

# The ACE English Language Teaching Newsletter

February 2019

"Never make someone a priority when all you are to them is an option."  
~ Maya Angelou



## Activities, Handouts and Lesson Plans

Use this Google ad on **the most translated words on Google Translate** as a discussion starter with your intermediate students or above. Talk about which words they most often translate and why. With advanced students, analyze some translations that Google Translate produces for accuracy of form and meaning. And with your academic students, have them read this **interview with a Google Translate executive** on the translation challenges their

Artificial Intelligence team is currently tackling.

Use this video on **Technology Addiction** as a conversation starter with your intermediate students on how much smart phone use is too much. For additional resources on the safe use of technology and on digital citizenship search the resources from **Commonsense.org**. While the resources are designed for K-12 students, many of them can be adapted for adult language learners.

For a fun, non-language activity for your literacy and beginner students, have them create a **selfie-portrait**. Use the cell phone and tablet templates available from **Teaching Ideas**.

Discuss the cultural aspects of facial expressions with your intermediate and advanced students using the TED Ed lesson **Are there Universal Expressions of Emotion?**



## Websites, Videos and Articles

Hippo Ed Tech, the developers of the **Hippo Vocabulary App**, is offering a free two-week trial of the app for all users. The app allows your students to create a personalized vocabulary database, based on texts that they are currently reading. The app is suitable for learners of all language proficiency levels.

Richard Byrne has made his **Practical Ed Tech Handbook** free to download on his Practical Ed Tech site. It is a great resource on the best technologies to use in the classroom and how to use them.

**The British Council** has a rich catalogue of teacher development publications that focus on both practice and theory, based upon action research from English language professionals around the world. Explore the **Teacher Development Catalogue** and the **Professional Development Catalogue**.

For ideas on how to use literature in your language teaching classroom read the Winter 2018 issue of **Literature in Language Teaching**.

For some good tips on classroom management, read the blog **How to Have a Calm, Controlled, Effective Classroom Environment**. While the tips are for K-12 classes, most of them also work in an adult classroom.

Are you in the northern hemisphere and thus in the throws of winter? If yes, try these **Tricks for Surviving the Mid-Winter Teaching Blues** to re-energize your teaching.

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## Professional Development Webinars, Journal Issues and Conferences

Oxford University Press has three free webinars in February:

- **The Role of the First Language in English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI)** on February 12th.
- **How English is Changing** on February 22nd and February 26th.
- **Helping Students Build Core Vocabulary** on February 26th

Catch two free webinars from Delta publishers--on February 10th, **Going Mobile: Teaching and Learning with Mobile Devices** and on February 24th, **Engaging Busy People**.

**The Teacher Development Special Interest Group** is holding a **Web Carnival** all of February, with live events on February 23rd.

Read the TESL Canada Journal Special Issue on professional development, entitled **The Shifting Landscape of Professional Self-Development for ELT Practitioners**.

For those of you interested in the use of technology for language learning, read the article **Mobile Augmented Reality Learning Objects in Higher Education** by Faith Marcel of Niagara College and the University of Toronto.

Mark your calendar with the **International Conference on Task-Based Language Teaching**, August 19th to 21st, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Abstracts for presenters are still being accepted.

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## The Language Program Management Corner

### Triaging Your "To Do" List

If you are anything like me, you have a lengthy "To Do" list. I live by my "To Do" List. It keeps me focused on what I need to get through in a given day. On a good day, my list gets down to a page. When things get really bad, my list goes up to two pages long. On those bad days, it is hard to even find items on the list as I work through them and want to cross them off. Keeping a "To

Do" list manageable is crucial to being organized and efficient with your time.

The article **"Ask Four Questions to Ruthlessly Prioritize Your 'To Do' List"** has some simple suggestions for keeping your "To Do" list a manageable length.

1. Decide if the task is even worth doing. At the beginning of each week I review my list and eliminate items that are no longer relevant.
2. Look for ways to automate tasks. It may take some time to automate some of your repetitive, routine tasks, but that time is well-spent once the automation kicks in.
3. Identify tasks you can delegate. Sometimes it is better to pay someone to free up some of your time, so that you can then be more productive on tasks that have a significant impact on your school.
4. Put tasks off until later. I have a system of identifying urgent tasks that I need to do right away, and those that are important but not urgent. I review the degree of urgency at the beginning of each week and shift tasks around if necessary.



## The ACE PD Exchange Video of the Month

This month's new video is: **Teaching Critical Reading Skills**.

Higher level language students, particularly those looking to move into higher education studies at an English-speaking university or college, need to learn to read critically, evaluating the quality of the content that they are reading. Reading critically means not just understanding the words on the page but also being able to 'read between the lines' for other layers of meaning

presented by the author. In this video, we look at some of the most important critical reading skills that our students need to learn, including: using context clues; identifying and differentiating among inference, fact and opinion; identifying the main idea; pronoun referencing; and identifying the author's purpose.

Check out a [sneak peek](#) of the video 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.

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### **ACE in Iran, Iran**

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



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

The next part-time, blended ACE TESOL Certificate course is scheduled for the spring, 2019. For more information, contact: [continuingstudies@assiniboine.net](mailto:continuingstudies@assiniboine.net).



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

The next part-time course runs from May 7th to July 6th, 2019. For more information, contact: [ELLReception@bowvalleycollege.ca](mailto: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@ECLCanada.com](mailto:teachertraining@ECLCanada.com).



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

The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course runs in the spring of 2019. For more information, contact: [mklettke@emcn.ab.ca](mailto:mklettke@emcn.ab.ca).



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

The next full-time ACE TESOL Certificate courses starts on May 6th, 2019. The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate starts on February 11th, 2019. The next ACE TESOL Diploma course online starts on May 15th, 2019. For more information, contact: [paula@linstitute.com](mailto:paula@linstitute.com).



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

The next ACE TESOL Certificate course runs in May, 2019. The next part-time ACE TESOL Diploma starts in January 2020. For more information, contact: [fred.wilson@ncdsb.com](mailto:fred.wilson@ncdsb.com).



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

The next part-time, blended ACE TESOL Certificate course will start in the spring of 2019. The next part-time, blended ACE TESOL Diploma course will run in the fall of 2019. For more information on the



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

**Renison University College, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario**

For more information on the next course start dates, contact:

[kimberly.burrell@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:kimberly.burrell@uwaterloo.ca).



**University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario**

The next part-time ACE TESOL Certificate course will run in the fall of 2019. The next ACE TESOL Diploma course will run in the spring and summer of 2019. For more information, contact:

[iris.wang@uwindsor.ca](mailto:iris.wang@uwindsor.ca).

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## 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. Participants have six months in which to complete the course material. Courses are run on a continuous enrollment basis. You can start them any time. Contact [paula@lilinstitute.com](mailto:paula@lilinstitute.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!

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](mailto: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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