

AARABEE SIVAKUGAN

No: 94, Aiyandar Kovil Road, Thaddatheru, Jaffna | (077110302) abeekugan9@gmail.com | aarabee@univ.jfn.ac.lk

A dedicated researcher, passionate translator, lifelong learner and committed English language and literature teacher, excelling at identifying students' unique strengths and weaknesses, fostering a positive and conducive learning environment that empowers them to overcome challenges and achieve their full potential.

Academic Qualifications

- Masters of Arts in Teaching Literature in a Second Language Context at the Post Graduate Institute of English (PGIE) (Reading).
- Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree in English Literature at the University of Jaffna with a Second-Class Upper Division with GPA: 3.52

Professional Qualifications

- National Diploma in Teaching English offered by the National Institute of Education (Merit)
- Completed 16 years of service as a trained teacher of second language and English Literature at state schools in northern and central provinces from 2006 to 2022.

Professional and Academic Training Received

- Completed TKT (Teaching Knowledge Test), by the British Council
- International Computer Driving License.
- Conducted on line sessions to connect with international schools through the International School Award Project' offered by the British Council in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.
- Won the International School Award on behalf of J/Kokuvil Hindu College, for the 'International School Award Project and the team was nominated as one of the 'Top Ten Schools' for the grant.

-
- Served as a coordinator for the International School Award project.
 - Participated in G.C.E (A/L) and G.C.E(O/L) curriculum review for English language, English Literature and General English at Provincial level.
 - Obtained a teacher training programme in ‘Spoken English, Communication skills, Speech and Drama and Allied Subjects’ conducted by CALSDA.
 - Training in ‘Teaching Core skills’ offered by the British Council.
 - As a resource person to prepare supplementary materials for general examinations.
 - Training to prepare ‘Item writing’ for the general examinations organized by the ministry of education, central province.
 - Training for online teaching and learning conducted by the British Council.
 - Participated workshop on ‘English Literature and Integrated Skills’.
 - Diploma in Microsoft Office offered by Information Technology Park.
 - Training to introduce English literature to the beginners offered by the ministry of education, northern province.
 - Training for trainers in ‘Practical approaches to current methods of teaching and promoting Spoken English as a skill through workshop practices, discussions and micro teaching’ conducted by SPICE & Tharunyata Hetak in partnership with the British Council.
 - Training for preparing materials for General English in G.C.E (A/L).
 - Attended Teaching English Online Webinar ‘Creating inclusive language classrooms for students with special educational needs.
 - Participated on ‘Exploring Teacher Identities through Creative Autobiographies from Theory and Practice’ organized by the Department of English Language Teaching, University of Jaffna.
 - Completed the Online Professional English Network's (OPEN) 2023 English for Career Development massive open online course (MOOC). OPEN is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, with funding provided by the U.S. government. 2023.

ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS, SCHOLARSHIP, MEDALS AND PRIZES

- Vinasithamby Kanagasingam Prize for being the best student in English Literature at the Honours
- Dr. Vijayaratnam John Manoharan Kennedy memorial award for the best dissertation in English Literature given by the University of Jaffna.
- University prize for the best performance in English Literature at the fourth examination in Arts.

RESEARCH WORK

Dissertation

- Submitted a dissertation on “English Literature as Choice: Challenges Facing Students Who Study English Literature in the Jaffna Zone”.
- Work on thesis ‘English Literature at the University of Jaffna: Challenges, Opportunities and Directions for Future’.

Full Paper Submission

- Forthcoming: "Gender Bias in Primary and Junior Secondary Hinduism Textbooks in Sri Lanka: A Barrier to Gender Equality." (Nivedhini journal) presented at the National Symposium, Women’s Education and Research Centre (WERC), 2024.
- Full paper presentation at the International Conference on Languages, Literature, Linguistics organized by the Post Graduate Institute of English. ‘Bridging the Gap: Aligning Professional Development with Classroom Needs in English Language Teaching’ (Published full paper on PGIE publication in 2025).
- Presented full paper at the National Symposium, Women’s Education and Research Centre (WERC), 2025. “Choices, Belonging, and Cultural Ties: Tamil Women's Rituals in Post-War Homeland and Diaspora”.

