



VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH

2017 VCE Voice... Beyond the Formula

Raise Your Voice: Crafting, Presenting and Analysing Argument

Friday 21 April 2017

Join us as we speak to *GetUp!* Human Rights Campaign Director, Shen Narayanasamy, about how to make people listen to the issues that matter in our society today but also how the media positions the reader through different viewpoints and where those different viewpoints come from. Indeed, how can the power of the media be utilised to amplify the concerns of ordinary citizens in the face of a political machinery that oftentimes threatens to grind down the values we stand for as a nation? How does the world of business and power and counter-movements manipulate the media? How can we – and most importantly our students read this media critically and raise our voices and be heard? Shen will also focus on the intricacies of communication in a social media age, navigating our way through the potential and the pitfalls of the modern technological world, where fake news and confirmation bias and citizen journalists reign supreme. How can we, as teachers, help steer the course with our students, harnessing critical, creative and caring action to build our communities? This day will also provide the opportunity to hear from experienced VCE English examiner, Karen Graham, as she details the Analysing and presenting argument outcomes as part of the new Study Design. Finally practicing teacher, Marjan Mossammaparast, will offer some ideas and strategies for the classroom.

Venue: VATE Conference Room, 2/134-136 Cambridge Street, Collingwood

Overview of the program

9am – 9.30am: Registration		
9.30 – 10.45am	The voices of the media	Shen Narayanasamy
10.30 – 10.45am	Morning tea	
10.45am – 12.00pm	The advantages and disadvantages of social media	Shen Narayanasamy
12.00 – 1.00pm	Looking at the differences in the new issues task and what the examiners will be looking for in responses	Karen Graham
1.00 – 1.45pm	Lunch	
2.00 – 3.30pm	Strategies and curriculum planning	Marjan Mossammaparast

Register online @ www.vate.org.au



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Karen Graham is recently retired Head of English at St Kevin's College, Toorak. She has worked in VCE English and Literature classrooms with great success for over twenty-five years. Karen has been an assessor of VCE English for over twenty-five years, and is a longstanding member of the VCE English Executive Panel that oversees the assessment of the English examination. She has been an assessor of GAT since its inception and is a member of the GAT Executive Panel responsible for overseeing the assessment of the annual GAT.

Marjan Mossammaparast teaches English at St Leonard's College. She is a lecturer in the Faculty of Education and Arts at Australian Catholic University, and a Council member for VATE. Marjan is currently working on her first collection of poetry, to be published through Cordite Books in 2018.

Shen Narayanasamy leads the *No Business in Abuse* campaign which targets corporate involvement in mandatory detention of asylum seekers, and *#LetThemStay*, which aims to prevent the deportation of hundreds of asylum seekers to Nauru. Shen has a background in human rights law and advocating, working in Australia and across the Asia Pacific on issues of economic justice and land rights. Shen was the Economic Justice Advocacy Coordinator with Oxfam in 2010, after working as a lawyer at Norton Rose Fullbright. Shen recently appeared on ABC's Q&A program in an episode focusing on Australia's refugee policy.

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