BRITISH COUNCIL

TeachingEnglish

How to teach reading

Workbook
Your reflective journal and additional learning resources

This is a **TeachingEnglish** resource

Forward

We're delighted you've chosen to continue your professional development with TeachingEnglish training and look forward to learning with you over the coming weeks.

In this workbook you'll find additional learning materials to complement your course, places to note ideas of interest, encouragement and guidance in applying them within your teaching practice. Whether you prefer to save and update it on your device, to keep handwritten notes, or use it as a prompt for your on-the go reflection, do what works for you. We hope you and your learners find it beneficial.

Happy learning.

The British Council open learning team.

Contents

Forward..... 02

Your learning goals, your course..... 04

Your learning tools..... 05

Module 1: Understanding reading

Overview and additional learning resources..... 07

Your learning: Notes, plans and reflections..... 08

Module 2: Understanding teaching reading

Overview and additional learning resources..... 11

Your learning: Notes, plans and reflections..... 12

Module 3: Engaging with reading – Skills development

Overview and additional learning resources..... 15

Your learning: Notes, plans and reflections..... 16

Your action plan..... 18

Your learning goals
Your course

Give your learners' reading skills a boost by increasing your understanding of what effective readers do and how to develop these skills with engaging classroom activities.

During this TeachingEnglish training, you'll engage with learning content in four modules, supported by a series of live online community events. You'll find practical support and encouragement from course tutors and other members of the *British Council courses for teachers global learning community* as you work to introduce new teaching ideas within your classroom.

Just as every classroom is unique, so is your learning journey. Ensure you're heading in the right direction by reflecting upon and noting your reasons for taking this course and learning goals. Keeping these in mind will help you focus on the most beneficial content and discussions for you.

Your goals and reasons for learning

Why are you taking this course? What do you want to be able to do?

Your learning tools

Online learning modules

After gaining confidence using your online learning platform and exploring effective learning strategies in the introductory Getting started module, you'll work through three further modules, each exploring a different area of teaching and learning. Involving an average of 12 hours of study, you will find a blend of theory, practical teaching suggestions and case studies that explore new ways of teaching. Repeat activities until you feel ready to move on. Return and review them as often as you like before the end of your course.
Learn how to access the online learning modules by visiting your course's page at https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/training.

Courses for teachers community

Join course tutors and other educators working on their professional development in our supportive, Facebook-based learning community. You'll gain access to a wide selection of additional learning resources, you'll also have the opportunity to engage in developmental discussions while getting the support and encouragement you need to successfully bring ideas from the course into your classroom. Access all the discussions and content related to your specific course in the Guides section.
Find the community at https://www.facebook.com/groups/coursesforteachers

Live events

Attend live community events and webinars led by expert educators. These sessions are focused on different aspects of your course and provide you with an opportunity to seek answers to your questions - and share your own expertise and insights with other community members. Recordings of all live sessions are available on-demand. For more details, check the Events section on your online course platform.

Workbook

Use this workbook to keep a record of useful course and community content, questions you'd like to ask in the community, links to resources, or to note ideas from any of the live events. You can save a version online or print the workbook - or both.

Module 1 Understanding reading

Overview

This module explores what makes a good reader, what they do, and how teachers can work with learners to develop these skills in the classroom. You will:

1. consider why and how people read different texts
2. produce activities, based on reading texts, that will allow learners to practise reading skills
3. identify how different levels of meaning can be extracted from reading.

Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Resource description (tap/click to open)	Type
Article about reading for information: Motivating learners to read efficiently	Read
Article exploring intensive and extensive reading	Read
Article suggesting activities for classroom readers	Read
Article: Theories of reading part 1	Read
Article: Theories of reading part 2	Read
Explanation of the term 'Extensive reading'	Read
Explanation of the term 'Global comprehension'	Read
Explanation of the term 'Intensive reading'	Read
Explanation of the term 'Skimming'	Read
Extensive reading: Why it is good for our students and for us	Read
A teaching reading poster with activity ideas	Use
Ceri Jones webinar: Getting the reading habit – extensive reading	Watch
Preparing to read – videos for teachers	Watch
Reading and writing genres – videos for teachers	Watch
Teaching reading skills – videos for teachers	Watch

Your learning

This is a space to record ideas from the course. You may have lots to write in some sections, less in others. The important thing though is to note some ideas that may be useful for you and your learners.