➤ Full Paper and Abstract Presentations

- Presented a research paper in the “1st Undergraduate Research Symposium Arts URSA 2021, on the 10th of January 2022.
- Presented an abstract at the 6th International Research Conference organized by Trincomalee Campus, Eastern University on “Exploring Determinants for Repetitive Selection of the Same Students in English Language and Drama Competitions in Jaffna Educational Zone”.
- Abstract presentation on “The Marginalization of the Rebellious ‘Other’: Ammu’s Resistance in *The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy’ at the International Research Conference (IRSGEE) conducted by the Centre for Gender Equality and Equity.
- Artificial Intelligence as a Personalized Tutor to support Learners with Diverse Needs in Higher Education” at the 7th International Research Symposium in Humanities and Social Sciences: AI in Higher Education Prospects and Challenges (IRSHS 2025).
- Presented a paper on “Digital story telling: An innovative assessment method for assessing speaking skill of undergraduates at the International Research Conference in Education (IRCE)- 2025, University of Jaffna.
- Presented a paper titled “Students’ resistance to ‘Big Match, 1983’: A deferred dream in the G.C.E(O/L) curriculum” at the 1st International Conference on Language. Literature & Linguistics 2025.
- Presented a paper at the International Conference on Gender and Climate Justice (ICGCI) organized by the Foundation for Innovative Social Development (FISD).
- Presented a paper titled “Echoes of the Past: Time to preserve Lullabies in Northern Region, Sri Lanka” at the conference organized by National Library & Documentation Services Board, Sri Lanka in 2025.
- Authored and published the academic article, "Gender Portrayal in Sri Lankan Television Advertisements—An Analysis," in the *‘Samuka Ariviyal Veli’ Social Science Journal*.

- Presented a paper titled “Reshaping attitudes and changing perspectives beyond stigma: Inclusion of women in religious rituals” in the International Conference on Intangible Cultural Heritage, conference organized by Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.
- Provided professional interpretation services to an independent research consultant, successfully facilitating communication and data collection during an intensive fieldwork assignment.

Accepted for Full Paper Presentation and publication

- Justin Kurzel's film *Macbeth* (2015) and Shakespeare's *Macbeth*: Through Feminist lens and Directorial Choices." *The Sri Lankan Journal of South Asian Studies*. (need to be revised and submit following Double-Blind Peer Review).

➤ Pedagogical articles

- Published an article titled on “Effective Teaching and Teaching Strategies” in the Centenary Celebration magazine of J/Kokuvil Hindu College in 2010.
- Authored an article titled on “How to write a short story in English” in the magazine “The Breeze” published by English Language Association, J/ Kokuvil Hindu College in 2014.

Translation work

- Translated a keynote speech on “Sustainable Development through Gender Equity and Equality in the New Normal – An Ontological Perspective” delivered by Prof. Maithree Wickramasinghe at the research conference organized by the Centre for Gender Equality and Equity in 2022.

Teaching Experience at Tertiary Level

Temporary Instructor

02.08.2023 to 03.11.2025

- Preparing lectures for different faculties including the Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Commerce and Management, Faculty of Allied Sciences, Faculty of Hindu Studies, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Arts.
- Teaching Advanced English for the Department of Translation, Department of Linguistics & English and the Department of English Language Teaching.
- Teaching Legal English for the Department of Law.
- Teaching a portion on ‘Restoration Plays’ for the Literature students.
- Teaching ‘An Introduction to Tamil & Sinhala Literatures from English’ for the Literature students.
- Resource person for teaching ‘Shakespearean Drama’, ‘Criticism: Theory and Practice’, ‘A Survey of the British Canon up to 1900’ and Basic Communication Skills at the Centre for Open and Distance Learning
- Preparing assessments and model questions.
- Train the cast to perform on stage.
- Testing undergraduates and external degree candidates.
- Preparing google forms to facilitate learners.
- Evaluating students at the Faculty of Agriculture and the Faculty of Engineering at Ariviyal Nagar, Killinochchi.

➤ **Extra-curricular activities at the University of Jaffna from 2023**

- ✓ Coordinated registration process for the ICDE 2025 (1st International Conference on Decolonizing English).
- ✓ Editorial Committee member for the ICDE.
- ✓ Participated in the mentoring workshop on academic publishing conducted by leading scholars in the field, as a part of the conference ICDE 2025.
- ✓

