

News from the British Council and the partner organisations:

1) Oxford University Press in collaboration with British Council invites students from Forms 5-12 and their English language teachers to take part in the competition **Culture lesson: Latvia.**

To celebrate Riga becoming the Culture Capital in 2014, we would like to encourage students from Latvia to use their language skills for describing life in their home country and tell students in the world about its culture and people. **The deadline for submissions is 20 December 2013.**

More information including terms and conditions and application form can be found on OUP website

http://elt.oup.com/feature/lv/culture_competition/?cc=lv&selLanguage=en&mode=hub.

2) **An essay writing competition for secondary school students.**

Write an essay "IELTS – The Key to Your Success!" and win a free IELTS test. Please share this with your students.

3) **ELTons 2014 - Call for applications.** Please share this with your colleagues who teach English.

The ELTons are the only international awards that recognise and celebrate innovation in the field of English language teaching.

Categories to apply for this year are:

- Excellence in course innovation
- Innovation in learner resources
- Innovation in teacher resources
- Digital innovation
- Local innovation

The deadline for applications is **22 November 2013**. Find out more about the categories and how to apply on the [ELTons 2014 website](#). Any queries should be addressed to eltons@britishcouncil.org.

4) **British Council seminars in the UK**

These series of seminars encourage debate on areas of contemporary interest in the field of English language teaching and learning. Those teachers who plan to visit UK during this school year are encouraged to check the seminar schedule and see if they could attend one of the seminars (free of charge, however places are limited). For others, you can view video excerpts from the previous seminars. Visit <http://englishagenda.britishcouncil.org/seminars> .

5) Do not forget to visit **TeachingEnglish website** to learn about the newest trends in ELT, to participate in webinars, to find exciting lesson plans and to network with colleagues around the world. You can keep up to date [with new materials via Facebook](#) or [subscribe to the Newsletter](#).