Describe three things you learned from...

Your online module

Live community events

Discussions and learning resources shared here and in the course community

Plan it

Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?

What challenges might arise when you try to make this change?

What could you do to meet those challenges?

Teach it

Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?

Module 2
Understanding teaching reading

Overview

In this module you'll consider why learners read and how to identify their specific needs in relation to reading. You'll examine reading strategies and practical activities that allow learners to practise using them. You will:

1. examine learner needs in relation to reading, and produce effective needs-analysis questions
2. identify strategies to develop reading skills and activities that practise these strategies
3. plan an effective reading skills lesson.

Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Resource description (tap/click to open)	Type
A research study investigating how learners process text, audio and pictures	Read
An explanation of jigsaw reading	Read
Article about making reading communicative	Read
Article about reading and elementary learners	Read
Article about reading and young learners	Read
Article exploring considerations for selecting storybooks	Read
Article on teenagers and reading	Read
Explanation of the term 'Bottom up'	Read
Explanation of the term 'Top down'	Read
Interacting with texts – Directed activities related to texts (DARTs)	Read
A B1 lesson plan about sustainability and the environment	Use
A B1 reading task and role play	Use
A reading task on the theme of Easter in the UK	Use
A self-study guide for teachers: Knowing the subject (section 5)	Use
Webinar about improving reading comprehension for learners with dyslexia	Watch

Your learning

Which new ideas in Module 2 are most useful for you? Note them here together with any questions you'd like to ask in the *British Council courses for teachers* learning community.

Describe three things you learned from...

Your online module

Live community events

Discussions and learning resources shared here and in the course community

Plan it

Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?

What challenges might arise when you try to make this change?

What could you do to meet those challenges?

Teach it

Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?

Module 3
Engaging with reading – Skills development

Overview

This module will help you recognise features of texts, explore some key concepts relating to reading and identify strategies for developing reading skills. You will:

1. examine a range of beliefs about reading
2. challenge some of the myths and misconceptions about teaching reading
3. give advice on common problems in teaching reading
4. analyse different stages of a reading lesson and apply ideas from the lesson to your own teaching.

Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Resource description (tap/click to open)	Type
Article about motivating learners to read – part 1	Read
Article about motivating learners to read – part 2	Read
Article about storytelling in young learner classes	Read
Article about the benefit of comprehension questions	Read
Article about using poems to develop receptive skills	Read
Article providing techniques for form focus after reading	Read
Blog post reflecting on experiences of reading out loud	Read
Description of shadow reading	Read
B1-B2 reading lesson about houses	Use
B2 lesson plan – Slog's Dad	Use
Newspaper reading activities	Use
Assessing reading (video two)	Watch
Facebook live discussion: Literature for English learners	Watch
Getting your learners reading and writing – videos for teachers	Watch

Your learning

Note any ideas you found particularly interesting and might like to bring into your classroom. Why not share them with other members of the *British Council courses for teachers* learning community?

Describe three things you learned from...

Your online module

Live community events

Discussions and learning resources shared here and in the course community

Plan it

Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?

What challenges might you face when making this change?

What could you do to meet those challenges?

Teach it

Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?

Your action plan

Make an action plan focused on applying learning from this the course. Complete any sentences that help you do this. Come back and check your plan now and then.

In the next two weeks, I am going to...

Over the next two months, I'm going to...

Before the end of the school year, I'm going to...

Next school year, I want to...

What do you want to learn about next? Explore our framework for teacher knowledge and skills for inspiration, support and materials.

Well done - you've made it to the end of the course! We hope you've found it useful, and will join us on another very soon. Learn more about free teacher training courses with the British Council at:

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/training

Photography credits:
Cover image © Getty Images
All other photography © Mat Wright