

The ACE English Language Teaching Newsletter

April 2019

"Progress means getting nearer to where you want to be. If you have taken a wrong turn, then going forward does not get you closer. "

- C.S. Lewis



Activities, Handouts and Lesson Plans

Earth Day is on Monday, April 22nd. Here are some environmental and conservation activities you can do with your students for Earth Day:

- Students work in small groups to create an Earth Day poster that represents their ideas for what they can do to be more environmentally friendly on a daily basis.
- Students watch the **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle** video to identify different waste reduction strategies they can use on a daily basis. Discuss which strategies they can implement in their own homes and why.
- Students watch the video **PSA Recycling Ad** about the lifecycle of a plastic water bottle. Discuss uses for used plastic water bottles. Discuss strategies to reduce the use of bottled water in daily life.
- Take the students around your school and evaluate the school's environmental sustainability initiatives that they can see. Look for recycling, energy saving and water saving initiatives.
- Students watch either **Team Marine** or **Dreaming in Green** about two school projects directed towards environmental sustainability. Students create a checklist of ideas from the videos that what they can use in their homes or daily lives.

- Students work in pairs or small groups to play **Cornucopia**, a free environmental online simulation game. Once students are finished, debrief them about what they learned while playing the game.
- Students research an environmental sustainability initiative and present their research to the class. Possible topics include: wind energy, solar energy, geothermal energy, recycling, energy conservation, composting and electric cars.



Websites, Videos and Articles



For ideas and resources for **teaching literacy**, check out the following websites:

- For dual language booklets check out the **Dual Language Project**. While these books are designed for kids they can also be used for adult literacy.
- For a wide selection of resources and ideas check out **the Balanced Literacy Diet**.
- **Unite for Literacy** has a wonderful and large collection of online picture books on everything from animals, plants, and family to sports.
- **Storybooks Canada** is a free open educational resource that promotes literacy and language learning with audio recordings of short story books.

If you are looking for subject matter teaching resources to use in your content language classes **Annenberg Learner** has a large catalogue of resources, lessons plans and videos for math, science, English and the social sciences. While the resources are designed for K-12, they can be adapted for English language learners.

The spring issue of **Contact: Synergies of Languages and Life** is now available online. It is full of great articles on current issues in English language teaching.



Professional Development Webinars

To watch recorded sessions from the **2019 IATEFL Conference** go to **IATEFL Online**. There is a great selection of recorded plenary speeches and forums.

IATEFL has a webinar on April 27th entitled, '**Building Teacher Communities – Going Global with WhatsApp**'. Scroll down their [webinar page](#) for details.



Cambridge English has a Facebook Live session on April 15th entitled **The Value of Gamification for Language Learning** that will provide ideas on how to apply gamification to your language classroom. Both digital and non-digital games will be discussed.

Oxford University Press has a webinar on April 16th and 17th on **Teaching with Technology** with Nick Hockly. The webinar addresses the question "to what extent do technologies support language learning, and lead to improved outcomes for students?"

Oxford University Press has a second webinar on April 18th entitled, **Say the Right Thing at the Right Time: Teaching Pragmatic Competence.**

And last but not least, MacMillan English has two webinars in April. On April 10th they have a webinar entitled, **What About the Fifth Skill of Viewing?** on the use of images and video in language teaching. On April 30th they have a webinar entitled, **The Importance of Recycling in Vocabulary Teaching.**

The Language Program Management Corner

Leadership Discussions with Random Travellers

I travel a lot and one of the most enjoyable things about this travel is the random people I meet--- people sitting next to me in an airport lounge, on a plane, train or bus. Never having met before, we have great discussions about life, politics, economics, business and education. I get a wide range of perspectives on all of these topics from people outside of my professional and personal networks.

One of the most interesting random travellers I met recently was a young (relative to me) engineer in a pipe manufacturing company. He was heading to Vancouver for a meeting at his parent company. He was reading **Make it So: Leadership Lessons from Star Trek: The Next Generation** by Wess Roberts and Bill Ross. Being a Star Trek geek, and particularly a fan of the lead actor, Patrick Stewart, I couldn't resist asking about the book.

