



E B I T

NEWSLETTER

## *President's Message*

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to school! I hope you had a wonderful summer. We were very lucky this year to have so many hot sunny days. I love our province in the summer time. There are so many festivals, parties, and wonderful attractions—one can't help but get out and enjoy the weather. There were some rainy days that left me pretty bored, but when you are a teacher, you are never bored. There is always some planning or research that can be done. So that is what I did. I am very excited for this upcoming school year as I will be teaching Futures in Business and Start Your Own Business—two of my favourite courses to teach! I had a lot of fun doing research and coming up with new things to do in my class.

To start off the year, EBIT is hosting a fantastic SAG at Balmoral Hall on October 22 (check out the program on pages 5-7). We have been throwing around some ideas to have movie and documentary showings. Our new website will be up in the near future, and our awards committees will soon be meeting. Of course, we are always open to your ideas on what sort of workshops and seminars you would like us to host; just send an email to [ebitmb@gmail.com](mailto:ebitmb@gmail.com).

Our first EBIT executive meeting will be taking place on Saturday, September 18. If you are interested in checking it out, let me know and I will add you to the breakfast list. We are always looking for members at large to help in any way they can.

Wishing you all a wonderful 2010-2011 school year!

Best wishes,  
Nicole Belanger

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# Mobile Learning - It's Not About YOU!

*by Reynold Redekopp - Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba*

While there is still a storm brewing about the use of cell phones and other mobile devices in the classroom, there seems to be a growing (albeit often reluctant) acknowledgement that we should embrace what seems to be inevitable and learn how to use these darn devices to our advantage in the classroom. Hmmmmm—isn't there enough to contend with in our classes right now?

While there certainly are management issues that have to be dealt with, cost/access, technical and human, there is a growing body of research and practical materials that support using mobile learning devices. And the devices bring so much more with them!!! They are much more than just phones or basic communication tools—they have internet access and a variety of apps and games!

Many teachers are not overly familiar with smart phones, Kindles, and iPads and are unaware of their potential—for learning and for distraction. Some of us can use a cell phones; fewer can text and fewer still are using the apps and internet functions. Teachers claim they don't have time to learn about these devices and that they won't use half the functions anyway. That may be true, but unfortunately it's not about YOU. It is about your students and the world many of them live in. And while I agree that you can still teach them to read, write, calculate, and think clearly and critically without using any of these devices, it is going to be increasingly difficult to keep the students engaged in this fashion.

So why use mobile technology in your classroom? There are a number of good reasons (none of which is "to be cool"). Oddly enough, one of them is student responsibility/classroom control. It turns out that if you allow students to bring and use cell phones (and other devices) and ask them to help create the rules and conditions of use, they tend to be more restrictive than you would be, and they get better at self and group management of their devices.

There is also the whole aspect of gathering and sharing information. Rob Fisher and Darren Kuropatwa have done some wonderful workshops on combining text, pictures, voice, and video as students build an information base that they can all share. The online technology is free and easy to use, and while it initially has to be all teacher moderated, students quickly earn



the right to post things directly – and they accept this responsibility willingly. An added bonus is the whole discussion that ensues around issues of copyright and using and getting permission for posting images of people and their information on the Internet. So this is “cool” not because of the technology, but because of what you are able to do in terms of investigation, problem creating, and presentation/sharing.

There is also a growing body of research and actual use that suggests that some educational games are great to use in the learning process. They provide for anchored instruction, situated learning and cognition, play (which we know is integral to learning), intrinsic motivation, and multiple intelligence opportunities. Again, you do not have to be a gaming expert to use them! You do need to: choose the game, create a sharing atmosphere, observe and assess “other” skills, and debrief the game to bring it into your context—and this sharing and contextualizing is critical.

Do you as a teacher need to be a technical expert? No.

You do need to be willing to use the resources recommended by people like Rob and Darren (and your computer coordinators, etc.) and play a bit. Once you have started, there is probably good support in your building. There is also a very good chance your students will happily help you manage and trouble shoot your efforts. And yes, it will take some time and effort. There will be some frustration, but the benefits of having your students really active and enthusiastic about their learning will be worth it. They will also likely work harder than you could imagine!

