



**SPEECH BY MR GOH ECK KHENG, CHAIRMAN, SPEAK GOOD ENGLISH MOVEMENT,
AT THE LAUNCH OF THE SPEAK GOOD ENGLISH MOVEMENT 2011, ON SATURDAY
10 SEPTEMBER 2011, AT 10AM AT JURONG REGIONAL LIBRARY**

Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister of State, Ministry of Defence & Ministry of Education

Ms Yeoh Chee Yen, Second Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education

Partners of the Speak Good English Movement

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Boys and Girls

Welcome to the Speak Good English Carnival at the launch of this year's Speak Good English Campaign.

I have the pleasure to tell you that although you are in the Jurong Regional Library, you have my permission to speak out loud within this building today – provided that you do so in good English!

You will find activities and programmes for all ages on the five floors of this library. Arts and crafts, rap sessions, watch your favourite 9.38 Live dj at work, find out why your child speaks like you, discover the language of love, enjoy acoustic sessions with Singaporean indie bands, and you might – just might – also catch me telling a story to the children.

Whatever you choose, don't miss the Speak Good English Movement self-assessment quiz. Find the stand, complete the short grammar and vocabulary test and stand a chance to win an iPad sponsored by the British Council, a Mac Book and a pair of air tickets to London. (Now let me pause to let this sink in.) You don't even need to get full marks. Just do the quiz designed by the British Council and find out your level of English.

The Speak Good English Movement is a movement. We need the support of those who speak well to help create an environment of good English. We also want to encourage those who need to improve their English to take action and learn. Show your support by going to the Speak Good English Movement Facebook page and "like" us. You can even whip out your mobile phones and do that right now.

We can all learn to speak English better if we try. And that means by listening to those who speak well and using them as role models. It is important to listen and learn, and it is even more important to practice by thinking about what you wish to say and speak it confidently.

How we speak does make a difference.

We are honoured that Minister of State Lawrence Wong is here to address us and launch this year's campaign. Mr Wong, please.