/ another Geog T) 	 EDB HKU LAC PD course (Lesson observation by Dr. Kwan) School-based WS: Language Across the Curriculum: Sharing of Ideas (Ms Tracy Cheung)
2013-2014	• S2, with HKU	S1, with HKUS3, with HKU	
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Year 1: 2011-2012 (T/L activities)

S1 Geog, with HKU



Year 2: 2012-2013 (T/L activities)

Topic Free Goowth and Development of Hong Keng up to the early 20th centrary

This is Old Stanley Police Station in Stunley. 4. name of historical building / location

year of establishmen

year of establishment / special feats

American (Aming the Incomera

(a) This is The Helena May in Central. (b) It was

ult in 1914 and was officially opened in 1916. (c)

nally a hostel for single working women

Second World War to provide a

all working women

origin, the building was recovered af

It was built in 1859 and is now the oldest police

n Hong Kong. (c) During the

of After the Second World War a

ding changed back to its original use as

station justil 1974

it was used as loca

S2 History, with HKU

Skills Training & Field trip History **History topic:** Study of historical Norld Humoy Express 2 Shill Training Activities (Revised Edition) Class: Date: Kowloon True Light Schoo riculum (LAC) Programm buildings in HK S2 History & LAC Case study: Writing a descriptive report on a historical building in Hong Kor Activity 1: Historical building Date: Kowloon True Light School S2 Language Across the Curriculum (LAC) Programme Class: Watch the PowerPoint show buildings are shown in the Activity 3: Reading an example of descriptive report buildings related to the Read the follow descriptive report and its writing fram 0 G_ O P ΟM Class: ____ Date: ___ Eowloon True Light Schoo S2 Language Across the Curriculum (LAC) Programm buildings related to so Lui Seng Chu OR Hong Kong. If I were a Hong Kong citizen in the 1930s, I would love to vis ΟE Lui Seng Chu Lui Seng Chun because I could buy inexpensive medicine there ΟS Chi Kok Road or take a rest under the verandah where the air is cool and breezy buildings related to tra Leung, who w ОТ 1930s, many ΟP medicine. T ОТ Read the descriptive report above again. Can you identify some examples of languag patterns used in this descriptive report? to provide ine ОТ ommunity 1. Use of the passive voice Activity 2: A descriptive The ground f Visit one of the histori herbal shop s o List (http://www.w used as accor Activity 2: A descriptive report on a During your field trip. down after t Write a descriptive re Lui's family h historical building in Hong Kong o About 100-200 Lui's family o Use at least 3 ph 2. Use of conditional sentences onservation Lui Seng Chu Cantonese) w Your task: 12-13_LAC_S2_History_Historical Buildings It was design 3. Use of "cause-and-effect" words / phrases Chun was bui • Visit one of the historical buildings in Hong Kong architectural : * List (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Grade I historic buildings in Hong Kong) the verandah balustrades i o During your field trip, take notes and photos. 12-13 LAC 52 History Historical Buildings v • Write a descriptive report on this building that you have visited. About 100-200 words page 3 . Use at least 3 photos that you've taken during your field trip 12-13 LAC 52 History Historical Dublings v2

Year 2: 2012-2013 (T/L activities)

• S2 History, with HKU for PD lesson observation

Renaissance humanism and art	History topic: Arts in the medieval time
Group B	Task A Look at the paintings in Group A, and Group B, compare and contrast the characteristics of the two groups of paintings by putting the following words in the bases: Colourful religion If eless and flat proportionate fully proportionate religion and human life Comparing items Group A Group A Group B
Modering and Orid in Glory /	Vectorialize Task B Bread the passage and match the following headings to paragraphs. (estracted from Aristo, The Renaissance, P.6 8.20, adapted by Wong Siu-Ing) Pro: sort time set for sort time set to be born to be mediaved times. Pro: sort time set to fourther the mediavation affect the Renaissance attait? Pro: sort time set fourther to mediaved times. Pro: sort time set (adjective) Dimension affect the Renaissance attait? Pro: sort time set (adjective) Dimension affect the Renaissance attait? Program D During the mediaval times, the Christian Church was very powerful. It had a great influence over political, economic, social and cultural affairs of a country. <i>MeterServe</i> , painting were mostly about religion. They also a diagrand. In addition, the bodies of the fargers and to during the Remainsance. As a exercit, human bigers are important. They are perfect and However, the server political.
	are capable of doing many things. Besides, they are fire to have their coun ideas. While sensitivative are gravity influenced by this balls, their were about religious and human topics. Since the arots transformation or found to highlight the figures, they usually look alse and natural. This particular painting abilits known as perspective (gr + + per + We 漫漫). They are the sensitive the gravity influenced by this balls, they usually look alse and natural. This particular gravity influences for the sensitive the that they were well-off (i.e. rich or wealthy). They paid artifust or deformation deforming and solutions. Figure and the sensitive the sensitive the sensitive the sensitive the sensitive and the sensitive sensitive and the sensitive that they were well-off (i.e. rich or wealthy). They paid artifust or deformation to deform the the house with the sensitive the sensitive and the sensitive sensit

Year 3: 2013-2014 (T/L activities)

- Will carry out the materials developed in the previous years: Geog topic:
 - In S2 History and S1 Geography

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Land use &

Year 3: 2013-2014 (T/L activities): An extended S3 Geog-LAC module

After trying out different LAC elements & strategies for 3 years...

