

# English Learning Class

## Interview and Pre-Assessment

Because we are committed to one-on-one tutoring, all students must come in advance for an interview and assessment. This greatly helps us in matching them with their tutor. It also establishes a “starting point” so that we can measure their progress over time.

## Lesson Plan

Our core curriculum is composed of the six [Language Olympics](#) workbooks. These have been used successfully for (1) adult literacy and (2) in reading-improvement courses for young people.

Over this past year we have begun with using these workbooks in an ESL setting. Here are five adaptations that we are using in our ESL program.

### 1) GROUP ACTIVITIES

At the beginning and end of our 90-minute session, we have group activities that include basic conversation practice, playing games, sharing ideas, and learning simple songs. We use the first 15 minutes and the last 15 minutes for these group activities. This means that our students receive one full hour of tutoring in the workbooks. In addition, we plan other social activities that foster a “family” feeling among the members of the group.

### 2) AUDIO SUPPORT FOR IMPROVING PRONUNCIATION

We provide online [audio recordings](#) for the reading pages in each lesson. These are the Phonics page, Sight Words, and Story reading. Students are encouraged to listen to these at home. The audio recordings are also available as a [phone app](#) and through a [dial-up service](#).

### 3) VOCABULARY HELP FOR UNDERSTANDING CONTENT

Whenever a student does not understand the meaning of a word (or idiom) in the lesson, we assist him/her in finding that word in a bilingual dictionary or an online source using a "smart phone" or computer.

### 4) DICTATION EXERCISES

In every spelling lesson, there are short, simple sentences that illustrate the meaning of words. We choose some of these sentences and use them as dictation practice for our students.

### 5) EXTRA PICTURES AND WORKSHEETS

We have a collection of resources that use pictures to illustrate various phrases that are used in everyday situations. [Oxford Picture Dictionary](#) [Photo pages](#)