

English Language Teachers' Summer Seminar 2020

Workshops – Week 1

1A Teaching and Learning Online

Tutor: Shaun Wilden

Today, online learning is playing an increasingly important role in education. Many teachers, however, are often expected to work in the digital environment with minimal (or even no) training or support. This course sets out to equip you with the fundamental know-how and skills to comfortably and confidently teach online. You'll explore models of online learning including Salmon's five-stage framework and look at key online determiners such as the role of social presence and digital activity design. Blending theory with practical activities, your tutor will help you work as a group to build your first online lesson. You don't need to be a technological expert to take this workshop, but you will need to bring a computer with you to get the most out of your week.

1B Exploring Grammar: Words, Clauses, Sentences and Beyond

Tutor: Jon Hird

In this workshop, we will be looking at grammar at word, clause, sentence and text level. We will begin by exploring what grammar is and why we need it and then take a look at the four key components of text. Then throughout the sessions, we will consider different ways of looking at grammar and we will look at a range of classroom activities for introducing, analysing and practising language. We will look at the corpus and how it can be used in grammar teaching. We will then go 'beyond the sentence' and will consider text as a unit of language and explore some of its linguistic features. This course is for teachers who teach grammar at any level and who want to develop their own language awareness and understanding of grammar as well as taking a fresh look at ways to teach it.

1C From Phonemes to Fluency: An Approach to Pronunciation Mastery

Tutor: Adrian Underhill

During this workshop you will learn how to integrate the pronunciation of sounds, words, phrases and connected speech into all of your lessons in playful and engaging ways that challenge your students creatively and at their own level! You will also explore the physicality of pronunciation. By sensing your pronunciation muscles, by knowing from the inside how you make the sounds in your own mouth, you'll become more versatile in the ways you guide your students, helping to free them from the 'grip' of their mother tongue pronunciation. Above all, you'll find that pronunciation has the power to fire up confidence and self-esteem across the whole of language, and to bring lightness and pleasure to the classroom.

1D Linguistic Mediation in the Secondary School Classroom: Skills, Strategies and Activities (B1+)

Tutor: Hanna Kryzsewska

Every ELT teacher is familiar with the traditional breakdown of skills into productive (speaking and writing) and receptive (listening and reading). The increasingly influential Common European Framework of Reference (2001, 2018), however, does not look at four skills, but at four modes of linguistic activity; reception, interaction, production and mediation. If you teach English to secondary school students at B1 level and above, this workshop aims to help you understand what mediation involves and how you might integrate it into your lessons. It also aims to help you develop a range of engaging classroom activities to take away with you.

1E Creating and Writing Classroom Materials

Tutor: John Hughes

This workshop aims to inspire any teacher who creates and writes their own classroom materials. Over the week, you'll work collaboratively to develop and produce a variety of exercises that you might find in course books, workbooks, and in online materials. Each day, you'll look at the different key skills needed to develop and write materials including image and text selection, writing instructions and exercises, developing audio and video scripts, and creating motivating speaking activities. You'll also learn how materials are developed by ELT publishers, which will help you not only to identify models of good practice in materials development, but also to successfully select and evaluate course materials. This workshop would also be helpful to teachers who are thinking about or intending to publish their work.

1F The Inclusive Teacher's Toolkit: Tips and Techniques for Teaching Mixed-Ability Classes

Tutor: Edmund Dudley

This workshop is for teachers working in general ELT contexts with mixed-ability groups who are interested in applying principles of inclusive practice in their teaching. It aims to provide you with an engaging forum in which to discuss your experiences. We begin by looking at several notions of diversity and consider the different needs students might have. We then examine the extent to which principles of inclusive practice can be applied for the benefit of all students in the mixed-ability classroom. You'll be invited to appraise a variety of approaches to differentiation with the aim of developing a broader understanding of what differentiated learning can mean in practice. You'll also explore the notion of the inclusive classroom environment from both a theoretical and a procedural perspective. Your tutor will share practical advice and tips aimed at fostering an inclusive approach to evaluation and assessment and to project work. You'll leave your course with a toolkit of simple, yet effective, techniques and practical ideas for successful multi-modal learning.