

Teaching, Examining and Assessing Spoken English



Course Overview

Being able to speak competently and confidently is seen by learners as the ultimate goal in language learning and helping your students to speak accurately and fluently is a key role of most English teaching professionals working today.

This 50-hour course will give you more confidence to 'teach speaking' by raising your awareness of the variety of tasks, activities and resources you can use to get your learners speaking and maximise spoken production. You will also gain a sound theoretical understanding of the characteristics of authentic spoken language, in both formal and informal contexts, through discourse analysis. The course also examines factors involved in testing and examining speaking and you will learn how to assess speaking effectively in your specific context.

Who is the course suitable for?

- ELT professionals working at all levels and with different age groups, who are interested in:
 - improving their understanding of what spoken English is really like
 - enhancing their ability to explain and exemplify the key aspects of spoken English
 - learning how to teach spoken English more effectively
 - learning how to test, examine and assess spoken English more effectively
- Participants with a minimum language level corresponding to B2/C1 on the Common European Framework

What will the course include?

As a course participant, you will receive a pre-course questionnaire, which should be returned prior to the course. This is to ensure that the areas of most relevance to you are integrated into the course content.

The course will include content drawn from some or all of the following areas, depending on your contextual and personal needs and priorities:

- Pedagogic grammar for spoken English
- Grammar at discourse level
- Motivating learners to speak in class
- Assessing spoken English
- Spoken English test design
- Assessor training for spoken English
- Evaluation of exams in spoken English
- Language awareness for spoken English
- Materials design for teaching & assessing
- Interactive methodology
- Maximising learners' speaking practice
- Testing & examining spoken English
- Designing good assessment criteria
- Making marks meaningful
- Review of the literature on TEASE
- Personal language development

Time will be built into the course for reflection and for participants to consider how to adapt ideas from the course to classrooms in their own professional contexts.

All NILE's courses involve a significant element of English language improvement and/or development of language awareness.

What does the course consist of?

The 50-hour course provision includes intensive tuition by trainers who are experts in the field of teaching, examining and assessing spoken English, as well as opportunities for reading and research, and a guest lecture from a well-known figure in the field of ELT.

Classes are held from Monday to Friday as detailed in the course-specific timetable, but always within the hours 0915 – 1715

What approach is used?

- Classes will be practical and 'hands-on', but with reference to relevant theory.
- Courses are participant-centred with involvement in tasks and activities which boost confidence and provide memorable learning contexts.
- Tasks will be used to illustrate the key course objectives through procedure as well as content.

Facilities and resources

The NILE course venue includes an extensive ELT library and computer suite with Wi-Fi throughout. Each course has a Moodle online learning platform which includes a comprehensive online library and enables you to access course materials and share ideas and materials with other course participants. This facility will be available to you for six months

after the course so you can keep in touch with your colleagues and continue to access course materials once you have returned home.