- It's time to have a challenge for both teachers and students.
- We have accumulated and tried out a lots of ideas in the past three years.
 - Bits and pieces only
 - Not a complete PSHE module / chapter
- This year, we want to pull together all the things that we have learnt, and try something BIG, something more comprehensive.
 - An extended Geog-LAC module.
 - S3 Geography "Ocean in Trouble"

Our beliefs...

- Content knowledge and language knowledge should go hand in hand.
- When integrating LAC elements / strategies and content subject knowledge, the learning activities should be:
 - As **smooth** as possible
 - As **hassle-free** as possible
 - As **meaningful** as possible
 - With as many **scaffolds** as possible
 - Without dumbing down

When students use English as the Medium of Instruction, they need to master and use.....

Planning Step 1	 Content knowledge
	 Skills and strategies
	• Language skills (e.g. read, listen, speak & write)
	 Thinking skills (e.g. compare & contrast, evaluate, suggest, identify)
	• Study skills (e.g. take notes, revise, summarize)
	 Language knowledge
Planning Step 2	 Text-types (e.g. information report)
seep -	• Rhetorical functions (e.g. to define, to explain)
	• Sentence patterns / "grammar"
	• Vocabulary
	 Subject-specific technical vocabulary
	• General academic vocabulary
	 Signalling words
ľ	



Let's have a module walk-through

- The whole chapter 2 "Oceans in Trouble" is now divided into 5 subsections.
- Sections 2.1 to 2.3 are textbook-based, while 2.0 (Pre-learning) and 2.4 LAC application are our own design.
- We have around one month to cover this chapter. (8-9 lessons)



Content Learning outcomes

- By the end of the module, students can:
 - Identify the **importance** of the oceans, the **problems** and the **consequences**
 - Understand possible ways of developing the oceans in a more **sustainable** way
 - Cultivate the <u>awareness</u> of oceans and strike a <u>balance</u> of consumption of marine resources and <u>protection</u> of ecosystem

Sections	Tasks	T-note	
2.0 Pre-learning	1. Watch a video clip "Why the ocean"	home	Before Nov 11
2.1 mportance	1. Read the case study "The Black Sea"	class	Nov 11 (iPad)
	Read the information report "Marine Ecosystem" and summarize it with a graphic organizer	class	Nov 13
	Identify other importance of the oceans through reading maps and visual aids	class	
	4. Read textbook pp. 37-52, and complete exercises	Home / class	Nov 18
i	5. Summarize the section		
2.2 Problems	2.1 Read a story on Minamata Disease	class	Nov 20 (iPad)
	2.2a Read news articles on problems of the oceans	class	
	2.2b Read textbooks, (and search the Internet)	home	1
	2.3 Complete summary (p. 54)	home	Nov 25
	2.4 Write an information report		
2.3 Solutions	1. Read diary entries related to solutions	class	Nov 27 (iPad)
Solutions	2. Design an infographic poster	class / home	Dec 2 (iPad)
2.4 Application	1. Have a discussion on the topic "Conservation or Civilization"	class	Dec 9
	2. Reflect on what I have learnt in this chapter	home	i

Package of learning materials [drafts only]

2.0 Pre-learning





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Package of learning materials [drafts only]



Package of learning materials [drafts only]

