

50 Incredibly Useful Links For Learning & Teaching The English Language

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Teaching a new language to non-native speakers may be one of the most challenging educational jobs out there, so ELL teachers can use all of the help they can get! Thankfully, many excellent resources for ELL and ESL exist online, from full-service websites to reference tools and communities, all designed to make the task of educating ELL students just a little bit easier and more effective.

We've scoured the Internet to share 50 of the best of these resources, and we hope you'll find lots of valuable content and tools through these incredibly useful links for ELL educators.

Websites

Resource tools, printables, and other great stuff for ELL educators are all available on these sites.

1. [**UsingEnglish.com**](#): On **UsingEnglish.com**, you'll find an incredible collection of tools and resources for learning and teaching English as a second language, including a grammar glossary, printables, and teacher handouts.
2. [**EverythingESL**](#): **EverythingESL** is an awesome place to find ESL teaching resources, from lesson plans to teaching tips and resources.
3. [**Colorin Colorado**](#): **Colorin Colorado** is full of useful information, activities, and resources for ELL teachers, especially those at the Pre-K to third-grade level. However, most activities can be adapted up to high school, making this a diverse and useful website.

Articles & Advice

Check out resource lists, journal articles, and ideas for best practices in ELL on these links.

1. [**Preschool English Language Learners**](#): This resource list from the state of Illinois has a variety of support resources for preschool English language educators, with scholarships, journals, books, and more.
2. [**Doing What Works**](#): Visit **Doing What Works** to find best practices for teaching Literacy in English to kindergarten through fifth-grade learners.
3. [**What Works Clearinghouse**](#): In the **What Works Clearinghouse**, you'll find scholarly publications for effective outcomes in English language learning.

Organizations

Take advantage of the great opportunities and resources available from these organizations that benefit ELL teachers.

1. [**National Council of Teachers of English**](#): This professional association for educators in English studies, literacy, and language arts offers plenty of benefits for bilingual teachers.
2. [**National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition**](#): Find data, grants, even professional development resources for ELL educators from the **National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition**.

3. **[TOEFL](#)**: As the official language test for education, TOEFL's website is incredibly useful for sharing test-taking and studying information with students.
4. **[International Reading Association](#)**: This association of literacy professionals has excellent resources for literacy educators, including journal articles and an educator community.

Learning Resources

Enrich your students' learning by sharing these excellent English resources that they can check out in the classroom or on their own.

1. **[Culturally Authentic Pictorial Lexicon](#)**: Check out this lexicon that offers images demonstrating the true meaning of the word, making it easier for English language learners to understand.
2. **[ManyThings](#)**: On this website, you'll find quizzes, word games, puzzles, and a random sentence generator to help students better grasp English as a second language.
3. **[bab.la](#)**: Bab.la is a really fun site for ELL learners, with reference tools like a dictionary and vocabulary, supplemented with quizzes, games, and a community forum.
4. **[ESL Basics](#)**: On this site, you'll find free English videos for both students and teachers.
5. **[English Pronunciation](#)**: Okanagan College's resource offers 13 different unit lessons for learning and teaching English pronunciation.
6. **[BBC Learning English](#)**: On this website from the BBC, students can find help with grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, with plenty of references to current events. Plus, you'll find a **[special section for ELL teachers](#)**.
7. **[ESL Gold](#)**: ESL Gold is, no joke, *golden*, with seemingly endless learning resources for English. Students can practice pronunciation, find a book to study, and even talk to someone in English on this site. Plus, teachers can find a job, search for textbooks, discover games, and so much more.
8. **[Real English](#)**: Check out this free site for learning English, with loads of videos from real English speakers, plus quizzes and community support.
9. **[Repeat After Us](#)**: In this online library, students can get access to a huge collection of English texts and scripted recordings.
10. **[Google Translate](#)**: An awesome resource to use for simple translations, Google Translate can help your students see how it is done and better understand translations between two or more languages.
11. **[ESL Cyber Listening Lab](#)**: Direct your students to this ESL cyber listening lab with study guides, quizzes, and even teacher features.
12. **[Vocabulix](#)**: This online tool is designed to help jumpstart students' vocabulary skills, with more than 90 vocabulary lessons, and the option to create lessons of your own.
13. **[Wordsteps](#)**: Wordsteps makes it easy for students to build their vocabulary collection, and even access their vocabulary through a mobile device for English language learning on the go.