Good places to start are:

Darren, Rob and John Evans Mobile Learning wiki:  
<http://mobilelearning2010.wikispaces.com>

John Evans wiki:  
<http://joevans.pbworks.com>

My teaching blog:  
<http://rredekopp.blogspot.com>

My class collection of good resources:  
<http://teacherandtech.pbworks.com>

There are also some possible mobile learning workshops coming this winter so, make sure you are on the EBIT ([myebit.org](http://myebit.org)) and ManACE ([manace.ca](http://manace.ca)) mailing lists.



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

If you want more in-depth work in this area, I am offering a PBDE/Masters course at the Faculty of Education (U of M) this winter on Saturdays. The course name and description are: EDUB 5220-Teaching and Learning with Mobile Devices

This course explores the research and reality of teachers and students using mobile and alternative technologies in education, both in and outside of the classroom. Topics ranging from cell phones and smart devices to the world of gaming, social media and developing learning networks will be considered from theoretical and practical perspectives.

## Zune in the Classroom

*by Jeff Osinski*



In May 2009, Jon Funk and I, technology teachers at Garden Valley Collegiate, began to develop the "Zune in the Classroom" project. The purpose of this project is to provide high school students with an authentic learning opportunity by taking learned skills and applying them to a real-world situation. In this project, the students were taking grade one outcomes in reading, writing, and arithmetic and creating interactive media to help teach grade one students. Once the content was ready, it was deployed onto Zune media players which were then given to a grade one classroom to use during the school year.

The courses involved in creating the media were grade 10-12 Film Making, Interactive Media, and Computer Science. In the Film Making and Interactive Media

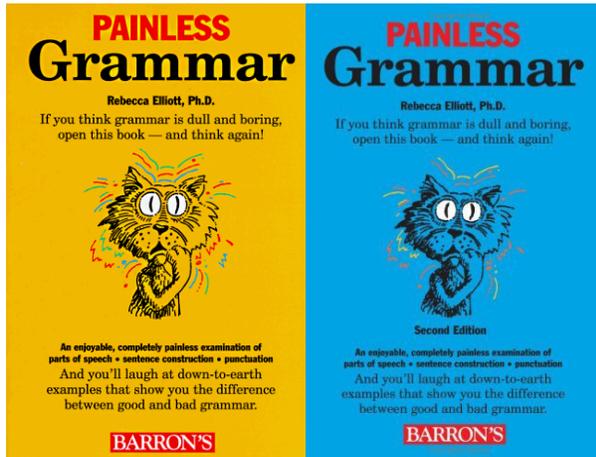
classes, the students created media that focused on read-along video books that enhanced early years reading by providing visual and audio reference to a story. These read-alongs focused on sentence structure, word meaning, word recognition, and cadence.

The Computer Science classes focused on designing computer games using Microsoft XNA technology. The students created interactive learning games that focused on grammar, spelling, word recognition, and arithmetic. The games provided immediate feedback and an opportunity for self correction as they progress.

In January 2010, Jon and I had fully developed the project and submitted it to Microsoft for their Innovative Teacher Award. We received word in March 2010 that our project had placed in the top ten in Canada, and we were to fully implement the project with our students. In June 2010, we were asked to provide a summary of the project and submit it to Microsoft for a final judging. During the last week of June we received word that our project had placed top five in Canada and had won a Microsoft Innovative Teacher Award. With this award comes a trip to the Microsoft World Innovative Teacher Forum in Cape Town, South Africa in October 2010. Both Jon and I will be attending this forum and presenting our project to the other award winners. We are both looking forward to this trip and opportunity to share and learn with other teachers from around the world.

# Painless Grammar

by Nicole Belanger



Book Review: Painless Grammar (2nd Edition)  
by Rebecca Elliott, Ph. D. Published by Barron's

Barron's Educational Series Inc. currently has 18 books in its Painless series. The series covers many topics including math, history, study skills, and writing. I found Painless Grammar at Zellers for \$11.99; however, the books can be ordered via Amazon or Barron's website. I bought the book because my students need a grammar refresher resource which that they can refer to when writing papers. The cover of the book caught my eye: "If you think grammar is dull and boring, open this book—and think again...you'll laugh at down-to-earth examples..."

