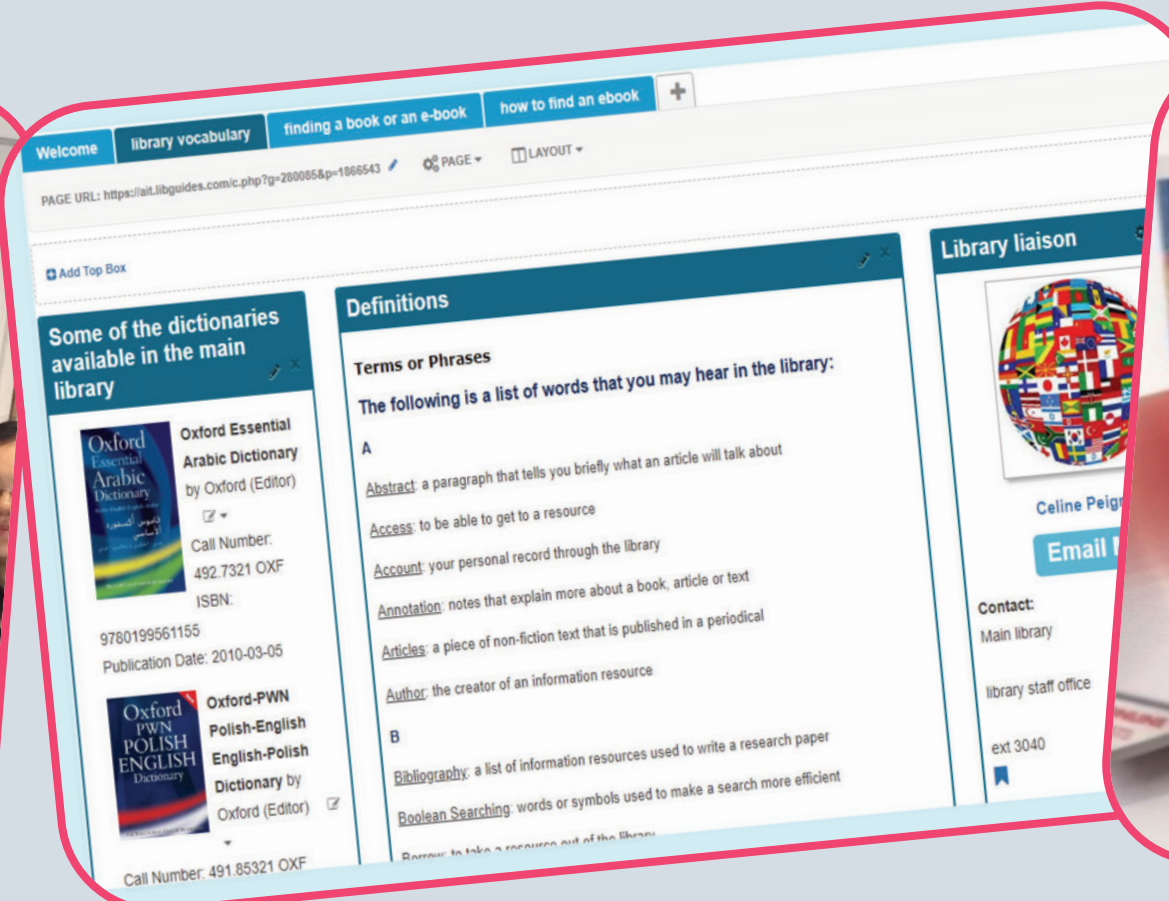
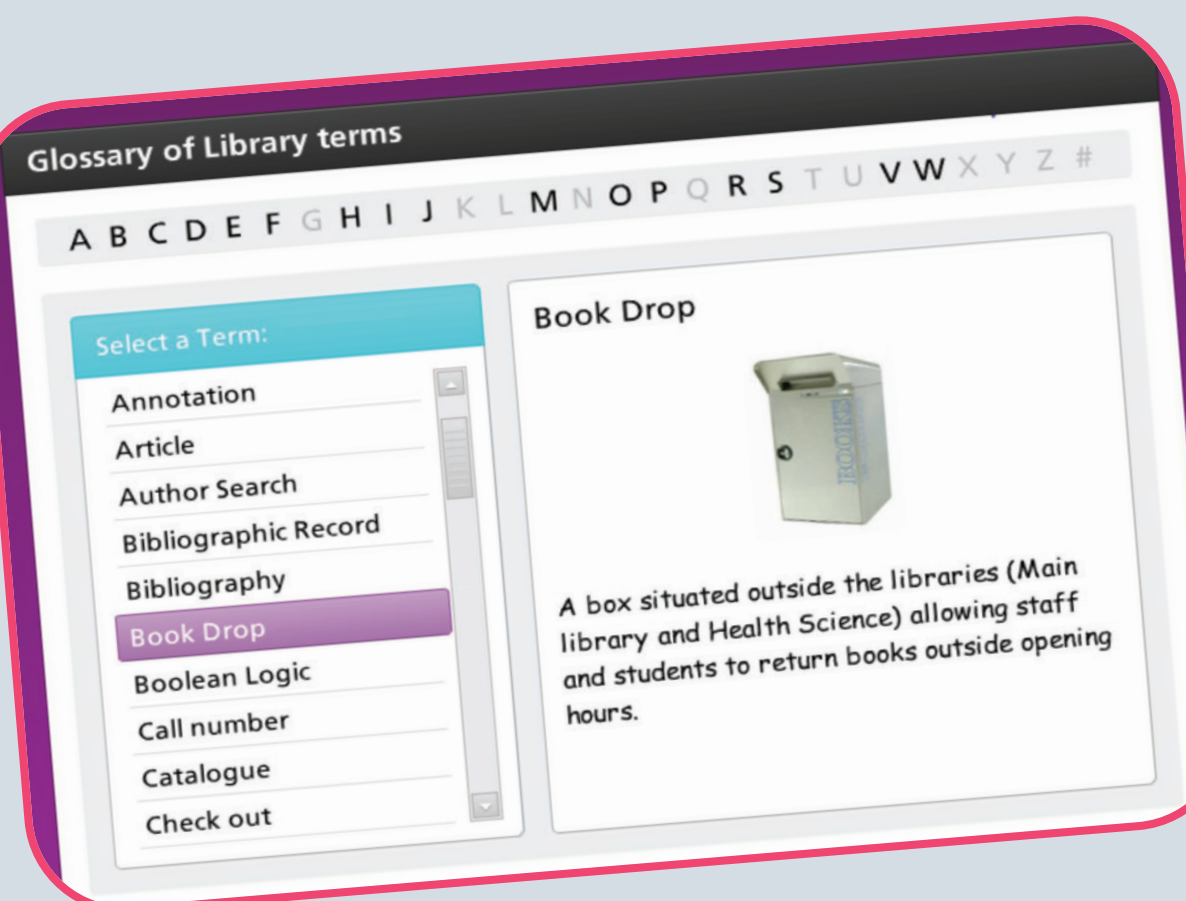


