

Resources for Tutor-Student Continuing Instruction from a Distance

(Prepared by ProLiteracy with additions from other Literacy Organizations)

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Distributing Lessons for Distance Learning

- Mail or drop off documents to be used
- Message or text, using any of the messenger tools, a link to the site(s) you are using for the lesson or to the documents that you will use during the lesson. Example below:
 - Text 1:** *Good morning! For today's lesson I'd like you to spend 30 minutes working on your pronunciation of the /th/ sound in English. First, watch this video:*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nIKNo1TGALA>
 - Text 2:** I have attached a worksheet with words that have "th"
 - Text 3:** *Have fun, and let me know if you have any questions!*
- Set up a website to house your links and documents. Some tools for this purpose include:
 - **Google Drive and Docs** - The easiest way to do this is to use your Google Drive. You can create a Google Doc or video and place in your Google Drive. In your Google Docs you can place all of the links to items being used in your lesson, and then share the URL link with your student. You can revise the content on that Google Doc by adding new lesson links. Students do not need a Google account nor email account to access. Google Docs can also be used to create worksheets or writing prompts.
 - **Padlet** - Another site that is easy to use is Padlet. You can sign up easily using your Gmail. Students only need the link to access your Padlet wall (no email, no password, no signing up). Again, you can simply change the wall for each lesson, eliminating the need to give your students a new URL link each week.

Instructional Resource Sites for Tutors

Learning for Life

An ESL Literacy Handbook is a whole book produced for teachers by Bow Valley College in Canada – free and down loadable.

<https://globalaccess.bowvalleycollege.ca/sites/default/files/Learning%20for%20Life%20-%20indexed.pdf>

Here are some links to Pre-literate resources that might be helpful for tutors working with refugees:

Hands On! (limited English)

links to a collection of ESL literacy activities for pre-literate students. It might be helpful for tutors working with refugees or individuals who are not familiar with English letters.

<http://en.copian.ca/library/learning/handson/handson.pdf>

Making It Real: Teach pre-literate Adult Refugee Students

<https://www.tacomacommunityhouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Making-it-Real.pdf>

This book attempts to answer these questions and reviews some effective practices for teaching preliterate adult refugees. It describes techniques and activities that support these practices. It is divided into sections on teaching speaking and listening skills and reading and writing skills

State Education Resource Center

SERC has its own library with a searchable catalog online. Anyone can apply for a library card from them. ctserc.org. Visits are by appointment only. They provide professional development and information dissemination in the latest research and best practices to educators, service providers, and families throughout the state, as well as job-embedded technical assistance and training within schools, programs, and districts. <https://ctserc.org/>

Tools for Creating Lesson Documents

- Create your own lesson documents (see tools below). They can be sent to the student or placed on your shared drive (e.g., Google Drive or Padlet).
- Create a video for your student to watch and send via text or put on a shared drive. Most computers have a built-in mic and webcam, as well as internal software which allows you to record yourself (usually part of your camera function). Also, you can record a video on your cell phone (the same way you would take a picture, except you record instead of taking a still image).
- Have your student create a video or recording of themselves and send to you via text. If you are using a texting platform like WhatsApp, students can use the record button to record themselves speaking in lieu of texting. That way, you can give them a prompt, say, 'What did you do yesterday?' (e.g., to elicit use of past tense for ESL).

Education.com

This site can be used to create puzzles and scrambles from words

<https://www.education.com/worksheet-generator/reading/>

Goggle Forms

Create Q&A documents or interactive exercises that can be created to support a lesson plan.

<https://www.google.com/forms/about/> (free)

Kahoot

There are a wealth of options for creating online quizzes. One of the most popular is Kahoot, where you can either use someone else's pre-made quiz, or create your own. The only thing you need to provide your students is the link and an access pin to that particular quiz. To create your own quiz, create a teacher account using your Gmail, then watch. <https://kahoot.com/>

Quizlet or Quizizz

Free site to create online flashcards and games to be used for training <https://quizlet.com/>. [Quizizz.com](https://quizizz.com) has access to pre-made quizzes for free. Quizzes are made to feel like a game.

Quill

Writing instruction into a free, open source digital platform. Activities help students develop their sentence construction and grammar skills and are designed as supplemental writing exercises that students complete over short, 10 to 15 minute sessions. Quill offers prompts and exercises and delivers instant feedback to help students write, revise, and revise again until they are able to produce succinct, powerful sentences. <https://www.quill.org/>

Sites with Prepared Digital Lessons and Documents

Sites with an "*" are new since the last publication

AmericanEnglish.state.gov

Includes a range of free lessons that can be downloaded. <https://americanenglish.state.gov/>

Bob the Canadian

Youtube videos by Bob the Canadian to learn English. Releases lessons per week that the student could watch or you use in your tutoring session. Has English subtitles as well.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZJITxA36ZPNTJ1WFIByaeA>

Bow Valley Easy Readers

ESL literacy reading and listening excersizes at different ESL levels.