The book is split into six chapters: Parts of Speech; Building and Punctuating Sentences; Agreement; Words, Words, Words; Editing; and Writing E-mails. *Chapter One:* Parts of Speech explains nouns, verbs, prepositions, etc. *Chapter Two:* Building and Punctuating Sentences not only shows readers how to prevent fragments, but also explains punctuation and how to use abbreviations and numbers. *Chapter Three:* Agreement teaches how to ensure your subject and verb agree as well as agreement between pronouns and antecedents. *Chapter Four:* Words, Words, Words shows common misused words and gives tricks on how to remember which is the correct one to choose. *Chapter Five:* Editing lists different areas writers should look for when editing their papers, including, repetition, unnecessary words, important words, vague writing, double negatives, run-ons, misplaced phrases, slang, and parallel construction. *Chapter Six:* Writing E-mails teaches students about e-mail etiquette.

What I like about this book is that it explains a grammatical rule and then follows with examples. Each example starts with a sentence that does not follow the rule; it is then followed with a correct example that does follow the rule. Often an explanation will be given to show why the second sentence is correct. In the editing chapter, the example sentences are not just wrong or right. There will often be categories of weak, better, and much better. I find that this progression really makes the reader see ways they can improve their writing skills.

A great part of the book is the "Brain Ticklers." A few times throughout each chapter the book throws in questions for practice. The answers are found later in the book. These practice questions allow the reader to see if they are able to apply the rules that have been taught.

The quote mentioned at the beginning of the review sells this book based on the idea that it is fun. The book really is fun; the examples are geared toward teenagers with topics such as pizza, studying for algebra tests, and playing sports. There are quirky little drawings throughout the book, and there are boxes filled with tips so you know what ideas are most important.

I did not read this book as a teacher who already knows all grammar rules, because I don't. I read this book as someone who wants to improve her grammar skills. I found the book to be a very easy read. The explanations are very clear, and the examples helped solidify the rules. I learned a lot from this book, or I was at least reminded of a few things. I think my students will enjoy this book as well.





E B I T

Educators of Business and Information Technology

# Engaging Ideas!

Balmoral Hall School, 630 Westminster Avenue

## PROGRAM

### 8:00–9:00 a.m.

Registration, Displays,  
Hospitality

### 9:00–10:15 a.m.

Morning Session 1

### 10:15–10:45 a.m.

Refreshment Break, Displays

### 10:45–12:00 p.m.

Morning Session 2

### 12:00–1:30 p.m.

Opening Greetings, Lunch,  
AGM, Retiree Presentation,  
IDATE, Recognition Award,  
Displays

### 1:30–3:00 p.m.

Afternoon Session

### 3:00–3:30 p.m.

Prize Draws, Closing Comments

## 9:00–10:15 a.m. Morning Session 1

### EB01 The City: A Financial Life Skills Resource

Howard Bilenki (F. C. A. C. Teacher  
Champion Manitoba)

This 'study session' will guide participants through the free teacher resource binder to experience its activities and features, as well as allow time to see the online supports available on The City and The Money Belt websites.

\*This is a double session that will run through Morning Sessions 1 and 2. Please do not select a second morning session.

Code: EB01

### EB02 Using Web Tools in the Classroom

Lois McGill-Horn and  
Jodi Hafenbrak, Balmoral Hall School

The web is full of free, online tools that can be used in the classroom with a variety of subject areas. This session will examine how these tools can be used for project development and to support communication and collaboration.

Code: EB02

### EB03 Flash

Chris Turner, Dakota Collegiate

Ever wondered how to create an Animation in the industry-standard animation program you see all of the time on the web, in e-cards and even on television? See how to create a simple movie in Flash from start to end. The concepts of layers, frames and simple interactions/actions will be presented. Participants will be given time to continue to

develop their own movie and should bring a flash drive (USB key) to save their work to so they can do this with their students. Participants should be teaching (or scheduled to teach) Animation classes or have a good working knowledge of technology.

