



## ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING NEWSLETTER

July 2017



### Activities, Handouts and Lesson Plans

Many language programs are in the midst of the rush of summer students. Here are some new icebreaker exercises to use to get to know your new group of students. Try out some of these activities to get your class talking!

- To get everyone familiar with each other in a classroom of any level, you can try the [Interview Game](#).
  - If you're looking for something more intensive for a higher level class, try out [Identity Circles](#). In this activity, students rank their internal value systems and learn about each other through the process.
- Try some of these [lighthearted discussion topics](#) to get your students talking and get to know them.

BBC Learning English has posted a lesson that addresses a recent advance in medical technology, a patch that delivers vaccines. This [video lesson](#) has good vocabulary and discussion activities to allow higher level students to work with the topic.



## Websites, Videos, and Publications

Nearpod is a great new tool for teachers to use in their increasingly digitalized classroom. Nearpod takes the generally distracting force of your students' cell phones and turns it into a tool for learning by broadcasting your lesson directly to their screens. Whether it be your PowerPoint slides or an interactive activity, NearPod can bring your material directly to your students' hands.

If you are in need of a quick online assessment tool for your students, then take a look at CLB-OSA. CLB-OSA's online assessment tool gives your students a Canadian Language Benchmarks score quickly and for free.

Spelling can be difficult, even for native speakers. If your class of young learners is having trouble with spelling, why not try some of these fun and interactive web apps designed to help students learn spelling strategies.



## Professional Development Webinars and Conferences

On July 7th at 4pm Eastern Time, Shelly Terrell is hosting a webinar on how to bring novels to life for your students by using digital tools. To join the webinar, just click here!

**Cambridge University Press** will be hosting a webinar on July 17th and 19th on the topic of Using Digital Tools for Developing Personal Learning Networks. This webinar will give tips on how to successfully create or participate in a Personal Learning Network online.

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt recently posted a webinar focused on creating a literacy-rich environment in young learner classrooms. This webinar gives insight on the benefits that come from infusing young learners with literacy skills and also provides tips on how to create a literacy-rich environment in your class of young learners. Click here to watch the video recording. To access the PowerPoint slides and handouts of presenters from the recent **TESL Canada Conference** in Niagara Falls, download the conference app at http://www.teslcanadaconference.ca/conference-program/.



## The Language Program Management Corner

### Tips for Syllabus Creation

Whether you are running a language program at a K-12 school, a college, a university, or a government-funded program, your course syllabus is important. A course syllabus is essentially a contract between your teachers and their students about what will take place in the course. The course syllabus should thus be crafted in a way that reflects its importance. Below we have some tips for how you can ensure that your teachers are creating effective syllabi:

- Make sure teachers create their syllabi several weeks before the start of a course. This gives you time in which to provide them with feedback. Make sure that the teachers are given clear expectations on what you expect to see in the syllabus before they create it. Use the feedback window to ensure that your expectations are met.
- Make sure the syllabi are detailed. A classroom syllabus is a form of protection for both the students and teachers. A specific breakdown of expectations and grading protects students from potential discrimination, while also protecting your instructors and your school from liabilities as long as they follow the outline they created. Make sure to include details in the syllabus to cover important areas such as: attendance policies, marking process/grade allocation, the course calendar and ways to contact the instructor if problems arise. A detailed syllabus can go a long

- way in protecting your instructors and their students.
- Provide a template of exactly what type of information you expect to see in the syllabus. Having a template available will make sure that teachers include all the necessary information in their syllabi while also leaving it open for them to customize and improve. Here is an example of a [syllabus template taken from the UCLA ESL program](#).
  - If more than one teacher is teaching the same course, have them collaborate on their course syllabus. This will generate a better syllabus more efficiently.

