Your Dyslexia Toolkit

DYslexiaBytE

www.DyslexiaBytes.org
www.YouTube.com/DyslexiaBytes

martin.bloomfield@gmail.com
Your Dyslexia Toolkit
Your Dyslexia Toolkit

A gauge
To get a measure of the problem

A spirit level
To find the right balance for a learning environment

A spanner
To help us adjust our practices

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Your Dyslexia Toolkit

The gauge

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The scale of the problem

Levels of awareness in schools

A measurement of how important this is
Your Dyslexia Toolkit

How many people have dyslexia?

The scale of the problem
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How many people have dyslexia?

- 5%
- 10%
- 15%
- 20%
- 25%

The scale of the problem

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The Global Population of Dyslexia

Dyslexia affects 15% of the world’s population
That’s equal to the combined total of
Brazil, the USA, Nigeria, Russia, Japan, and the UK

People with dyslexia are between 40% and 50% more likely to attempt suicide
dyslexiabites.org
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Levels of awareness
Culture
Country
Ethnicity
“Other”

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Levels of awareness in schools

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According to statistics...
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Over 84% of teachers and parents say identification is difficult or “not possible”

Levels of awareness in schools

According to statistics...

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- Over 84% of teachers and parents say identification is difficult or “not possible”
- 91% of parents and teachers said schools needed better recognition of dyslexic strengths

According to statistics...

Levels of awareness in schools
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Over 84% of teachers and parents say identification is difficult or “not possible”

91% of parents and teachers said schools needed better recognition of dyslexic strengths

According to statistics...

80% of parents said getting special educational access was difficult or impossible

Levels of awareness in schools

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Levels of awareness in schools

Over 84% of teachers and parents say identification is difficult or “not possible”

91% of parents and teachers said schools needed better recognition of dyslexic strengths

80% of parents said getting special educational access was difficult or impossible

98% of parents and teachers said that teachers need more training in identifying dyslexia

According to statistics...

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How important this is
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60% of parents believe dyslexia support at school is “poor” or “non-existent”

More than 40% of parents say their school doesn’t even identify children with dyslexia
Dyslexia: The Journey to Work
Dyslexia Bytes

**Work**
- 45% of dyslexics are unemployed
- 52% of dyslexics experienced discrimination in job selection
- 47% of dyslexics drop out of high school

**School**
- 72% of parents felt school did not nurture their child's potential
- 52% of dyslexic children try to avoid school because of their dyslexia
- 85% of dyslexic children are embarrassed about their dyslexia

**Home**
- 76% of parents felt schools did not do enough to support dyslexic children
- 95% of parents worry about their dyslexic child's future
- 85% of dyslexic children are embarrassed about their dyslexia

**How important this is**
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If you are dyslexic...

Twice as likely to end up homeless

85% self-harm

50% of those in drug & alcohol rehabilitation

42% attempted suicide

How important this is

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How important this is

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What dyslexia is

How dyslexia affects the learner in an EFL context

The types of learning that work and don’t work

The spirit level

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What dyslexia is
What dyslexia is
What dyslexia is

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‘Positives’

Highly creative

Visual thinkers

Holistic reasoning

Sequencing

Phonological decoding

Working memory

Executive function

Sequencing

‘Negatives’
Your Dyslexia Toolkit

Highly creative

Visual thinkers

Holistic reasoning

Sequencing

Phonological decoding

Though she thought she caught the hiccoughs in Loughborough, she laughed when she realised she’d started to feel rough in Slough.

What dyslexia is

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What dyslexia is
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Phonological decoding
Working memory
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Positives
Negatives

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SEN toolkit

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What dyslexia is
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Which way is the bus going?
Which way is the bus going?

This question was asked to pre-school children in the USA.

90% responded that the bus was going to the left.
Which way is the bus going?

This question was asked to pre-school children in the USA.

90% responded that the bus was going to the left.

When asked why, they said:
"Because you can't see the door to get on it"

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‘Positives’

Highly creative

http://www.dyslexiabytes.org/dyslexia-and-creativity/

Nearly 20 independent academic studies

‘Negatives’

Phonological decoding

Working memory

Executive function

Sequencing
When I view 3D spatial images in my mind, I can manipulate them and see them from multiple angles.

2018 “Dyslexic Advantage” survey of 1,100 participants

What dyslexia is
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‘Positives’

- Highly creative
- Visual thinkers
- Holistic reasoning
- Sequencing

‘Negatives’

- Phonological decoding
- Working memory
- Executive function
- Sequencing

What dyslexia is
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How dyslexia affects the EFL learner

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Learning that works / learning that doesn’t work

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What’s the shape of English grammar?
What’s the shape of English grammar?
What’s the shape of English grammar?

present

future

past

perfect

continuous

simple

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Simple teaching tips that work (almost) immediately

Ways of adjusting our practices

The spanner

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• Observe
• Reflect
• Build your own checklist

Simple tips that work immediately
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- Are my instructions simple?
- Do I break tasks into bite-sized chunks?
- Do I engage students in the process?
- Do I rely on text / reading tasks?
- Do I ask students to copy?
- Can I reduce my use of written exercises?

Simple tips that work immediately

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This is an example of what written text often looks like in a typical worksheet. Well actually, it isn’t, because a typical worksheet has been printed and photocopied several times until it’s dark and covered in smudges.

The problem with this is that the text is often crowded and difficult to read – for anyone! It isn’t only dyslexic students who’ll suffer if you continue to produce text in this fashion, it’s all your students.

Adjust your practices!
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Now get to work!
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Thanks for taking part – and please keep in touch
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SEN toolkit

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Your Dyslexia Resources

- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-50095218
- https://www.facebook.com/madebydyslexia/videos/387606068870889
- https://www.dyslexicadvantage.org/thinking-in-3d/?cn-reloaded=1

Thanks for taking part – and please keep in touch!

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