- ✓ Member of the Action Committee at the Career Fair- 2025 jointly organized by the Career Guidance Unit, University of Jaffna and the Faculty of Arts, University of Jaffna.
- ✓ Coordinated drama competition for the ‘Global Language Day’ celebration.
- ✓ Evaluated performance of students at various competitions conducted by the DELT to mark the Golden Jubilee Celebration. (Debate, Solo song, Group song, Poster presentation and Drama.
- ✓ Participated in ‘The Art of Detail’ a workshop conducted by Shyam Selvadurai on behalf of the Gratian Trust.
- ✓ Obtained certificate for participation in publishing 1111 poems 1111 poets as a single book- World Book of Records, London.
- ✓ Participated in ‘Doubling Ourselves’ – an online workshop on Literary Translation conducted by the Dept. of English, University of Peradeniya and the Seagull School of Publishing, Kolkata on behalf of the Gratian Trust.
- ✓ Participated ‘The IELTS Awareness’ programme organized by the Department of English Language Teaching in collaboration of the British Council.
- ✓ Served as an official Judge for the Faculty of Medicine's Annual Speech Contest (March 2025)
- ✓ Participated in the Public Lecture on “Autobiographies as Decolonizing Texts in Language Teaching in the Post Multilingual Era” and the workshop on “Exploring Teacher Identities through Creative Autobiographies from Theory to Practice” conducted by the Department of English Language Teaching (DELT). University of Jaffna.
- ✓ Examiner of the panel to assess speaking for the Diploma in Professional English Programmes.

Visiting Instructor

University of Jaffna 14.12.2022 -01.08.2023

- Preparing and delivering lectures, tutorials, workshops, and seminars.
- Organizing lectures based on CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) approach.
- Preparing lectures related to the subject content respectively and full fill the needs of students from the Department of Law, Department of Commerce, Faculty of Management, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Allied Sciences and Faculty of Arts.
- Use a variety of instructional strategies to provide equity and excellence to students of all ability levels.
- Setting and grading In Course Assessments (ICA) such as assignments, tests, and exams.
- Participating in training opportunities and initiatives at the institution.
- Attending and participating in meetings, conferences, and other events in and outside of the institution.
- Maintain records and grades for students.
- Encouraging students to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Managed all preparatory aspects and took sole responsibility for training the student body for their participation in the high-profile "One Billion Rising" campaign.
 - Resource person for the 'Online Teaching Sessions for the G.C.E (A/L) English students' conducted by the Department of Linguistics and English, University of Jaffna.

Teacher of English Language and Literature

12.11.2010 to 13.12.2022

J/Kokuvil Hindu College, Jaffna

J/Vaidyeshwara College, Jaffna.

- Prepared effective lesson plans to ensure academic progress.
- Handled classroom crises effectively.
- Motivated learners and created individualized teaching plans.
- Participated in workshops and projects with local and international students.
- Guided students to win international awards.

- Teacher in Charge of the English Literary Association.
- Trained students from grade 6 to Advanced Level to participate and win awards at the divisional, zonal, provincial and national level competitions.
- Supervised the teaching-learning process of prospective teachers from the National College of Education and Advanced Technical Institute as a mentor.
- Followed professional development programmes organized by the Ministry of Education. E.g. Teaching Knowledge Test Course by the British Council in collaboration of the University of Cambridge.
- Guided students to work on different projects collaboratively with international students and won the International School Award organized by British Council in 2015.

Positions Held at J/Kokuvil Hindu College.

- Teacher in Charge of the English Literary Association at J/Kokuvil Hindu College from 2012 to 2015.
- Member of prize giving committee and Annual Sports meet.
- Coordinator for the International Schools Award project conducted by the British Council.
- Coordinator for the School Based Assessment system (SBA) from grade 6 to G.C.E.(A/L).

Teacher of English Language

05.09.2007 to 11.11.2010

CP/GP/Kathiresan Central College, Nawalapitiya

- Prepared lessons for grades 6 to A/L using diverse approaches to ensure language and academic progress.
- Implemented different strategies to improve language skills.
- Established an effective rapport with the learners.
- Participated in workshops and seminars organized by the Ministry of Education.
- Started an English Union.
- Prepared lessons for science and Mathematics to teach bilingual students.
- As a class teacher, handled an inclusive classroom with special needs children.
 - Conducted extra classes for G.C.E(O/L) and (A/L) students.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Won the second place at the national level Tamil Day Competition for Short story writing.
- Won the first place in writing poetry at the National Level Literary Competition conducted by the Ministry of Cultural Affairs.
- First place in short story writing at the provincial level Tamil Day Competition.
- Young writer Award by Vipavi.
- Award for Writing Short Story at the ‘United Nation with sincere Bond of Bilingualism’.
- Certificate of Excellence for writing poem at the ‘Creative Competition for Drug Prevention- 2010’.
- Published two collections of short stories in Tamil.
- First place in District Level Short Story Competition conducted by the National Youth Services Council.