Code: EB03

### EB04 Photography Fun

This hands-on photography session will be led by a photographer from the PrairieView Photography School. Participants are asked to bring their own cameras as we will be completing a photography project on-site. Be prepared to experiment with different features on your camera! If time permits, we will move into the Mac labs to learn some cool image editing techniques in Photoshop.

\*This is a double session that will run through Morning Sessions 1 and 2. Please do not select a second morning session.

Code: EB04

### EB05 AER (Assessment and Evaluation Reporting) Sharing Group

Host: Nicole Belanger,  
Dakota Collegiate

Are you unsure how to implement AER into your courses? Or maybe you have a lot of ideas and would like to share them. Every division is approaching AER in different ways. Find out what your colleagues are doing with this vast subject by participating in this sharing circle. Nicole has worked with AER over the last three years and has received many different pieces of information from her colleagues that she

has permission to share. Please bring your own items so that everyone will go home with ideas for their classrooms.

**Code:** EB05

### **10:15–10:45 a.m. Refreshment Break, Displays**

### **10:45–12:00 p.m. Morning Session 2**

#### **EB06 Gaming in the Classroom Susana Hawryshko, Garden Valley Collegiate**

Enhance your business theory classes by teaching a variety of concepts through games. This session will focus on computer simulations, commercial games, board games, and in-class games.

**Code:** EB06

#### **EB07 The Career Development Paradigm Shift**

**Tom Prins, Manitoba Education**

How can we as teachers ensure that graduating students have the knowledge, attitudes, skills, passion and purpose to navigate their ways to successful futures. This presentation will examine how you can make a difference in: helping students make better choices, better student transition and school improvement.

**Code:** EB07

#### **EB08 Media Literacy: Truth and Fiction**

**Clarence Fisher, Joseph H. Kerr  
School, Swan Lake, Manitoba**

Twitter, Facebook and CNN. What do all three of these websites have in common? No matter which one you are using in class, students need to be taught to tell what is truth online and what is fiction. In this session, we will explore some of the difficulties and benefits of using some of the world's most popular web services in our classrooms and in our lives. We will look at practical,

classroom-based strategies for helping students separate truth and fiction in a world that often feels like it is filled with too much information.

**Code:** EB08

### **12:00–1:30 p.m. Opening Greetings, Lunch, AGM, Retiree Presentation, IDATE, Recognition Award, Displays**

### **1:30–3:00 p.m. Afternoon Session**

#### **EB10 An Introduction to Mimios Thomas Stimson, H. S. Paul School and Sabrina Matthisen, Darwin School**

Are you interested in learning how to use a Mimio? This session will include: what the machine looks like, how it works, what is required to install it, and how to use the interactive whiteboard and pen capture. In addition, Thomas and Sabrina will show some examples of materials they have created and used in their classrooms. There will be time for people to try the technology, create lessons or presentations within the Mimio Studio software, and how to register and use the web-based Mimio Connect to search for appropriate lessons and/or presentations.

**Code:** EB10

#### **EB11 iMovie Chad Halstead, Fort Richmond Collegiate**

Looking to promote your business education program? Do you offer Broadcast Media 35S and/or Interactive Media 35S? This session will be a hands-on workshop, using a project where participants have the opportunity to “make the call” using various Winter Olympic video clips. Additional resources, assignments and projects for teaching these courses will be provided. Audacity, Garageband, Smart Notebook and alternatives of iMovie (for PCs) will

be discussed. Please bring a flash drive with 2.0 GB of empty space.

**Code:** EB11

### **EB12 Promoting Business/Technology Education in Your School**

**Hosts: Jacqui Kroeker, Fort  
Richmond Collegiate, Pat Connolly,  
St. James Collegiate and Dino Di  
Fabrizio, Tec Voc High School**

Are you looking for ways to promote your Business/Technology programs at your school? If so, this session is for you. In a sharing session, Jacqui, Pat and Dino will discuss ways for you to build your program at your school. Bring your questions and answers to the round table discussion on effective strategies for promoting your program.