The random traveller explained that the authors use an episode from the TV show to make points about leadership as demonstrated by Captain Picard. For example, that leadership is about letting your team do their jobs and trusting their expertise and judgement. And that it is about having to make decisions with incomplete information. And that context is important.

We then talked more about making the transition from being a technical expert, to being a leader and manager. This was his first management position after doing engineering work for five years. He was reading the book to get ideas on how to better navigate his new management responsibilities. We also shared other management and leadership books we had read and found

useful.

The lesson of this post? Keep your eyes and ears open when you travel. You will meet interesting people who will give you little nuggets of information and wisdom to plug into what you already know, about leadership and management, and about life. You never know when you are going to have the opportunity to learn.

By the way, if you are looking for more interesting books, try these ones. They are not leadership or management books, but they were recommended by two other random travellers I met this month

- **She Has Her Mother's Laugh: The Powers, Perversions and Potential of Heredity** by Carl Zimmer
- **Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind** by Yuval Noah Harari



The ACE PD Exchange Video of the Month

This month's featured video is: **Using Drama to Teach English.**

Drama provides us with a wonderful suite of activities that we can use to bring energy and fun into our English language classrooms. The activities allow students to be creative and pushes them outside of their comfort zones. This video introduces different categories of drama activities that we can use, and then example activities for each category.

Check out a sneak peek of the video [here](#) or [click here](#) to access the full video and accompanying handout if you're already a member of the ACE Professional Development Exchange.

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

[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.



ACE in Iran, Iran

For information on the next ACE TESOL Certificate course in Iran, contact Neda Ahmadi at: iranacetesol@gmail.com.



Assiniboine Community College, Brandon, Manitoba

For information on the next ACE TESOL Certificate course start date, contact: continuingstudies@assiniboine.net.



Bow Valley College, Calgary, Alberta

The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course runs from May 7th to July 6th, 2019. For more information, contact: ELLReception@bowvalleycollege.ca.



East Coast Language College, Halifax, Nova Scotia

The next full-time ACE TESOL Certificate course runs from May 20th to June 14th, 2019. For more information contact: teachertraining@ECLCcanada.com

Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Edmonton,

Alberta For more information on the next ACE TESOL Certificate course start date, contact: mklettk@emcn.ab.ca.



London Language Institute, London, Ontario

The next full-time ACE TESOL Certificate course starts on May 6th, 2019. The next ACE TESOL Diploma course online starts on May 15th, 2019. For more information, contact: paula@llinstitute.com.



Niagara Catholic District School Board, St. Catharines, Ontario

The next full-time ACE TESOL Certificate runs from May 3rd to May 31st, 2019. For more information, contact: fred.wilson@ncdsb.com.



Peel District School Board, Mississauga, Ontario

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will run from September 25th to November 16th, 2019. For information on the next ACE TESOL Diploma course, contact: lisa.hill@peelsb.com.



Renison University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario

For information on the next ACE TESOL Certificate course start date, contact: kimberly.burrell@uwaterloo.ca.



University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario

The next part-time ACE TESOL Diploma course runs from April 30th to August 21st, 2019. The next ACE TESOL Certificate course will run from September 3rd to December 5th, 2019. For more information, contact: iris.wang@uwindsor.ca.

ACE Advanced Online Teacher Training Courses

Our advanced teacher training courses are offered online through our partner, [London Language Institute](http://londonlanguageinstitute.com). All advanced online courses are self-paced, can be started any time and can be completed over six months. Contact paula@llinstitute.com or 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!

Advanced
Grammar for
English Teachers

K-12 ESL
Student
Integration

Language
Teaching and
Technology

Teaching
Culture

Teaching English
for Academic
Purposes

Teaching
Occupation
Specific Language

Teaching
Standardized
Test Preparation



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.

If you like our newsletters, don't forget to **OPT IN** to receive our emails so we can keep sending you great content! You're welcome to unsubscribe at any time.



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