



May 2019

"You don't always win your battles, but it's good to know you fought. "

- Lauren Bacall

TESL Canada Survey on Teacher Professional Standards

TESL Canada is conducting research to better understand the current status of professional standards of English language teachers across Canada from the perspective of key stakeholders, including teachers, language assessors, teacher education programs, and employers (coordinators, managers, directors).

TESL Canada would appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete our survey about professional standards for English language teachers across Canada.

Here is the link to the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NVQ9DGV>

There are 24 questions in the survey. It should take you between 10-15 minutes to complete.
Please complete it no later than midnight EST on Thursday, May 16th.

Regardless of your role in English language teaching in Canada, and regardless of the type of program in which you work, you are a stakeholder in teacher professional standards and TESL Canada would like to hear from you through their survey. They really appreciate you taking the time to provide them with your input on this research.



Activities, Handouts and Lesson Plans

If you teach English for Academic Purposes, the TED Talk, **A Visual History of Human Knowledge**, is a good way to introduce your students to visual and graphic information used to illustrate knowledge. And here is a good TED Ed lesson on **How to Spot a Misleading Graph**.

If you are in the northern hemisphere, here are some ideas to get your students outside and enjoying the spring: **10 Door-Busting ESL Activities**. Some of the activities are for kids, but most can be used for adults.

With so much going on in the world politically and economically right now, it is important that we direct students to **news in easy English**. It is also important that our students access the same news from different perspectives, so that they can develop their critical thinking skills. Here are some possible learner English news sites to explore with your students:

- **The Times in Plain English**
- **The New York Times**
- **News in Easy English**
- **News in Level**
- **Simple English News**

Here are **some activity ideas to use with the news articles**, as well as some additional news sites to use.



Websites, Videos and Articles

The blog **Advancing Learning: Does Anyone Really Need to Use a Dictionary?** provides an interesting discussion on the role of the dictionary in today's world of Google. It is a good article for teachers and for advanced students.

The Pedagogy of Blended Learning has some good models and strategies for implementing blended learning in your classroom. While the ideas are directed at K-12 students, they can be used with English language adult students.

Here is a great TED Talk about sleep, **Sleep is Your Superpower**. The video is good for you as a teacher, as you take care of yourself, and also for your students, to convince them to stay away from all night study sessions.

Read the latest news on English language teaching in Canada from TESL Canada in their **April TESL Canada Connects** newsletter.



Professional Development

The call for proposals for **EduLang 2019: Taking Stock of the Issues Related to Language Teaching and Learning**, September 26, 27 and 28, 2019 at University d'Ottawa is open until **May 15th, 2019**.

The call for proposals for the **40th ATESL Conference** in Calgary, Alberta on October 18th and 19th is now open until **June 30th, 2019**.

Macmillan English has two free webinars in May:

- **Social and Emotional Learning in the Early Years**, on May 15th
- **Useful Tips to Improve your Pre-Primary Classroom Management**, on May 22nd

Oxford University Press also has two free webinars in May:

- **Today's Kids, Tomorrow's Citizens** on May 15th and 16th
- **Assessment for Learning** on May 22nd

And last but not least Cambridge English also has two free webinars in May:

- **Authenticity: Turning Theory into Tasks and Skills** on May 16th
- **Bilingual Learners, Bilingual Brains: Language Acquisition Patterns in Different Types of Learners** on May 22nd



The Language Program Management Corner

Building on What Came Before Us

I recently had the opportunity to travel in Switzerland, Germany, France and the Netherlands. One of the things that stood out for me, as I toured towns, cathedrals and castles, was that everything was built on the work of a previous era. The buildings and infrastructure went back thousands of years. The builders of each era built on the foundations of the builders before. And with good reason. The sites of the buildings had been strategically chosen to be easily defended or to be central to the life of the city or town.

The magnificent monuments to human ingenuity, craftsmanship and engineering incorporated elements from thousands of years of human work. I remember one structure literally had sections from five different eras.

The builders don't just build on what came before. They adapt it, they fix it, and they update it. In

one castle, the gate had been narrowed two hundred years after it was built, because the knights no longer rode through the gate on horseback. They didn't need such a wide gate. In another building, some of the carved ornaments had broken off. Craftspeople used pictures to create a three dimensional model of the ornament, printed it with a 3D printer, and then cast a mold. Many of the castles had been turned into hotels, with interiors updated with everything we expect in a modern building.

How does this relate to managing? As managers we often think that we need to come into an organization, get rid of everything that is there, and start again. We think that the only way we will have an impact on the organization is to remove all evidence of our predecessors and build a brand new organization that is distinctly ours. Looking at the work of countless civilizations, however, this is not necessarily the best approach. We should look at the foundation that is already in place and start there. What do we need to strengthen? What do we need to adapt? What do we need to replace? What do we need to add? As managers, we are caretakers of the organization, just as cities, architects and builders are the caretakers of structures left behind by our predecessors. Our job is not to tear down the organization. Our job is to keep the organization current, relevant and functioning smoothly, to pass on to the manager who will come after us.



The ACE PD Exchange Video of the Month

This month's featured video is: **ESL Student Interviews: First Language Background.**

Research has clearly established that a student's first language background significantly impacts his/her ability to learn English. In this video, you'll watch a series of interviews with English language learners who have different first language backgrounds. These students will offer their perspectives on the differences and similarities between their first language and English. They will also share which aspects of learning English they enjoy as well as which aspects they find challenging. These interviews will not only give you insight into these students' experiences with learning English, but will provide you with an opportunity to listen for how each student's first language might be impacting their English language pronunciation, use of vocabulary, use of grammar and discourse patterns.

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

The next part-time, blended ACE TESOL Certificate course starts in the spring/summer 2019. For more information, contact: continuingstudies@assiniboine.net.



Bow Valley College, Calgary, Alberta

The next part-time course runs from September 3rd to November 1st, with the practicum in November. For more information, contact: ELLReception@bowvalleycollege.ca.



East Coast Language College, Halifax, Nova Scotia

The next full-time ACE TESOL Certificate course runs from October 7th to November 1st, 2019. For more information contact: teachertraining@ECLCcanada.com.



Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, Edmonton,

Alberta The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course starts in September, 2019. For more information, contact: mklettke@emcn.ab.ca.



London Language Institute, London, Ontario

The next full-time ACE TESOL Certificate courses starts on July 2nd, 2019. The next ACE TESOL Diploma course online starts on May 15th, 2019. For more information, contact: paula@linstitute.com.



Niagara Catholic District School Board, St. Catharines, Ontario

The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course starts in September, 2019. The next part-time ACE TESOL Diploma starts in January 2020. For more information, contact: fred.wilson@ncdsb.com.



Peel District School Board, Mississauga, Ontario

The next part-time, blended ACE TESOL Certificate course runs from September 16th to November 25th, 2019. The next part-time, blended ACE TESOL Diploma course runs from January 14th to May 5th, 2020. For more information on the courses contact: lisa.hill@peelsb.com.



Renison University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario

The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course runs from September 17th to November 16th, 2019. For more information, contact: kimberly.burrell@uwaterloo.ca.



University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario

The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course runs from September 3rd to December 5th, 2019. The next ACE TESOL Diploma course will run in the spring and summer of 2020. 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 asynchronous and self-paced. You have six months to complete the courses. Enrollment is on a continuous basis. 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 Program Management	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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