ELTAI 2026 comes to PUNE
The Oxford of the East

20th International and 56th Annual Conference of ELTAI

ENGLISH ON THE EDGE: SURVIVE? EVOLVE? THRIVE?

07–10 October 2026 (Wednesday – Saturday)

Organised By
English Language Teachers'
Association of India (ELTAI)

Hosted By
Schools of Humanities & Holistic Development,
MIT Art, Design & Technology University,
Pune, Maharashtra, India

English education today stands at a critical threshold. Across schools and universities, educators are responding to the restructuring and downsizing of English departments, the realities of multilingual classrooms, changing curricular priorities, and the growing influence of artificial intelligence on students' reading and writing. The theme "English on the Edge: Survive? Evolve? Thrive?" frames this moment not as decline but as a threshold of change.

- **SURVIVE** asks what enduring values (critical thinking, empathy, imagination, and reading cultures) must be preserved.
- **EVOLVE** explores how curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment can respond to digital literacies, AI, and multilingual classrooms.
- **THRIVE** imagines renewed possibilities for English education through creativity, collaboration, and initiatives such as ELTAI's India Reads Movement.

Together, these perspectives invite all who shape, teach, research, learn, write, imagine, and transform English education (from early schooling to higher education) to engage in critical reflection, creative experimentation, and collective envisioning of what English might yet become on the edge of automation, imagination, and transformation.

The conference is organised into seven interconnected domains, grouped under three overarching perspectives – Survive, Evolve, and Thrive – each representing a sphere of inquiry into the futures of English education. Original and unpublished abstracts are invited on any of the following domains.

SURVIVE: Domains of What Must Endure

Domain 1: Future of English Education
Domain 2: English Policy & Governance

EVOLVE: Domains of What Must Transform

Domain 3: English Teaching in the AI Era
Domain 4: English Curricula for a Changing World
Domain 5: Human-Centred, AI-Informed English Assessment

THRIVE: Domains of What Can Flourish

Domain 6: Literature & Digital Humanities
Domain 7: English Beyond Classrooms

PRESENTATION FORMATS

To balance academic depth with experiential learning, presentation formats are organised into two programme categories. All accepted presentations carry equal academic value.

CATEGORY A Core Academic & Community Formats	CATEGORY B Special Interactive & Creative Formats
Paper Presentations (15 mins + 5 mins Q&A)	Workshop (90 mins)
Poster Presentation (5-min interaction)	Lightning Talks (5 mins)
Digital Humanities Demonstration (15–20 mins)	Poetry Reading (Max. 30 lines - 5 mins)
Community / Public Humanities Showcase (10–15 mins Interaction)	Storytelling (Max. 500 words - 7 mins)
	Teaching Clinics (30 mins)

IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submission Opens on — **15 April 2026**
Abstract Submission Closes on — **15 August 2026**
Early-bird Registration Closes on — **15 September 2026**

For more details, visit
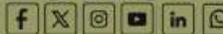https://conf2026.eltai.in

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