

## ESL Essentials for the New Teacher or Tutor

### 4 Steps to Success

- **Plan:**
  - Know your learners' needs.
  - Develop detailed lesson plans that address their immediate and long-term goals.
  - Involve the learners in identifying the goals for the lessons and activities to keep them motivated.
- **Implement:**
  - Teach or tutor according to your lesson plan, but be flexible and respond to emergent life circumstances.
- **Assess:**
  - Evaluate your learners' progress informally and formally.
  - Create "real world tasks" as much as possible.
  - Keep organized and accurate records.
- **Reflect:**
  - Regularly think about your teaching style and consider how your learners are reacting to it.
  - Adjust teaching methods and materials as required by the learners, their goals, and circumstances.

### 4 Top Tips for Success

- **Prepare:**
  - The secret to being flexible and addressing learners' needs is to over-prepare, especially when you are new.
  - Having a wide variety of activities at your fingertips will make you confident, help ease between activities, and give you another choice if something doesn't work.
- **Model:**
  - The best way to explain is to do an example.
  - Don't assume your learners understand what you might consider "simple steps"
  - Show them what the finished product looks like.
- **Be Aware:**
  - Culture influences behaviour so try to understand why your learners act a certain way.
  - Don't assume anything!
- **Silence is Golden:**
  - Give learners time to answer.
  - Allow silence to occur.
  - Limit your "teacher talk."

### Professional Development Opportunities

- **ATESL** is the provincial organization that offers training through yearly conferences and local chapter meetings, <https://www.atesl.ca/>
- **Rural Routes** provides workshops, mentoring, and an extensive collection of resources. Contact a regional Advisor to create training specific for your learners, program, and community, <https://eslruralroutes.norquest.ca/home.aspx>
- **TESL Canada** is the national organization that offers training through conferences and professional accreditation, <https://www.tesl.ca/>
- **Tutela** is the largest, national online community for ESL professionals and offers, for members only, training and instructor-created materials. Membership is free for ESL professionals, <https://tutela.ca/HomePage>

## What do I teach, how do I teach it, and what resources do I use?

Skills to focus on:	Resources to access:
<p><b>Four language skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The receptive skills:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Listening</li> <li>▪ Reading</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ The expressive skills:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaking</li> <li>• Writing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Provides the national standard (CLBs) for determining the level of learners' language skills <a href="https://www.language.ca/resourceexpertise/for-language-teachers/">https://www.language.ca/resourceexpertise/for-language-teachers/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Rural Routes Workshops*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strategies for Teaching Reading, Listening, Writing</li> <li>➤ Interactive Strategies for Teaching Speaking</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grammar:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Commonly understood as the mechanics of a language, for example: Verb tenses      Pronoun usage Conditionals      Parts of speech Punctuation      Capitalization Sentence structures</li> </ul>	<p><b>Websites and videos:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Azar Grammar, <a href="http://www.azargrammar.com/index.html">http://www.azargrammar.com/index.html</a></li> <li>➤ ESL Flow, <a href="https://eslflow.com/">https://eslflow.com/</a></li> <li>➤ EngVid, <a href="https://www.engvid.com/">https://www.engvid.com/</a></li> <li>➤ English 4U, <a href="https://www.english-4u.de/">https://www.english-4u.de/</a></li> <li>➤ English Club, <a href="https://www.englishclub.com/">https://www.englishclub.com/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Rural Routes Workshops*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strategies for Teaching Grammar</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vocabulary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Focus on the language that the learners need to know for their life circumstances</li> <li>➤ Includes idioms, jargon, and other specialized language</li> </ul>	<p><b>Videos:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ YouTube Channel: Arika Okrent, <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSABQ0fvcFJ2hmOkn3F_8Q/videos">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSABQ0fvcFJ2hmOkn3F_8Q/videos</a></li> <li>➤ TED Talks, <a href="https://www.ted.com/talks">https://www.ted.com/talks</a></li> <li>➤ ESL Video, <a href="https://www.eslvideo.com/">https://www.eslvideo.com/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Rural Routes Workshops*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Teaching Idioms</li> <li>➤ Tips and Tools for Successful Conversation Groups</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pronunciation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Includes:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• individual sounds</li> <li>• intonation</li> <li>• linking words</li> <li>• phrasing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Websites, Audios, and Videos:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Rachel's English, <a href="https://rachelsenglish.com/">https://rachelsenglish.com/</a></li> <li>➤ Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab, <a href="https://www.esl-lab.com/">https://www.esl-lab.com/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Rural Routes Workshops*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Foundations for Teaching Pronunciation</li> <li>➤ Strategies for Teaching Pronunciation</li> <li>➤ Tips and Tools for Successful Conversation Groups</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pragmatics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The study of the social use of language, for example: Politeness Taking turns in conversation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Videos and Lesson Plans:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pragmatic Patterns for Business: Apologies, <a href="https://www.norquest.ca/research-innovation/colbourne-institute-for-inclusive-leadership/projects/completed-projects/pragmatic-patterns-for-business-professional-language-competencies.aspx">https://www.norquest.ca/research-innovation/colbourne-institute-for-inclusive-leadership/projects/completed-projects/pragmatic-patterns-for-business-professional-language-competencies.aspx</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Rural Routes Workshops*:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Pragmatics (Soft Skills)</li> </ul>

\*You can access information about the Rural Routes workshops at the link below.

**NOTE:** If the links won't open when you click on them, then copy and paste the link into your web browser.