

Adult ESL Best Practices

Nancy Tracy
April 13, 2021

EdAdvance
Educate • Collaborate • Innovate



Agenda

3:00 - 3:15 Introduction/Welcome/Objectives/Norms

3:15 - 3:30 Block Party

3:30-3:40 Sample Lesson Plans

3:40 - 4:00 Jigsaw Activity

4:00 - 4:45 Group Share

4:45-5:00 Reflection

Learning Outcomes

Content Outcomes

Outcomes

- Increased capacity to provide access for Adult ESL students to learn English
- Shared understanding of Best Practices in teaching Adult ELs

Language

Discourse around strategies to engage Adult English learners in Language acquisition using inquiry about what works best in Adult TESOL

Norms

- Promote a balance of inquiry and advocacy
- Stay focused
- Engage fully
- Participate to learn and grow
- Presume positive intentions

Block Party

Form triads or quads (optional) and share quotes and insights about the topic and its implications for our work. (Extension: Speculate on the purpose/origin of the text.) (12-15 minutes)

Getting Started with Adult English Learners:

- Assess language level using CCS - CT Competency System-developed by the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS)
- Find out what kinds of English they need to know for their jobs and their lives
- Expect excellence
- Value their contributions
- Have one –on-one conversations about their goals

Communication

- CLT “communicative language teaching” has eclipsed the four skills approach.
- Student centered holistic approach
- Authentic language used in context
- Adult English Learners may need English for specific purposes (ESP) in their lives and in their workplaces.
- Critical Thinking

Guide students towards academic conversations

- Elaboration and clarifying
- Supporting with examples
- Building on a partner's idea
- Paraphrasing
- Synthesizing Conversation points

Critical thinking

- Compelling topics
- Make local connections
- Project – based learning
- Planning
- ELPS Standards based lessons

Getty Art Museum lesson plan



Accessing Inquiry lesson plan

<https://www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/american-dream/>



Yabla

[video based lessons](#)



When the new year comes, many of us make new resolutions.

Cuando llega el nuevo año, muchos de nosotros hacemos resoluciones de Año Nuevo.



Digging into best practices

- **Choose** a topic from the choice board; links will be written in the chat bar for you to copy and paste.
- **Read/skim** the article silently or with a partner.
 - **Take notes** as you read.
 - **Share** your expertise with whole group.

1. How is teaching Adult ELS changing?

<https://tinyurl.com/yye6cwpc>

2. What can an Adult ESL teacher do to accelerate rigor ?

<https://tinyurl.com/6crxk7je>

3. How important are student goals for adult ELS?

<https://tinyurl.com/m9wutvb2>

4. How can adult ELs access complex texts?

<https://tinyurl.com/5mrzyp49>

5. Is teaching grammar important for an adult EL class?

<https://tinyurl.com/5c2kru44>

6. How can Adult ELs practice critical thinking?

<https://tinyurl.com/awx74ec>

7. What are the elements of planning for teaching adult ELs?

<https://tinyurl.com/4vf7t87h>

8. How can I promote the use of Academic Language in the ESL classroom?

<https://tinyurl.com/psa7m2ym>

9. What scaffolds and instruction will I provide to build and support student language?

<https://tinyurl.com/yhar9mun>

Group Share / Informal Assessment

Reflection

Works cited

Fisher, Frey, Rothenberg, *Content Area Conversations*, ASCD 2008

Singer, Tonya Ward, *EL Excellence Every Day*, Corwin 2018

Staehr-Fenner & Snyder, *Unlocking English learner's* in 2017

Zwiers & Crawford, *Academic Conversations*, Stenhouse 2011

Resources/ links cited

- "10 Strategies for Lightning-Quick Feedback Students Can REALLY Use." *Ditch That Textbook*, 23 Feb. 2017, ditchthattextbook.com/10-strategies-for-lightning-quick-feedback-students-can-really-use/.
- "The American Dream : Classroom Materials at the Library of Congress : Library of Congress." *The Library of Congress*, www.loc.gov/classroom-materials/american-dream/.
- Ascd. "Developing the Language of Thinking." *Developing the Language of Thinking - Educational Leadership*, www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/summer08/vol65/num09/Developing-the-Language-of-Thinking.aspx.
- *Block Party - School Reform Initiative*. www.schoolreforminitiative.org/doc/block_party.pdf.
- "Designing Technology for Adult Learners: Support and Scaffolding." *LINCS*, 14 Aug. 2017, lincs.ed.gov/professional-development/resource-collections/profile-1021.
- Ferlazzo, Larry. "Integrating Critical Thinking Into the Classroom (Opinion)." *Education Week*, Education Week, 23 Mar. 2021, www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/opinion-integrating-critical-thinking-into-the-classroom/2021/03?utm_source=nl&utm_medium=eml&utm_campaign=eu&M=59909725&U=2380991&UID=a7ed319113831a6d718327cef38476e6.
- Finley, Todd. "8 Strategies for Teaching Academic Language." *Edutopia*, George Lucas Educational Foundation, 2 Jan. 2014, tinyurl.com/psa7m2ym.
- *Kahoot!*, tinyurl.com/mkmbss8h.
- Kellielwoodson. "How to Get Your ESL Students Excited with Project-Based Learning." *FluentU English Educator Blog*, 10 Feb. 2021, www.fluentu.com/blog/educator-english/project-based-learning-esl/.
- "Larry Ferlazzo's 7 Tips for Remote Teaching." *YouTube*, 31 Mar. 2020, tinyurl.com/2vj4jcc5.
- *Meeting the Language Needs of Today's Adult English ...* lincs.ed.gov/sites/default/files/ELL_Increasing_Rigor_508.pdf.
- Schwarzer, David. "Best Practices for Teaching the 'Whole' Adult ESL Learner." *Wiley Online Library*, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, 23 Mar. 2009, onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ace.322.
- "Set and Monitor Goals." *LINCS*, 8 Apr. 2019, lincs.ed.gov/state-resources/federal-initiatives/teal/guide/setgoals.
- "Teacher Resources." *Larry Ferlazzo's Websites of the Day...*, 3 Apr. 2021, larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/category/teacher-resources/.
- "You Must Subscribe to Unlock This Video." *Yabla Player: Learn English: Sigrid Explains - Looking at Verbs in the Ugly Duckling*, english.yabla.com/player_cdn.php?id=16208&tlang_id=es.
- Zwiers, Jeff|Crawford. "Academic Conversations: Classroom Talk That Fosters Critical Thinking and Content Understandings." *Stenhouse Publishers*, Stenhouse Publishers. 480 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101. Tel: 800-988-9812; Tel: 207-253-1600; Fax: 800-833-9164; Fax: 207-253-5121; Web Site: <http://www.stenhouse.com>, 30 Nov. 2010, eric.ed.gov/?id=ED528565.



Arigato

Mahalo

Grazie

Asiba

THANK
YOU

Thoin
Moit

Gracias

Merci

Danke

Shukran