

# Virtual Resources for English Educators & Learners

**REGIONAL  
ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE  
OFFICE**



U.S. Embassy, Ankara, Turkey

April 2021

## *For English Educators:*

### American English for Educators Facebook Page

**Description:** The [American English for Educators Facebook Page](#) is an interactive platform aimed toward engaging English language teachers around the world with opportunities to reflect on their practice; we also aim to provide access to useful resources, creative teaching ideas, and professional development opportunities.

**April's Theme:** **Online Assessment**

<https://www.facebook.com/AmericanEnglishforEducators/>

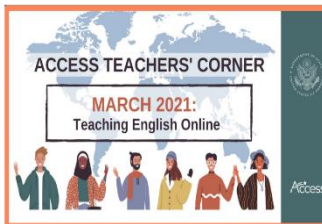
#### LEARNING GOALS

an easily identified action that a student is expected to demonstrate in terms of their knowledge, skills, etc. upon completion of a course, program, lesson, or unit



AMERICAN  
A E  
ENGLISH

### Access Teachers' Corner Facebook Group



**Description:** [Access Teachers' Corner](#) Facebook group is a dynamic space that aims primarily to support teachers who work with English Access Microscholarship Students, i.e., adolescents aged 13-20, although most of our themes will be relevant for teachers of all ages and programs. All Access teachers (and other educators) are welcome!

**April's Topic:** **Teaching English Online**

**Link to group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AccessTeachersCorner/>

## American English YouTube Channel

Our [American English YouTube](#) channel is an outstanding resource for English language teaching and learning. The channel has a total **765 videos** divided into sections aimed at English language learners and English language teachers.

**Featured Section:** [For English Language Teachers: Deep Dives into Professional Development by Topic](#)

This newly added section features **15 thematic playlists**. Twelve playlists consist of our full-length professional development webinars organized by topic; three consist of short video clips that highlight teaching tips by topic.



**Link:** <https://state-low.box.com/v/YouTube-Playlists-for-Teachers>

### Featured Video: **Password Security**

How do you teach your students about digital citizenship? Listen to this conversation in a classroom about how students can protect their passwords. It is important to have long passwords with a mix of numbers, letters, and symbols.

**YouTube Link:** <https://youtu.be/Pz86km2cHXY>

## American English Live Series 10

American English Live: Teacher Development Series 10 began on January 27, 2021! Follow American English for Educators on Facebook to stay updated on each event in the series! [facebook.com/AmericanEnglishforEducators](https://facebook.com/AmericanEnglishforEducators)

You can check the local start time in your region here: [bit.ly/ChecktheTime](https://bit.ly/ChecktheTime)

### **Certificate**

To learn about viewing group sessions and a chance to earn an e-certificate when you attend 4 out of 6 sessions, contact your Regional English Language Office or local U.S. Embassy: <https://americanenglish.state.gov/support-near-you-regional-english-language-officer-relo>

**Presentation Dates and Titles: 16:00 & 21:00 Turkey-time**

**April 7, 2021 - 8 am and 1 pm ET**

**Presentation:** Effective Assessment Practices for Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning in an Online Environment



**OPEN MOOCs:**  
**English for Business & Entrepreneurship, English for Media Literacy, English for Journalism, English for Media Literacy for Educators (EML-E), Establishing Academic Writing Centers at International Higher Education Institutions, Assessment of English Language Learners , & Using Educational Technology in the English Language Classroom**

**MOOC: English for Business and Entrepreneurship – Course extended!**

English for Business and Entrepreneurship is an OPEN MOOC for learners. It is designed for non-native English speakers who are interested in improving their language skills and knowledge of business and entrepreneurship at the same time. Participants will receive step-by-step guidance on the basic elements of starting up a new business. This is a self-paced course. Self-paced MOOCs offer participants the opportunity to complete courses on their own schedule.

Participants can enroll in this course until **April 23, 2021**. Participants may log in and complete coursework at any time during the course. However, all coursework must be completed by **April 30, 2021** to pass.

