

ENGİN KAÇA

English & Turkish Language Instructor |
Educational Technology & AI

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PROFILE: English & Turkish language instructor with 20+ years of experience teaching EAP in higher education. Proven track record in academic and administrative roles, curriculum and materials development, and assessment. Strong believer in research and technology as a means of excelling in teaching; designs and builds AI-assisted learning apps, games and resources for classroom use and shares this practice with colleagues.

- Language teaching (A1–C1) and EAP in higher education
- Generative AI integration and educational app development
- Teaching material, curriculum and assessment development; level coordination and supervision
- Training in educational technology; localization and translation

EXPERIENCE

Senior English Language Instructor (Foundational Development Year Program)

09/2022 – Present

Sabancı University, İstanbul, Türkiye

- Teaching different FDY courses and creating institution-specific teaching materials
- Developing the Interactive Vocabulary Companion and gamified grammar-discovery apps for Above & Beyond courses with generative AI tools (see AI & Educational Technology Projects)
- Member of the university-wide AI Task Committee
- Delivered workshops on streamlining writing feedback with Editool (2025) and on creating educational games with AI (PPD Days, 2025)
- Created institutional teaching materials for the School of Languages
- Volunteer pool member, University Disciplinary Committee (since 11/2025)

Senior English Language Instructor (Preparatory Program & Modern Languages Program)

09/2005 – 09/2022

Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus Campus, TRNC

- Taught General and Academic English to preparatory students from Beginner to Upper-Intermediate (A1–C1)
- Taught departmental students a variety of EAP courses

TOEFL-IBT Test Center Administrator

09/2014 – Present

Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus Campus, TRNC

- Coordinated all test center activities: pre-test and test day procedures, test and center security, correspondence with ETS, and test center personnel

Elected Member of Academic Board

06/2017 – 06/2020

Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus Campus, TRNC

- Oversaw the academic operation and maintenance of all academic and administrative activities of the School of Foreign Languages

Level Coordinator

09/2006 – 06/2018

Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus Campus, TRNC

- Coordinated and supervised all curricular activities in the level; assisted the Director of SFL in academic and administrative issues

Translator

2005 – Present

Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus Campus & Freelance

- Turkish–English and English–Turkish translation of speeches, reports, letters and educational documents
- Translation and localization of educational software and apps; crowdsourced game localization; movie subtitles at turkcealtyazi.org; volunteer translation for Khanacademy.org (2021–Present)

EDUCATION

Period	Degree / Diploma	Institution
2013 – 2015	M.A. in English Language Teaching	Middle East Technical University, Northern Cyprus Campus
2001 – 2005	B.A. in American Culture & Literature	Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey
1994 – 2001	High School Diploma	Balıkesir Sırrı Yırcalı Anatolian High School

AI & EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

Interactive Vocabulary Companion (IVC)

Sabancı University

2024 – Present

- Self-study vocabulary platform for Above & Beyond target language lists, built with AI-assisted coding on Google Sites, Sheets and Apps Script
- Sheets-based back end for task delivery, concurrent score capture, deadline and performance tracking, and auto-generated email drafts for at-risk students and problem reports
- AI-generated content: “See the Word” visuals (Gemini Images), input-based videos, Claude-coded homepage web-page layouts
- Gamified TLP Trainer apps; self-checked tasks from reusable AI-coded templates; on-demand practice bots; AI feedback bots
- Produced videos on the IVC’s use of AI at the request of School of Languages administration and for SL TEDOL

Gamified Grammar Discovery Apps

- HTML-based mini-apps in which students discover grammar rules, group similar structures and arrange sentence blocks, with audio-visual feedback and a teacher-facing mistake counter
- Used in R3 and R4 classes to replace parts of in-class grammar materials (e.g., conditionals, cause–effect structures) and for students who missed a lesson; shared with colleagues. An exploratory peer observation (April 2026) revealed 77.8% of R4 students gave the highest rating for the app’s impact on their learning; results also confirmed the continued need for teacher-led consolidation

AI-Assisted HTML Language Games

- Grand Prix Speaking, a Sabancı edition of “Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?”, Floating Words, Rumble in the Jumble, Taboo; each working game is a template adaptable to new topics in minutes
- Delivered the PPD Days workshop “No Code, No Problem: Creating Educational Games with AI” (Fall 2025)

QUALIFICATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS

Year	Certification	Institution / Details
2025	Creating and Implementing Online Courses	Online Professional English Network (OPEN)
2024 – 2025	Planning Courses (12-hour program)	British Council
2024	Empowering Language Instruction with Generative AI	Gordion Academy / Cambridge University
2024	GenAI tools for independent learning	Cambridge University Press & Assessment
2021	Teacher Training Workshops Series for TOEFL	StudyUsa
2021	Introduction to Game Localization	Online program
2020	Teaching Turkish as Foreign Language Certificate Program	İstanbul University
2020	Localization Essentials by Google	Online program
2018	Google Certified Educator (Level 1)	Google
2014, 2016, 2018, 2021	TOEFL-IBT Test Center Administrator Certification	ETS
2009	In-Service Certificate in English Language Teaching (ICELT)	Cambridge University
2004	English Language Teaching Cert. / Computer Operator's Cert.	Hacettepe University / Ankara

PRESENTATIONS

2025

- Presentation: “No Code, No Problem: Creating Educational Games with AI”, PPD Days workshop, Fall 2025, Sabancı University, İstanbul
- Workshop: Streamlining writing feedback with Editool (faculty workshop), 13 March 2025, Sabancı University, İstanbul

2024

- Presentation: “Interactive Vocabulary Companion: A One-Stop Shop for all Vocab Needs”, 2 October, Sabancı University, İstanbul
- Presentation: “Exploring Gen-AI Use – FDY Experience”, AI use in Sabancı University, 19 January, Sabancı University, İstanbul

2021

- Presentation: “The Impact of Medium on Reading Comprehension: Print vs Smartphone Screen”, XXIst International CALL Research Conference (scheduled)

2019

- Presentation: “Introduction to Google Classroom”, Franco-Turkish Culture Association, December, Lefkoşa, TRNC
- Research presentation: “Student Perceptions of Audio-Visual Writing Feedback via Screencast”, ISTE EdTech Conference, 23–26 June, Philadelphia, USA
- Presentation: “Screencast Audio-Visual Feedback via Google Classroom”, 13th Workshop Festival, METU NCC, 14 June
- Presentation: “Google Certified Educator Level 1 training: My Experience & Suggestions”, METU NCC, January

2017 & Earlier

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS & CONFERENCES (SELECTED)

Year	Details
2025	Oxford University Press ELTOC (Chapter 11, Block 1) virtual conference, 16 October 2025
2024	<p>Pearson series “Building confidence in AI skills for English language teaching”: Navigating the challenges of AI literacy for educators; AI-enabled language teaching and learning; Is AI the magic solution for language testing?</p> <p>Eaquals webinars: Developing 21st Skills with Virtual Exchanges (Jennifer Carson); Enhancing Learning in Mixed Ability Classrooms Using Differentiation Strategies (Canan Saban)</p>
2023	<p>FSMVU Foreign Languages Forum – Harnessing AI: The Future of Foreign Language Teaching & Learning Forum on Curricular Issues (FOCI) XIV: Collaboration of Wits and Wires: Unlocking the Opportunities of AI in Curriculum Development</p> <p>AI for teaching and assessment: What, Why and How (British Council)</p>
2013 – 2020	<p>2020: “Implementing new technology: A culture catalyst for your people” (webinar)</p> <p>2017–2018: EdTechTeam webinars (Digital Citizenship; Chromebooks as Tools for Creativity); Technology to Support English Language Learners; Digital Tools for Greater Engagement; Mindfulness for Professional Development</p> <p>2013–2015: Exploratory Practice Workshops (Dikilitaş & Hanks); Simon Borg, 4th ELTER Colloquium; Yasemin Bayyurt seminar on culture in ELT; Oxford ELT Conference; METU NCC TEFL speaker series</p>
2006 – 2021	METU NCC Annual Workshop Festivals

DIGITAL LITERACY SKILLS

Gen-AI & app development: Claude, Gemini & Google Gems, NotebookLM, Poe, Adobe Express, custom-built chatbots, Elicit, Consensus, PlayHT, ElevenLabs; AI-assisted HTML/JavaScript, Google Sites, Sheets & Apps Script

Learning management & conferencing: Google Classroom, Edmodo, ClassDojo, Moodle; Zoom, MS Teams, Blackboard Collaborate, BigBlueButton

Instructional software: Flipgrid, Grammarly, Kahoot, Virtual Fieldtrips & Digital Exploration, Menti, Prezi, Quill, ReadTheory, ReadWorks, Microsoft Immersive Reader, Avolingo

Writing feedback tools: Markin, Screencast Feedback, Screencast-O-Matic, Turnitin, Kaizena, YouTube Feedback, Editool

Localization & office: MateCat, MemoQ, SDL Trados Memsource; Google Workspace (Forms, Quizzes, Sites); Office / Office 365

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Digital literacy; generative AI in language teaching and learning; gamified and discovery-based learning; educational app development; self-regulated online/mobile language learning; cultural aspects of language learning; digital feedback methods and tools; teacher cognition about technology; critical success/failure factors in technology integration projects; Global Englishes.