EAL Tutor Newsletter
Spring 2019

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- Tutors Share Their Go-to Resources & Best Practices
- ESL Websites: March Tutor pick & Staff pick
- Articles recommended by EAL Tutors:
  - "How to Learn a Language in an Hour a Day" (BBC Capital)
  - "Five Features of Connected Speech"
- Development & Training Opportunities through SABES
- Two New Lesson Plans! for Intermediate and Upper Intermediate from Linguahouse.com
**Thursday, March 28th**

EAL Volunteer coffee: "**Toolkit Swap**" of conversation activities; for Conversation Group Facilitators, but **Tutors are welcome!**

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Acton Library
486 Main St, Acton
[REGISTER](#)

**Saturday, April 13th**

Volunteer Networking & Appreciation Brunch

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Volunteer Networking & Appreciation Brunch
Waltham Public Library
Lecture Hall
735 Main St, Waltham
[REGISTER](#)

**Wednesday, May 8th**

EAL Tutor Networking Coffee: 'Teaching Grammar' Resource Fair

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
English At Large
800 W Cummings Park
Suite 5550
Woburn, MA 01801
[REGISTER](#)

**Friday, June 7th**

Learner Graduation ~ Annual Ceremony (By invitation)

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Lexington Historic Depot
13 Depot Square
Lexington, MA

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**Resource & Ideas Exchange Corner**
Tutor Pick: Grammar Textbook
Grammar in Use by Raymond Murphy
Basic, Intermediate and Advanced levels

Recommended by Amanda Mathiesen and one other tutor.
Tutor review: "clear explanations and useful exercises"

CLICK HERE to see a sample pages from Grammar in Use, Intermediate, 1st ed.

This textbook is available to borrow through your local library network, and at the EAL Resource Library. Also available used and reasonably priced at thriftbooks.com.

Tutor Picks:
website recommendations from other tutors:

English For Everyone
"useful website for paragraph writing and editing"

ThoughtCo ESL Lessons
"present continuous tense worksheets and exercises"
[site recommended by Tutors Heidi Tyson & Fran Watts]
EAL Staff Pick:

https://www.eslbuzz.com/

Video English lessons * Vocabulary & Visual dictionary * Idioms & Expressions * Quizzes * Grammar * Adjectives * Prepositions... and more

March Tutor Tip:

from Tutor Tia Wulansari

"Focusing on a topic for several meetings helps my learner remember the vocabulary that we are learning."

ARTICLE

"How to Learn a Language in an Hour a Day"

by Peter Rubinstein and Bryan Lufkin (BBC Capital)

submitted by EAL Tutor Denis Bradford

"Being bilingual has vast benefits...
...but getting there needn't be a lifelong slog".

"Learning a new language is an inherently scary idea. Thousands of unfamiliar words, an entirely different grammatical structure and the high potential for embarrassment are enough to intimidate many of us. With a busy work life, finding the time to commit to a new language can be a challenge in itself.

But experts agree that it's more than possible to make meaningful progress in just one hour a day. Not only that,..." MORE
In spoken discourse the boundaries between words are very often not clear-cut. Words and sounds are lost and linked together in different ways to enable us to articulate with minimal movement.

This is one of the reasons learners find spoken discourse more difficult to understand than written discourse. At higher levels it is often not a lack of vocabulary which prevents understanding, but lack of ability to deal with these features of connected speech. Native speakers are more able to use top-down processing to decide whether what they have heard is red dye or red eye.

Here are some of the more common features of connected speech... MORE

Two FREE ESL Lesson Plans from LinguaHouse.com

Intermediate Lesson Plan: "Pitching an Idea"
Students learn how to present an idea to their colleagues or associates and persuade them to support the proposal. The worksheet focuses on listening comprehension, vocabulary and speaking.

Upper Intermediate Lesson Plan: "Alone Together"
Students read about how the modern use of mobile devices is affecting the way families spend time together. The worksheet focuses on reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar (mixed tenses) and speaking.

Professional Development Offering from SABES

"How Do Adults Learn English?"
3-webinar workshop - Boston

04/24/2019 - 9:00am (Boston)
05/01/2019 - 3:00pm to 4:30pm (online)
05/15/2019 - 3:00pm to 4:30pm (online)
06/05/2019 - 3:00pm to 4:30pm (online)
Announcements

Congratulations to EAL volunteer Elisabeth Piquet for winning the $10 Dunkin Donuts gift card in the volunteer survey drawing.

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Have a great tutoring idea or resource to share? Please submit your ideas to programs@englishatlarge for inclusion in a future newsletter.

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