



Natalie Lackovič Križanová

Date of birth: 29/05/1983 | **Place of birth:** Perth, Australia | **Nationality:** Slovak, Australian |

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ABOUT ME

Natalie Lackovič is an Australian-born bilingual teacher and materials writer based in Slovakia. She teaches English and Biology in a CLIL setting and works closely with students preparing for graduation and international exams. She is also involved in teacher training and mentoring, and currently serves as Vice President of SCLT (Slovak Chamber of English Language Teachers). In addition to her classroom work, she regularly gives workshops and talks on bilingual education and practical teaching strategies. Natalie is passionate about developing accessible bilingual resources and supporting sustainable, learner-friendly approaches to teaching.

WORK EXPERIENCE

GYMNÁZIUM JÁNA HOLLÉHO – TRNAVA, SLOVAKIA

TEACHER OF SCIENCE IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS – 01/09/2015 – Current

- Designing and delivering CLIL-based instruction in English and Biology for bilingual high school students
- Developing bilingual teaching materials and resources tailored to subject-specific curricula
- Leading teacher training workshops and conference sessions (national and international level)
- Mentoring students in time management, study techniques, and academic skills
- Supporting curriculum development and implementation for bilingual education programmes

STUDENT AND TEACHER MENTOR – 01/09/2023 – Current

- Provide continuous one-on-one mentoring to secondary students, focusing on academic progress, time management, and motivation
- Guide students in building effective study routines and personalized vocabulary retention strategies
- Support early-career teachers through structured mentoring in CLIL methodology, classroom management, and curriculum development
- Facilitate reflective practice and peer feedback to improve teaching quality
- Collaborate with school leadership to align mentoring goals with institutional development plans
- Adapt mentoring techniques to meet diverse needs and teaching contexts

SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF MODERN LANGUAGES – 01/09/2015 – Current

- Deliver Academic English instruction to upper-secondary students with a focus on university preparation and formal language skills
- Develop and adapt materials covering academic writing, argumentation, paraphrasing, and source referencing
- Coach students in critical thinking, seminar discussions, and structured academic presentations
- Integrate subject-specific vocabulary into writing and speaking tasks across disciplines
- Provide detailed feedback on essays, reports, and formal assignments using academic rubrics
- Support students in mastering formal register, cohesion, and advanced grammar required in academic contexts

MODERN LANGUAGES TEACHER IN SECONDARY SCHOOL – PEDAGOGICKÁ A SOCIÁLNA AKADÉMIA BLAHOŠLAVENEJ LAURY – 28/05/2010 – 31/08/2015 – TRNAVA, SLOVAKIA

- Taught General English to secondary vocational students, including those with learning difficulties and special educational needs
- Adapted materials and lesson plans to accommodate diverse learning styles, literacy levels, and real-world job contexts
- Supported students balancing part-time employment with school commitments through flexible, needs-based instruction
- Integrated inclusive teaching strategies to foster a supportive and accessible classroom environment

- Collaborated with support staff and school psychologists to create individual learning plans
- Focused on building communicative competence and workplace-related language skills
- Promoted student engagement through hands-on activities, visuals, and scaffolded support

TEACHER OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES – ZŠ S MŠ KRIŽOVANY NAD DUDVÁHOM – 24/08/2009 – 30/06/2010 – KRIŽOVANY NAD DUDVÁHOM, SLOVAKIA

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- Taught English and Civics to pupils aged 10–15, focusing on communication, critical thinking, and social awareness
 - Developed age-appropriate materials to engage young learners across a range of abilities
 - Introduced interactive and project-based learning methods to promote active participation
 - Led classroom discussions on values, community, and responsible citizenship
 - Integrated cross-curricular elements and supported early language development through thematic units
 - Built strong rapport with students and adapted teaching to meet individual and group needs
 - Participated in school events and collaborated with colleagues on planning and assessment

TEACHER OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES – GYMNÁZIUM JOZEFA HERDU
– 01/02/2009 – 30/06/2009 – TRNAVA, SLOVAKIA

