

# Teaching in the Low-Resource Classroom – Voices of Experience

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## Why these materials?

Throughout the world English is often taught in ‘low-resource’ classrooms, but there are few training materials which are derived from and which reflect this reality. The materials presented here are intended to help fill this gap. They can be used informally by teachers for reflection on their own or for discussion in teacher groups/associations or in-service workshops. They can also be used in formal teacher education for student teachers likely to be teaching in difficult circumstances.

## Context

The materials feature teachers from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan who took part in a five-day Hornby Regional School in Kathmandu, Nepal on ‘Teaching in the Low-Resource Classroom’. The workshop was directed and facilitated by Richard Smith with Amol Padwad and Jovan Ilic. You can gain a sense of what went on in the school by watching [this short video](#).

## What are the materials like?

The materials consist of video-recorded oral presentations by teachers, with accompanying questions for reflection and discussion:

- [Success in low-resource primary classrooms](#)
- [Success in low-resource secondary classrooms](#)

In these presentations individual teachers share recent experiences which they consider to have been ‘successful’.

- [Materials and methodology in low-resource classrooms](#)
- [Managing low-resource classrooms](#)
- [Diversity in low-resource classrooms](#)

In these presentations groups of teachers share good ideas they have gathered from other teachers at the school in relation to particular issues which are important to them.

### **A common theme – and further resources**

A common theme which emerges from these presentations is that of 'resourcefulness' –the teacher and students themselves can be valuable human resources, and this is especially necessary when material resources are lacking. Of course, this does not mean that we should stop trying to gain better material resources for such settings, just that there are already resources which should not be ignored. The school, overall, also emphasised that teachers are a great resource for one another – that they can develop their own teaching by sharing good ideas.

[Further resources for teachers in low-resource classrooms](#)

[Join the TELC \(Teaching English in Large Classes\) network here](#)

[Further resources for teacher educators](#)

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