# Want to improve your English???

# Come to the library!

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## Why specifically tailored services for International students?

1. Language barrier (an important factor in library anxiety) has a negative impact on library use, information literacy skills and understanding of librarians' role.
2. The majority of International students have only half of the reading comprehension and less than half of the oral comprehension required to successfully engaged with their studies abroad (Moeckel and Presnell, 1995).
3. Students experience of the library at home often differs from the one of Irish students (for example Chinese students do not expect help from the library staff and consider them as guardians of the books).
4. Due to information overload, International students miss valuable information from the initial induction to the library organized as part of general orientation during their first week on campus. They benefit far more from information sessions organized afterwards in small groups in the library or in the classroom.
5. International students tend to use the library more regularly than their Irish counterparts throughout the academic year, especially in the evenings and at weekends

## International students, we want to hear from you!

We surveyed all International students with the support of the International office. The survey was designed in collaboration with international postgrad students on campus for a minimum of 2 years. The main objective was to identify and understand gaps between International students experience and expectation of their home library and AIT library.

### MAIN FINDINGS:

- The library is not seen as a facilitator in language acquisition and progress.
- The library is only perceived as a quiet place to study.
- International students are reluctant to engage with library staff.

## We heard you, this is what we can do for you:

- International students liaison library staff to deliver sessions and answer queries
- Glossary of library terms included in International Office induction pack
- Creation of an International section dedicated to second language acquisition and academic writing for International students
- Acquisitions of textbooks to support preparation to IELTS examinations
- Access to English graded readers level 1 to 6
- Board games corner
- Free English dictionary sponsored by the International office
- Regular intervention in the classroom and collaboration with English language lecturers
- Bi-weekly drop-in clinic supported by a postgrad student
- Libguide introducing library services and online tutorials linked to English Foundation students Moodle page
- Current affairs printed material available at the international section and updated weekly
- Email promotion of magazines or recently acquired titles relevant to International students

## Next: Cultural awareness

- Cultural awareness workshop delivered by ICOS (Irish Council for International students) offered to all staff on campus (library / admin support / academic / estates) organised by the International office and supported by the library
- Collaboration with the International office in the promotion of international celebrations (Chinese New Year, Brazilian carnival, Eid al-Fitr...)
- Fiction / leisure books available in different languages in the International section

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