**Code:** EB12

### **EB13 AER (Assessment and Evaluation Reporting) Sharing Group**

**Host: Nicole Belanger,  
Dakota Collegiate**

Are you unsure how to implement AER into your courses? Or maybe you have a lot of ideas and would like to share them. Every division is approaching AER in different ways. Find out what your colleagues are doing with this vast subject by participating in this sharing circle. Nicole has worked with AER over the last three years and has received many different pieces of information from her colleagues that she has permission to share. Please bring your own items so that everyone will go home with ideas for their classrooms.

**Code:** EB13

### **EB14 Gaming in the Classroom**

**Susana Hawryshko,  
Garden Valley Collegiate**

Enhance your business theory classes by teaching a variety of concepts through games. This session will focus on computer simulations, commercial games, board games, and in-class games.

**Code:** EB14

**3:00–3:30 p.m.**

**Prize Draws**

**(must be present to win),**

**Closing Comments**

## **REGISTRATION**

### **EBIT Membership\***

**Full/Regular.....\$30.00**

**Student.....\$15.00**

**Retired.....\$25.00**

\*Please note membership fees are in addition to the conference fee.

### **Conference Registration**

#### **Full-Day Conference Fee for Members**

**EBIT Member.....\$40.00**

**Student Member.....\$20.00**

**Retired.....\$30.00**

#### **Full-Day Conference Fee for Non-Members**

**Non-member.....\$65.00**

**Student Non-member.....\$30.00**

**Retired.....\$50.00**

Lunch is included in the registration fee for full-day participants.

#### **Half-Day Conference Fee for Members (no lunch)**

**EBIT Member.....\$30.00**

**Student Member.....\$15.00**

**Retired.....\$20.00**

#### **Half-Day Conference Fee for Non-Members (no lunch)**

**Non-member.....\$40.00**

**Student Non-member.....\$25.00**

**Other (Associate/Retired**

**Paraprofessional).....\$40.00**

### **Late Registration**

Registrations postmarked after October 8, 2010 will be assessed \$5.

Please register online at [www.myebit.org](http://www.myebit.org) and send cheque or money order payable to EBIT.

#### **Send to:**

Neil Ens

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# Activity: Mike & Ike - Accounting Equation

*by Susana Hawryshko*

Introduce your students to the accounting equation by using candy!

**Supplies Needed (per pair):**

- Student handout with the accounting equation chart
- 7 small paper cups
- 1 box of Mike and Ike “Berry Blast”



**Instructions:**

See student handout.  
If you have questions, contact shawryshko@mts.net

**Answer Key**

Assets					=	Liabilities		+	Owner's Equity			
Cash	+	A/R	+	Supplies	+	Equipment	=	A/P	+	Bank Loan	+	M & M, Capital
\$ 300		\$200		\$300		\$ 600		\$500				\$ 900
				<b>+100</b>				<b>+100</b>				
\$ 300		\$200		\$400		\$ 600		\$600				\$ 900
<b>-300</b>								<b>-300</b>				
\$ 0		\$200		\$400		\$ 600		\$300				\$ 900
<b>+300</b>												<b>+300</b>
\$ 300		\$200		\$400		\$ 600		\$300				\$1 200
<b>+200</b>		<b>-200</b>										
\$ 500		\$ 0		\$400		\$ 600		\$300				\$1 200
<b>+100</b>				<b>-100</b>								
\$ 600		\$ 0		\$300		\$ 600		\$300				\$1 200
						<b>+300</b>		<b>+300</b>				
\$ 600		\$ 0		\$300		\$ 900		\$600				\$1 200
<b>+400</b>										<b>+400</b>		
\$1 000		\$ 0		\$300		\$ 900		\$600		\$400		\$1 200
<b>-200</b>								<b>-200</b>				
\$ 800		\$ 0		\$300		\$ 900		\$400		\$400		\$1 200



# EBIT Executive

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