<https://globalaccess.bowvalleycollege.ca/learners/readers.php>

Cake Videos

A YouTube site called Cake that has good videos about grammar and conversations to listen to.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CakeEnglish/videos>.

COVID-19 quizzes below in English and Spanish

Futuro Sólido shares quizzes in English and Spanish to counteract hysteria and promote smart decisions that will protect your employees, your workplace, and our society.

English quizzes:

<https://app.quizzify.com/demos/coronavirus-quiz>

Spanish quizzes:

<https://app.quizzify.com/es/demos/coronavirus-quiz>

CrowdED Learning

CrowdED Learning provides an inventory of free or open content learning tools that reduce barriers for adult learners' education and employment while promoting persistence and lifelong learning.

(<https://www.crowdedlearning.org/explore/skill-directory>).

Dave's ELS Café

Some resource pages available on English lessons. Good for grammar, idioms, phrase verbs and pronunciation. <https://www.eslcafe.com/>

Education

Bank of worksheets, games, lesson plans, activities, exercises, etc. Need to create a free account.

<https://www.education.com/>

***Ello.org**

Grammar lessons with examples embedded that are relatable conversations, simple charts and explanations. It models authentic/natural language use, isolates grammar you can teach (e.g., to be verb), and provides explanations on why that grammar you can use with your student.

<https://ello.org/>

English Club

List of common words for vocabulary, reading and writing skill lessons, games; verbal phonemic charts, sample business language, and much more . <https://www.englishclub.com/>

English for Everyone

Printable English worksheets at various levels of skill. <https://www.englishforeveryone.org/>

English Language Lesson Library Online

Videos and some of them come with quizzes - really good if you are working on comprehension: <https://www.ello.org>.

English Maven

Free online english lessons and exercises, puzzles, and reading sheets and online quizzes. (example: many work sheets on verb tenses). <https://www.englishmaven.org/>

English Pronunciation and Minimal Pairs Practice Videos

- I. 30 Minimal Pairs to Practice the Vowel Sounds in English English teacher Dave Bailey leads viewers through a nine-minute video that introduces 30 minimal pairs. This could be a good video to use if you want to introduce a variety of minimal pairs at once, and then you could work with students to choose which minimal pairs are more challenging and require more practice. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LO7bmikk-3U>
- II. 60 Minimal Pairs from ManyThings.org focuses on minimal pairs. Each pair of words is shown with a black screen background, with the announcer reading each pair. The video is a little over four minutes and introduces minimal pairs such as fond/found, best/vest, and thin/sin. Minimal Pairs: Useful Pronunciation Practice. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrIfQTOI97k>
- III. Interactive English features a 30-minute minimal pairs lesson that was previously livestreamed. The lesson includes some example sentences that use targeted minimal pair words. There is also a short game featured in the video. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLBxBwE_y6U
- IV. Intercambio has designed more than 25 short videos to help students practice minimal pairs and challenging pronunciation points. The videos were designed for use with Intercambio's "Pronunciation Fun With Pictures" resource. Examples of minimal pairs contrasted in videos include wooden hook versus blue moon in one video and orange door versus brown cow in another. <https://intercambio.org/curriculum-and-resources/videos/>

English Videos

Site with English video lessons. <https://www.engvid.com/>

ESL Galaxy

Free ESL printables, kids activities, games and online excersizes for grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation. esl-galaxy.com

ESL Library

From grammar and literacy to dialogues, discussions, and debates, it is a library of student-focused content that makes it easy to find materials relevant to all your students' language needs. (Cost) <https://esllibrary.com/>

ESL Lounge

This interactive site will allow your students to continue their studies more independently. Thousands of grammar, vocabulary, reading, listening and exam prep exercises. Students get instant feedback at the click of a button: a grade for each exercise and tips about wrong answers. www.esl-lounge.com

ESL Video

Site with free quizzes, lessons and online conversation classes for English language learners. <https://www.eslvideo.com/>

ESLPDF.com

Site for grammar and vocabulary worksheets based on daily activities. <http://www.eslpdf.com/>

Every Day Edits

Daily editing practice worksheets on a topic to build language skills that the student edits to correct the language. The lessons are set at preschool to Grade 8 levels. https://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/archives/edit.shtml

Handouts Online

EFL ESL ESOL Worksheets. Conversation, grammar, comprehension and discussion. Download free samples. www.handoutsonline.com

Homophones List

A website with thousands of homophone examples. You could pick a couple at a time to practice with the class or refer students to the website to study on their own. <http://homophonelist.com/>

Internet TESL Journal

Resources for teachers of english as a second language, such as conversations, sample lessons, games and other activities.. <http://iteslj.org/>

Lanternfish – ESL

ESL free resources including flashcards, worksheet, puzzles, phonics and more. <https://bogglesworldesl.com/>

The Learning Network (news articles)

The free Learning Network publishes about 1,000 teaching resources each school year, all using *New York Times* content — articles, essays, images, videos, graphics and podcasts — as teaching tools across subject areas. Our regular daily and weekly features run from September to May, with special resources published throughout the summer. Includes student activities.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/09/01/learning/how-to-use-the-learning-network.html>

LINCS Learner Center

The Learner Center links to federally-funded resources for learners. It is organized around goals such as “Learn to Read” or “Learn English.” All resources are free, online, and ready for adult learners to engage with at any time. (<https://learner.lincs.ed.gov/>)

ShareAmerica link has many of the resources are related to Naturalization topics. Includes a video and transcript/vocabulary.