2.3 Solutions "What can be done to save our oceans?"

Geography Chapter 2 Ocean in Trouble	
2.3 Saving our oceans Task 1: Reading some diary entries feed the following dary entries written by a Hung Kong teenage get.	Was as finited shorth
strategies or Heatwares used to protect the oceanit, and write them in Diary Entry #1 "Tung Pong Chao Marine Park"	he table on page 4.
27 September: 2014. Survey Today shady tools as all to alot Tang Ang Dau Martee Paris (at single and found a tot of interacting thing) them. At final it tought the trap Tang Tang Dag Dau Martee fram tas a shadees (a.h.dars) matter estimates of costs and marter the time are martin forwing. There are also mark and the set of the time are marting forwing. There are also marks	whild be boring! in fact, n. The rich diversity (nert):
tional autoreador ao fado a serio ante ante a serio a	anna an shall an an an shall a
white we were validly along the Tang Ping Owo Trail (investment)	dad aded us some questions.
First he table in the the number of these beautiful const had once do ferrit. Test statistic wears's philophonean the water quality of Hing of every paor. The hardware we published but is the input growth in the 3500s, and a line of nummer the deal. Such also the generativity and maining packs and marker before tables in the generativity, the water	Heusel, and I didn't balleve ng wait, at one time, way nerudachung soctors in the Sime laws, and ut ug some
I matter parts and matter testing in thing fairs, and finally, the watter ecology begins to improve. Notice we will fairs (Fel Charl, eds index reasons for poor welfer quality or water pollution in Hung Fong, Wang to feech us more about these issues.	parity and the marks and an
Diary Entry #2 "Grandpa's competition" 2" October: 2004 Cloudy Refers 1 that writing tabley: entry, let me they use two photos.	Strategies or measured used to protect the oceans
man in the second photo? Bight, that's my grandpar. With an	Lang anny 41 Tung Pag Chao Masse- Part"
	Diry entry at "Groupurs Campelitur"
	Dairy siloy #3 "Tigs from a
	Event Speaker"
	# 4 "Cantifuction Site"
Task 1 "D	iary entries



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	ge Learning Elemen	ts _{ill}	Text types / genres focus	Lang. Element focus*
2.0 Pre-learning		reading	An infographic video	C: Understanding the context & identifying main ideas W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
2.1 Importance	1. Read the case study "The Black Sea"	reading / speaking	A case study (an information report)	C: extracting key information to a graphic organizer T: text structure S: academic functions (defining, comparing and contrasting, giving examples) W: signalling words, vocabulary (thematic, in context)
	2. Read the information report "Marine Ecosystem" and summarize it with a graphic organizer	reading	An information report	C: extracting key information to a graphic organizer T: text structure S: Functions: definition / explanation / giving examples W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
	3. Identify other importance of the oceans through reading maps and visual aids	reading	maps / visual aids / caption	C: understanding maps and visual clues S: Function: summarizing W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
	4. Read textbook pp. 37-52, and complete exercises	reading	Graphic organizers / textbook	S: Expressing opinions from a different perspective "If I were I would" W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
2.2 Problems	15. Summarize the section2.1 Read a story on Minamata Disease	reading	A narrative	C: Understanding the context & identifying main ideas T: text structure Narrative structure & development of minamata disease
	2.2a Read news articles on problems of the oceans	reading / speaking	News articles	C: Understanding the context & identifying main ideas, using pictorial clues to understand meaning of written text W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
	2.2b Read textbooks, (and search the Internet)	reading	textbook	
	2.3 Complete summary (p. 54)	integrated	A graphic organizer	C: extracting key information to a graphic organizer W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
	2.4 Write an information report	writing	An information report	
2.3 Solutions	1. Read diary entries related to solutions	reading / speaking	Diary entries	W: Vocabulary (thematic, in context)
	2. Design an infograph poster	integrated	Main task 1: An infographic poster	Using both linguistic and non-linguistic resources to express ideas
2.4 Applic:	Main tasks (task-based approach)	speaking	Main task 2: Oral presentation	Contextual prompts are provided to help present different views and arguments Speaking template with language structured provided to help Functions: greeting, identifying the role, stating one's stance with reasons, summarizing
	2. Reflect on what I have earnt in this chapter	writing	Main task 3: Reflective journal	Expressing opinions from a different perspective "If I were I would" Writing template of a reflective journal with guiding questions provided. Language structures are also provided to weaker students.

A school-based LAC Strategy Checklist:

2. Questioningfactual / non-fiction text- types in content subjectsfunctions in the content subjecttypes of vocabulary (i.e. technical, general academic, signalling words)LAC lesson planning checklist)3. Teaching study skills (e.g. note-taking \rightarrow reading & writing)2. Introducing text2. Highlighting parts of speechsignalling words)2. Identifying language demand in content subjects4. Highlighting content- specific skills (e.g. logical thinkingeffect, explanation) and logical thinking3. Using sentence frames sentence frames3. Highlighting prefixes and suffices3. Classroom language demand in content subjects5. Highlighting language skills (e.g. reading / listening / speaking /3. Summarizing the text. summary of the passagesentence reconstruction4. Use of symbols s. Visualization5. Sharing of resources and ideas1ideas scills (e.g. reading / listening / speaking /summary of the passageideas listening / summary of the passageideas let)content Subject teachers and Language teachers	At Contextual Level	At Text Level	At Sentence Level	At Word Level	Others
contextual level)	2.Questioning 3.Teaching study skills (e.g. note-taking → reading & writing) 4.Highlighting content- specific skills (e.g. observing, practical skills) 5.Highlighting language skills (e.g. reading / listening / speaking / writing) 6.Activating and building background knowledge 7.Motivating and setting purposes for reading 8.Relating the reading to students' lives 9.Pre-questioning, predicting, and direction setting (e.g. advanced organizers, signposting) 10.Visualization (at	factual / non-fiction text- types in content subjects 2.Introducing text structures (e.g. cause and effect, explanation) and logical thinking 3.Summarizing the text. 4.Cloze activities 5.Students giving an oral summary of the passage 6.Color Coding → using highlighters	functions in the content subject 2.Highlighting parts of speech 3.Using sentence frames 4.Mind mapping for	 types of vocabulary (i.e. technical, general academic, signalling words) 2. Using syllabication skills 3. Highlighting prefixes and suffices 4. Use of symbols 5. Visualization 6. Mnemonic 7. Using technology (Quiz let) 8. Tools for revising vocabulary 9. Making use of parts of 	checklist) 2.Identifying language demand in content subjects 3.Classroom language 4.Teaching instructions 5.Sharing of resources and ideas 6.Co-planning between Content Subject teachers and Language teachers 7.Scaffolding in teaching of language / language demand of tasks 8.Understanding exam question prompts 9.A diversity of tasks (content tasks & language

So... how did the students perform?

- This module is still going on, and we plan to have another similar extended Geog-LAC module in the second semester.
- But we can share with you some clips of the lessons that have been conducted so far, and some of the students' work.

1st lesson of the module: Reading a case study of the Black Sea

- Main focus of this lesson:
 - A Case Study: The Black Sea
 - Text structure
 - Guided detailed reading
 - Students' group oral presentations


2nd lesson of the module: Reading an information report

- Main focus of this lesson:
 - Marine ecosystem, other importance & section summary
 - Guided detailed reading
 - Extracting key information to graphic organizers



3rd lesson of the module: Summary of Sections 2.0 & 2.1, + "Learning Diary"

- Main focus of this lesson:
 - Review and study skills
 - learning diary
 - Students' personal evaluation and judgment "If I were..."



4th lesson of the module: Cooperative reading and writing

- Main focus of this lesson:
 - Problems faced by the oceans
 - Guided reading
 - Real time collaborative writing



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Reflections

- PIE
 - P: Planning
 - Identifying content and language demands
 - I: Implementation
 - Trying out new items / strategies / skills
 - E: Evaluation
 - Reflection, students' assignment, discussion / meetings with others
- Assessment elements
 - Assessment for learning
 - Assessment of learning
 - Summative assessment
 - Formative assessment

Reflections

- Working with front-line content subject teachers
 - Knowing BOTH the content subjects and the language
 - Working together means:
 - Co-planning
 - Co-designing
 - Co-teaching
 - Materials development
- Profession development support to teachers

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Our try-outs aimed to provide students

- Four key conditions for successful content and language learning:
 - Exposure
 - Use
 - Motivation
 - Formal instruction
- While students learn the subject contents, they also pick up a lot of language elements.
 - In order to express themselves in this topic, they have to use these language elements and structures.

Through scaffolding at all levels



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Gains related to this extended Geog-LAC module

- Content-wise
 - Understand the importance of the oceans, the problems and consequence
- Language-wise
 - Use specific language structures to express themselves from other stakeholder's perspective
 - (expectation) Give proper, complete oral presentations
 - (expectation) Write simple yet complete information reports to summarize problems of the oceans

Gains in general

- Through our trial-and-errors, we have "spread our wings"
- Senior form teachers shared / reported that language proficiency of S4 students is better
- Preparing students for the HKDSE
 - Lay a solid foundation in junior years
 - Learn better in senior years
 - (might) Have better results in HKDSE
- LAC offers a solid bridge to minimize the gap between JS and NSS, as well as diversity & discrepancy among students
 - Students with weaker language proficiency can still learn and complete all tasks.

Difficulties and challenges in general

• "A matter of choice"

- As a subject teacher
- As a EMI language teacher
- Limited resources
 - Manpower
 - Time
 - Teaching ideas
 - Reference materials
 - Technology (e.g. "real-time collaboration")
 - Experience and expertise
- "LAC Curriculum Designer / Supporter"
 - Depends on funding



Laying a solid foundation

- Sometimes, you simply don't know how far your students could go.
- We have learnt a lot through this journey. We tried, we tripped, we learnt, and we moved forward.
- It's better to start with something small, and something that is most helpful to the students.
- Before any planning or implementation, consider what the students really need, and what the teachers can really do.
- The blossom of LAC might not appear immediately. It's more of laying a good foundation for the students, as well as for the teachers.
- It allows both students and teachers to grow and develop.