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- Taught English to secondary students at a sports-oriented school as a substitute teacher during a maternity leave
 - Adapted lessons to suit students' training schedules and varying academic engagement
 - Focused on building language skills through practical topics and sports-related content
 - Maintained continuity in the curriculum while introducing fresh, motivating materials
 - Supported student progress through differentiated instruction and one-on-one feedback
 - Collaborated with the school's permanent staff to ensure smooth transition and consistent learning outcomes

SPEECH-TO-TEXT INTERPRETER – FREELANCER – 25/10/2008 – 30/09/2009 – BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA

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- Provided English–Slovak and Slovak–English translation and interpreting services, primarily for Porter
 - Translated official documents, correspondence, and training materials with a focus on clarity and accuracy
 - Interpreted during meetings, interviews, and events, ensuring smooth cross-cultural communication
 - Adapted register and terminology to suit context (education, business, administrative settings)
 - Met tight deadlines while maintaining high linguistic and professional standards
 - Maintained confidentiality and client trust in all assignments

LECTURER IN MODERN LANGUAGES – 13/10/2008 – 24/10/2008

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- Working with private clients / companies and improving their English language skills
 - creating teaching materials
 - face to face lessons

TEACHER OF ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES – GYMNÁZIUM JÁNA HOLLÉHO – 25/08/2006 – 30/06/2008 – TRNAVA, SLOVAKIA

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- Taught General and Academic English to secondary school students in a bilingual setting
 - Designed engaging lesson plans while developing classroom management skills as a new teacher
 - Actively participated in school events and contributed to a supportive staff community
 - Gained experience adapting instruction to diverse student needs and proficiency levels

LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION VICE PRESIDENT – SLOVAK CHAMBER OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS – 01/09/2023 – Current – BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA

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- Organised national and international ELT events, including the annual SCELTE forum
 - Served as Vice Chair (from 2023), coordinating speaker outreach, programme planning, and international partnerships
 - Designed and edited professional development materials, newsletters, and public communications
 - Led communication with partner organisations (e.g. TESOL Italy, IATEFL Poland, US Embassy, RELO)
 - Managed grant applications and budgeting for teacher development initiatives
 - Created digital and print content (conference programmes, certificates, social media posts)
 - Supported SCELTE's membership growth, engagement, and visibility in the ELT community

● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

03/10/2002 – 22/05/2006 Nitra, Slovakia

UNIVERSITY DIPLOMA - BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES University of Constantine the Philosopher

Level in EQF EQF level 7

01/05/2009 – 29/05/2010 Slovakia

STATE LANGUAGE EXAMINATION CERTIFICATE - TRANSLATING AND INTERPRETING Jazyková škola College

Level in EQF EQF level 6

01/01/2007 – 18/01/2007 Slovakia

STATE LANGUAGE EXAMINATION CERTIFICATE Jazyková škola Palisády

Level in EQF EQF level 5

18/11/2018 – 18/11/2019 Slovakia

FIRST TEACHER CERTIFICATION (1ST ATTESTATION) MPC

Field of study Education | **Level in EQF** EQF level 7 |

Thesis Developing Critical Thinking in Biology Lessons in English through CLIL Methodology

01/01/2020 – 01/01/2021

INDIVIDUÁLNY ROZVOJOVÝ PROGRAM UČITEĽA Mentória

01/01/2021 – 01/01/2022

INKUBÁTOR MENTOROV Mentória

● LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **ENGLISH** | **SLOVAK**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
GERMAN	B1	B1	B1	B1	B1
CZECH	C2	C2	C1	C1	C1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

● SKILLS

facilitate teamwork between students | assist students with equipment | keep records of attendance | identify cross-curricular links with other subject areas | arrange parent teacher meeting | recognise indicators of gifted student | Microsoft Office | oversee extra-curricular activities | consult student's support system

● HONOURS AND AWARDS

01/01/2020

Top Teacher of Foreign Languages – Štátny Pedagogický Ústav

04/03/2024

Global Teacher Prize - top 30 finalist – CEEV Živica & Komenského Inštitút

05/06/2025

Global Teacher Prize - top 10 finalist – CEEV Živica & Komenského Inštitút
