



# 'I would complain, but I still love my job'

## Negotiation of Novice English Lecturer Identities During the Pandemic

*Most Sri Lankan universities have adopted the distance mode of education, changing the teaching/learning platform from physical to virtual, in response to the constraints created by the Covid-19 pandemic. In this context, the new lecturers who have embarked on their professional journey after the outbreak of the pandemic face a different form of 'reality shock'. The challenges faced by the novice lecturers have urged a significant negotiation of their 'imagined identities' formed on their prior investment, experience, and ideologies. This study is an attempt to explore the identity formation of the novice English lecturers attached to the Department of English Language Teaching at a state university. Its findings shed light on how the novice lecturers' professional practices are shaped by the limitations and opportunities offered by the virtual educational platform on which they function. Similarly, their perceptions of their struggle to construct/ co-construct a professional identity despite the limited multimodal resources and face-to-face interaction are examined.*

**6th September 2021**

**2:00 PM via Zoom**



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://learn.zoom.us/j/64514460873?pwd=VGxldjdVSFZ3Q3pURHRZK2pZMERsZz09>

Meeting ID : 645 1446 0873

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Biography

*Ms. Thilini Gunathilake is a Lecturer (Temporary) attached to the Department of English Language Teaching at the Open University of Sri Lanka. She received her MA in Teaching English as a Second Language from the Postgraduate Institute of English, Open University of Sri Lanka and her Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the University of Colombo.*

*Her research interests include teacher identity, curriculum design and material development.*

