

English as a Second Language Resources

Thanks to students of the U of M School of Education

The following is a list of useful resources for both planning and interacting with your participant(s). Some websites provide lesson plans and assessment tools to help you prepare for your sessions. Others include online/offline interactive exercises for those of you who use library computers or laptops.

K-12

www.enchantedlearning.com

This website has printable books for children in grades K-4. Users must pay to subscribe to the site.

www.everythingsl.net (<http://www.everythingsl.net/resources/websites.php>)

An extremely comprehensive website that has resources for teachers including lesson plans, articles on ESL issues, tips and suggestions, and links to helpful websites.

www.starfall.com – *Reading, Vocabulary*

This site provides reading instruction and reading games for students in Pre-K-1. The site is colorful and can be navigated easily.

www.apples4theteacher.com/esl-games/spanish - *Grammar, Reading, Vocabulary*

This is a website with lots of interactive games for kids. It primary is meant for Spanish/English speakers, because some of the games involve translation. While these games are interactive (there are even some that involve listening comprehension), the graphics leave something to be desired and may not be that exciting for kids.

Adults

www.manythings.org – *Grammar, Reading, Aural comprehension, Writing, and Conversation*

A site intended for English Language Learners (most adults) with an extensive selection of activities to help develop a variety of skills. The site contains valuable information and resources, but may be difficult for beginning English Language Learners to navigate.

www.simpleenglishnews.com – *Aural Comprehension*

Provides summaries of the latest news in basic language complimented by definitions, audio, and visuals. A great resource for adults of all levels.

www.onestopenglish.com - *Grammar, Reading, Aural Comprehension, Writing, and Conversation*

This website provides English as Second Language teachers with beneficial resources, such as lesson plans, work sheets, audio, video and flash cards.

<http://esl.about.com> – *Grammar, Reading, Aural Comprehension, Writing, and Conversation*

This is a resource center for teachers that provides help with instruction in an easily understandable and searchable layout.

www.candlelightstories.com – *Reading and Aural Comprehension*

A site at which learners can listen to stories while reading their transcripts and referring to character guides to aid in comprehension.

<http://www.freerice.com/index.php> - *Vocabulary and Grammar*

This website includes English grammar and vocabulary questions as well as other subject areas (i.e. math). For every answer that you get correct, 10 grains of rice are donated to help end hunger. Great site for mainstream and intermediate to advanced English language learners! Beginning ESL learners may need a teacher to sit beside them for support and explanation. The only thing that the site lacks is that if you answer something incorrectly, it does not explain why your answer was incorrect. It does provide the correct answer though. Also, you can choose the difficulty level of the questions (1=easiest; 5=most difficult).

www.wordreference.com - *Vocabulary*

An amazing online dictionary that includes not only direct translations, but also commonly used phrases, sayings and euphemisms. Users can also post information on the site, so sometimes you can read how native speakers reflect upon the connotations or actual uses of a word/phrase. A great resource for understanding the complexity of a language. Includes English, Spanish, French, Italian, German and Russian.

www.a4esl.org – *Grammar, Vocabulary*

This is a neat website that has activities, such as quizzes for vocabulary and grammar and crossword puzzles. It also has bilingual quizzes for vocabulary with a fairly impressive list of native languages. There are a few links to other sites and a few resources for teachers. The strength of this site is in its accessible format for learners.

<http://www.idiomconnection.com/> - *Vocabulary, Idioms*

This website provides English Language Learners with explanations of many useful idioms. If students choose any alphabet or names of objects, they will see many idioms beginning with the alphabet or idioms including the names of objects. Moreover, there is an idiomatic quiz which is helpful for familiarize students to the idioms they found.

www.eslcafe.com – *Vocabulary, Idioms*

I love the idioms! The site has a long list of American idioms. It provides a definition and then a sentence where it is used as an example. What fun.

The site seems over the top for students - too much information geared to professionals, but what a great teacher resource/forum.

www.webenglishteacher.com/esl.html - *Grammar, Reading, Aural Comprehension, Writing*

A wealth of information, including MANY links for ESL teachers, activities for English Language Learners (in MANY languages), many resource links and lesson plans on grammar, media, speech literature, poetry, etc. etc. You could get lost in here! Focus on language arts, although some other interdisciplinary stuff too.

www.esl-lab.com – *Aural Comprehension*

This site seems like it could be so cool. It offers audio so that learners can hear the spoken language to help build vocabulary and pronunciation.

<http://www.dailyesl.com/> - *Reading, Aural comprehension, Vocabulary*

“One of the best ways to improve communication skills is to become familiar with the language by reading, building vocabulary, and discussing what you study in daily conversations. Too often, ESL/EFL students spend time reading about topics that they normally wouldn't use in daily conversation. This site presents short conversation starters or readings that you can study and then try to apply in everyday situations” – Randall Davis

www.englishclub.com - *Grammar*

This site is a thorough resource for learning English grammar.