Teaching Resources

With these resources, you can find great ways to communicate more effectively, explore lessons, and be a great ELL teacher.

1. [Utah Education Network English Language Learner Resources](#): Check out this list of great resources for ELL, with teaching ideas, forums, and even news and research.
2. [One Stop English](#): Specially designed for English language teachers, One Stop English has a monthly topics series, news lessons, and even an app for on the go ELL teaching.
3. [Casa Notes](#): This ingenious tool allows ELL teachers to effectively communicate with non-English speaking parents. You'll be able to quickly make and customize notes that you can translate and send home to parents, effectively communicating information about field trips, conduct, homework, and more.
4. [ESL Party Land](#): A great site for ELL teachers, ESL Party Land has lesson plans, strategies, worksheets, flashcards, quizzes, games, and even vocabulary resources to help you be a better ELL teacher.
5. [Clip Art Collection](#): Check out this collection of royalty-free, language-neutral clip art designed to be used for foreign language instruction.
6. [Activities for ESL Students](#): Thousands of teacher contributions can be found on this site full of quizzes, exercises, and tests for teaching English as a second language.
7. [Szoter](#): Using this online annotation tool, ELL teachers can write directly on images to explain their meaning to students.
8. [Oxford University Press Learning Resources Bank](#): A service of Oxford University Press, this learning resources bank for English language teaching has courses, titles, and interactive English reading tools.
9. [English-Test.net](#): Encourage students to self-test with this website, offering free English tests, grammar exercises, and worksheets.
10. [EduFind English Online Tests and Learning Games](#): Check out these test and games that offer a great way for students to test and improve their English language skills.

Reference

From reference books to a pronunciation guide, you and your students will get a lot of use out of these links.

1. [Dictionary.com](#): This site isn't just for looking up words, although it's quite useful in that function. Dictionary.com also offers a word of the day, games, quotes, translation, and much more.
2. [Thesaurus.com](#): Like Dictionary.com, Thesaurus.com goes beyond simple reference, bringing inspiration and fun in the form of synonyms, fun word facts, and even search trends.
3. [Common Errors in English Usage](#): Read Paul Brian's *Common Errors in English Usage* on this website, and even get links to the book's blog, calendar, and entry-a-day Facebook page.
4. [Play & Learn English](#): Through the Early Childhood Education Network's Play & Learn English resource, you can share letters, print, shapes, writing, and other relevant images for learning the English language.
5. [Idiom Site](#): With the help of this site, English language learners can make sense of common idioms.
6. [Fonetiks](#): Direct students to this incredibly useful pronunciation guide with instant sound and samples by native speakers.

Communities & Blogs

Get help and regular feedback for ELL education from these communities and blogs.

1. **[Learning the Language](#)**: On *Education Week*, Lesli Maxwell covers educational policy and social issues relating to English language learning in the US.
2. **[Dave's ESL Cafe](#)**: Check out **Dave Sperling's ESL cafe**, where ELL teachers and students alike can enjoy a great community of English learning, plus job resources and stuff for teachers.
3. **[Englishtown](#)**: Join this community of English learners from around the world to gain insight for your ELL students.
4. **[Larry Ferlazzo's Websites of the Day](#)**: Want a regular dose of ELL resources? Check out Larry Ferlazzo's blog that shares news, learning resources, and other great links for ELL teachers.
5. **[ESL Podcast](#)**: Follow this podcast to share English language learning opportunities with your students regularly.
6. **[ESL Resource Center](#)**: The ESL Resource Center is "where English and people connect," offering live chat rooms and forums for English practice. There are even ideas for drama and role-plays, teacher development, and storytelling resources.
7. **[Teacher Talk](#)**: Several ELL teachers contribute to this blog, sharing teaching practices, materials, ideas, and guides.
8. **[Pain in the English](#)**: This fun blog is a great resource for explaining gray areas of the English language to your students.
9. **[TEFLtastic with Alex Case](#)**: Follow Alex Case's blog to find news, views, and reviews for English language teaching.
10. **[The English Blog](#)**: Visit The English Blog to find resources, reviews, and much more for both learners and teachers of English.
11. **[Inspiration Lane](#)**: Inspiration Lane is designed to be an interactive reading activity to share with your entire ELL classroom with new learning content each day.

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