Adapted from: <https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/course-syllabus-how-to/>



## The ACE PD Exchange Video of the Month

This month's featured video is: [Using Drama Activities to Teach Pronunciation](#)

There are many drama activities that actors use to warm up their voices and improve their projection, enunciation and overall vocal delivery. Many of these activities can be used with English language learners to help them improve different features of their English pronunciation, from phoneme articulation to intonation and stress. In this session, we take you through a variety of these voice activities so that you can try them with your students.

Check out a sneak peek of the video below or [click here](#) to access the full video for FREE on the PD Exchange site. If you're already a member of the Professional Development Exchange, you can also access the accompanying handout and quiz for PD tracking.

If you're not a member yet, [click here](#) to sign up, or learn more about the features of the site [here](#).



A video thumbnail showing a woman with short blonde hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt, speaking to the camera. To her right, the title 'Vowel Production' is displayed in blue, followed by 'Activity #1:' in red. Below that, instructions read: 'Have students stand up and start walking around the room. As they're wa'. A play button icon is overlaid on the video frame. At the bottom right, a copyright notice reads: '© Advance Consulting for Education, INC. 2013'.

[Visit the PD Exchange Website!](#)



## Upcoming ACE Courses

Check out upcoming course dates below for the ACE TESOL Certificate, a TESL Canada Standard One course; the ACE TESOL Diploma, a TESL Canada Standard Two and TESL Ontario course; and the ACE TEYL Certificate, a course for teaching young learners.



information, contact: [lisa.hill@peelsb.com](mailto:lisa.hill@peelsb.com).

### **Assiniboine Community College, Brandon, Manitoba**

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will run full-time in July 2017. For more information, contact: [continuingstudies@assiniboine.net](mailto:continuingstudies@assiniboine.net).

### **Bow Valley College, Calgary, Alberta**

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course begins on September 5th. For more information, contact: [ELLReception@bowvalleycollege.ca](mailto:ELLReception@bowvalleycollege.ca).

### **East Coast School of Languages, Halifax, Nova Scotia**

The next ACE TEYL Certificate course, for teaching young learners, will start on August 21st, 2017. The first ACE TESOL Certificate course will start in September 2017. For more information on both of these courses, contact: [brandon@ecslcanada.com](mailto:brandon@ecslcanada.com).

### **Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Edmonton, Alberta**

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will start in September 2017. For more information, contact: [mklettke@emcn.ab.ca](mailto:mklettke@emcn.ab.ca).

### **London Language Institute, London, Ontario**

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course starts September 11th, 2017 (full-time). The next ACE TESOL Diploma course will begin on September 12th, 2017. For more information, contact: [info@llinstitute.com](mailto:info@llinstitute.com).

### **Niagara Catholic District School Board, St. Catharines, Ontario**

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will run in September 2017. For more information, contact: [fred.wilson@ncdsb.com](mailto:fred.wilson@ncdsb.com).

### **Peel District School Board, Mississauga, Ontario**

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will begin on September 18th, 2017. The next ACE TESOL Diploma course will also begin on September 18th, 2017. There will be an information session on Monday, August 28th. For more



Renison University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario  
The next ACE TESOL Certificate and Diploma course start dates are to be announced. For more information, contact: [mheeney@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mheeney@uwaterloo.ca).



University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario  
The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will run from September 5th to December 8th, 2017. For more information, contact: [aplumb@uwindsor.ca](mailto:aplumb@uwindsor.ca).

## ACE Advanced Online Teacher Training Courses

Our advanced teacher training courses are offered online through our partner, London Language Institute. All advanced online courses are self-paced and run over a three month period with three start dates per year: January 15th, May 15th, and September 15th. Contact [info@llinstitute.com](mailto:info@llinstitute.com) or [info@aceducation.ca](mailto:info@aceducation.ca) to register or click on a course below for more information.

Take your teaching skills to the next level with one of these courses!



### Let's Keep in Touch!

There are lots of ways to stay connected with ACE. Click the icons below to connect with us on social media, where we regularly post teaching ideas and resources that you can use in the classroom. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to email us at [info@aceducation.ca](mailto:info@aceducation.ca).



[Visit the ACE Website!](#)