

ESOL and English language links for teachers and learners working from home

BBC Learning English

Teachers and learners at all levels

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/>

A comprehensive resource for teachers and learners of English at all levels, with thousands of interactive activities from basic to 'towards advanced' (look under Courses). Some activities are topic-based, others are organised by parts of speech, grammar, vocabulary etc. and include Q&A, videos, quizzes, features and even academic skills that teenagers home-schooling might benefit from. You can change to a bilingual version for many languages on the top-right of the home page.



British Council

Teachers and learners at all levels

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/english/learn-online/teachers>

British Council are providing resources to help English teachers and teacher educators manage in the Coronavirus crisis. On the address provided here (/teachers) you will find links to online resources such as webinars for teaching online, blogs, a teachers' clinic and more.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/english/learn-online/websites-for-learners>

Here your learners can find links to British Council English language resources for adults, teenagers, younger children and those interested in football. The thousands of resources are interactive and well organised.

Easy Pace Learning.com

Learners at all levels

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

This website has over 800 lessons and exercises starting from beginner. Activities are in the style of presentation, example and exercises, rather than being interactive. There are useful list (i.e. paper-based style) resources such as idioms, phrasal verbs and verbs, ordered by their first letter. These are certainly aimed at intermediate levels but would still be useful to a motivated learner at E2 upwards. You can access the lessons by parts of speech, function and level (on the left-hand side of the home page) or by topic category (scroll down on the home page)

English Online

Learners at all levels

<https://www.english-online.org.uk/>

A straightforward resource with lessons at all levels and simple interactive activities such as multiple-choice or matching. There are also some straightforward game resources such as crosswords, spelling games and Pelmanism.

ESOL Courses.com

Learners at all levels

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

Activities on this site include song-based lessons, interactive quizzes, audio vocabulary items and functional and non-fiction reading. Levels span from beginner up to IELTS. The 'sitemap' menu option on the top-right gives you an overview of the website contents.

Liz Hulford-Wood - ESOL Recordings & Worksheets

Learners at all levels

https://padlet.com/liz_wood2/2h9xfgh4axtk

Here you will find ESOL listening worksheets from E1 to L1 and listening recordings from E1 to L2. You can also access the page on the Padlet app – please see the section below.

NATECLA

<https://www.natecla.org.uk/content/635/Useful-ESOL-teaching-websites>

Teachers

Here NATECLA gives links to multiple resources for ESOL/EFL teachers, such as the British Council's Film English and the Excellence Gateway.

TEFL Hub.com

<https://www.teflhub.com/student-exercises/>

Learners at all levels

This TEFL website includes simple, interactive grammar homework sheets for learners at all levels.

The Open University

Learners at Level 1 and above

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/free-courses?filter=date/grid/601/all/all/all/&page=1>

These free English language courses are aimed at higher level learners who may be intending to study other subjects at level 3 or level 4. They include topics such as becoming a critical reader and English for vocational areas like construction and engineering.

University of Wisconsin – Madison Libraries

Resources for teachers and learners

<https://researchguides.library.wisc.edu/c.php?g=177873&p=1169756>

This American site has links that would be useful to E2/E3 and upwards. Of note is the link listed as ‘Learn English Using Online Resources’ which takes you to the following:

New York Public Library

Learners at all levels

<https://www.nypl.org/help/community-outreach/immigrant-services/learn-esol-online-resources>

There are dozens of resource links on this American site for ESOL learners. Here are a few examples:

<http://esl-bits.net/> - Access audio books and other listening activities for learners at intermediate to advanced level.

<http://www.topics-mag.com/index.html> - Read articles by English language learners from around the world, at about E3 level and above.

<http://www.learnersdictionary.com/pronex/pronex.htm> - under ‘Perfect Pronunciation Exercises’ – American speakers still provide a lot of worthwhile pronunciation recordings for UK residents to listen to and copy.

Language apps for learners

Search for ‘English language’ and lots of options will come up. Here are some:

British Council English – some resources are free, then each series of episodes is about £3. Uses videos as the basis for language learning.

Duolingo – free with paying subscription available, Duolingo uses sentence construction as the basis for language learning.

FluentU – about £30 per month, uses original video content such as adverts, TV excerpts and songs as the basis for language learning

Liz Hulford-Wood on Padlet – free listening recordings. Download the Padlet app, then continue as a guest. Type in the webaddress given above and register to join.

Other resources and activities for learners and families

Amazon Audible

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Amazon Audible have cancelled subscriptions for their audio books while schools are closed. Choose from thousands of books organised by age for children and or classics for adults. Also available in a number of other languages.

National Theatre

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUDq1XzCY0NIOYVJvEMQjgw>

The National Theatre is playing full-length theatre shows free every Thursday at 7pm on YouTube.

Travel and Leisure.com

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

Go on a virtual tour of 12 famous museums from around the world.

National Geographic

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

A website with articles ‘through the eyes of our explorers, photographers, journalists and filmmakers’. The menu on the top right will take you to topic areas of animals, history, science and travel and sites such as the National Geographic TV channel, magazine articles and podcasts. There is also a link to the children’s site, or access it at <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>, with articles, quizzes and games.