Another linked site <https://americanenglish.state.gov/resources/dialogs-everyday-use> has materials to be used that are dialogs for Everyday life and are simpler.

Bow Valley ESL Readers

<https://globalaccess.bowvalleycollege.ca/our-resources/publications-resources/esl-literacy-readers>

Very easy to read books with photos written for adult ESL. Levels A and B are appropriate for very beginners. If you google the book title- you can also find supplementary activities created by other teachers that go with each book.

Minnesota Literacy Council

The free story bank is a collection of short stories written specifically for adult ESL learners as part of the Minnesota Literacy Council’s Adult ESL Curriculum with Transitions Skills. As part of a larger curriculum, these stories were written to align with specific themes and objectives of the lessons in which they are embedded. Many of these themes are common across adult ESL classrooms, such as healthcare and work. Others draw directly from content on the CASAS Life and Work reading tests.

[Minnesota Literacy Council Story Bank](#)

New Readers Press, ProLiteracy’s Publishing Division (Most Items Require Purchase)

New Readers Press Online Learning: Free 90-day pilots available for online Pre-HSE, GED® test prep, and HiSET® exam prep courses to keep your learners on track to reach their HSE goals. (<https://www.newreaderspress.com/digital-solutions>)

News for You Online: *News for You* Online uses current event articles and human-interest stories to engage learners’ interest while building skills in reading, comprehension, and vocabulary. *News for You* Online includes a Tips for Teachers section where instructors can find the video *How to Use News for You Online* and other helpful resources. LVVS has a subscription for hard copies of the weekly publication (can be signed out in the LVVS office) as well as free access to one online article via the following website (contact the LVVS office for the weekly subscription password). <https://www.newreaderspress.com/news-for-you-online>

News In Levels

World news for students of English at different levels. <https://www.newsinlevels.com/>

Newsela.com

Create a fee account to have access to current news articles at 5 ESL levels. <https://newsela.com/>

Rachael's English

Used by other LVVS sites and recommended. You tube site with current news stories (advanced) to listen to with the student and to practice vocabulary. New stories are posted every Tuesday. Also includes videos on explanations on sounds (demonstrations of moving lips, mouth, etc.).

Rachelsenglish.com

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvn_XCl_mgQmt3sD753zdJA

Readworks

FREE library of content, curriculum, and tools with curated nonfiction and literary articles, along with reading comprehension and vocabulary supports, Students can highlight, annotate, and complete assignments online. <https://www.readworks.org/>

Teach-this

ESL/EFL teaching resources for free. Download teaching activities, lessons, worksheets, articles, games and ideas. <https://www.teach-this.com/>

TEFL.net

ESL lesson plans and worksheets such as numbers, using future tense <https://www.tefl.net//>

UE Using English

A collection of free ESL tools and resources, includes quizzes; view by ESL level or theme

<https://www.usingenglish.com/>

University of Victoria – English Language Center

Language Link has stories to read and practice comprehension

<https://continuingstudies.uvic.ca/elc/studyzone>

USA Learns

USA Learns is a free website to help adults learn English online. Includes lessons for U.S. Citizenship as well. (www.usalearns.org/)

VOA

Has lessons that you can read, play out loud, and do tests of comprehension

<https://learningenglish.voanews.com/>

Woodward English

Youtube site with English grammar lessons.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/WoodwardEnglish/videos?app=desktop>

Student Resources and Independent Practice Tools

Duolingo

Must create an account; you can use on computer or download app to phone.

<https://www.duolingo.com/>

FluentU

Videos with subtitles made for English learning; 14 days for free then requires a subscription.
<https://www.fluentu.com/en/>

GED Practice

For advanced students, free GED sites can provide reading and writing exercises
<https://www.gedpracticequestions.com/>

HelloTalk

Must download free app; chat (writing) based, but you can also send voice messages to and from your practice partner. <https://www.hellotalk.com/?lang=en>

Intercambio

Resources for ESL listening; videos on English sounds <https://intercambio.org/>

Voice REEPWorld

Online, interactive resource to build health-related vocabulary and comprehension. The site includes special sections on food, a healthy life, medicine, emergencies, health problems, and the body.
<http://www.reepworld.org/englishpractice/health/index.htm>

SayHi Translation App

English language translation services. sayhi.com

Spice

Free easy to use online recorder and message sharing site. You record a message and send to others – they can then respond. <https://voicespice.com/>

US Citizenship

Resources to support citizenship training <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/educators/lesson-plans>

WordUp

App for increasing English vocabulary (cost for membership). <http://www.wordupapp.co/>