**Enrollment Link:** <https://www.canvas.net/browse/fhi/courses/english-business-entrepreneurship>

**Dates to remember**

**Enrollment closes: April 23, 2021 (ET)**

Course end date: April 30, 2021 (ET)

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**English for Media Literacy – Course extended!**

English for Media Literacy is an OPEN MOOC for learners. It is designed for non-native English speakers who are interested in improving their language skills and knowledge of the media at the same time. Participants will explore the world of advertising and identify targeted marketing strategies, analyze sources, detect bias, and examine how diversity representation in media influences individual identity and society. This is a self-paced course. Self-paced MOOCs offer participants the opportunity to complete courses on their own schedule.

Participants can enroll in this course until **April 23, 2021**. Participants may log in and complete coursework at any time during the course. However, all coursework must be completed by **April 30** to pass.

**Enrollment Link:** <https://www.canvas.net/browse/fhi/courses/english-for-media-literacy>

**Dates to remember**

**Enrollment closes: April 23, 2021**

Course end date: April 30, 2021

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**English for Journalism- Course extended!**

English for Journalism is an OPEN MOOC for learners. It is designed for non-native English speakers who are interested in developing the skills needed for a career in modern journalism. Participants will learn about the history of journalism, how to research, pitch, and interview, writing for newspapers and magazines, and the basics of broadcasting news. This is a self-paced course. Self-paced MOOCs offer participants the opportunity to complete courses on their own schedule.

Participants can enroll in this course until **December 17, 2021**. Participants may log in and complete coursework at any time during the course. However, all coursework must be completed by **December 27, 2021** to pass.

**Enrollment Link:** <https://www.canvas.net/browse/fhi/courses/english-for-journalism>

**Dates to remember**

**Enrollment closes: December 17, 2021**

Course end date: December 27, 2021

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**English for Media Literacy for Educators (EML-E)** -English for Media Literacy for Educators (EML-E) is an exciting MOOC designed to introduce you to the theory and practice of teaching about media literacy in the English as a foreign language (EFL) classroom. Through informative videos and practical readings, you will explore approaches for teaching English for media literacy that are not only effective but engaging and enlightening. You will learn theory and strategies necessary for successful media literacy instruction for students of various ages and levels of English proficiency. In the media literacy education context you will also gain new ideas for teaching students how to analyze, critique and communicate their thoughts in English. In addition, you will gain useful knowledge and resources that you can share with your education colleagues and others who are interested in this critical 21st century skill – media literacy. Through weekly participation in this MOOC, you will have the opportunity to share ideas with peers and apply course content to your teaching context. Get ready to learn about EML-E and be part of an international learning community with teachers around the world!

**Dates to remember**

Enrollment opens: April 5, 2021

Course starts: May 3, 2021

**Enrollment closes: June 4, 2021**

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**English for Journalism- Enrollment Open!**

English for Journalism is an OPEN MOOC for learners. It is designed for non-native English speakers who are interested in developing the skills needed for a career in modern journalism. Participants will learn about the history of journalism, how to research, pitch, and interview, writing for newspapers and magazines, and the basics of broadcasting news. This is a self-paced course, which will be open for 12 weeks. Self-paced MOOCs offer participants the opportunity to complete courses on their own schedule.

Participants can enroll in this course until **April 23, 2021**. Participants may log in and complete coursework at any time during the course. However, all coursework must be completed by **April 30, 2021** to pass.

**Enrollment Link:** <https://www.canvas.net/browse/fhi/courses/english-for-journalism>

**Dates to remember**

**Enrollment closes: April 23, 2021**

Course end date: April 30, 2021

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**Assessment of English Language Learners** -This course is designed to help English-language educators improve their teaching practices by creating courses that have engaging, practical assessments tied to learning outcomes. Participants will learn about the principles of backward design and explore the main types of assessment for use in language teaching and learning. They will gain an understanding of how to select appropriate assessment types for different groups of students, and they will also have a chance to practice these new assessment techniques and reflect on the results during the course. This is a self-paced course, which will be open for 12 weeks. Participants can complete coursework at any time during these 12 weeks. The course has 5 modules; each module will require approximately 3-5 hours of work.

**Dates to remember**

Enrollment opens: April 5, 2021

Course starts: May 3, 2021

**Enrollment closes: July 16, 2021**

Course ends: July 26, 2021

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**Establishing Academic Writing Centers at International Higher Education Institutions** -In this course, provided by Iowa State University, participants will learn about the purpose and function of academic writing centers at higher education institutions. They will be introduced to guidelines for establishing and running a writing center in an English as a Foreign Language (EFL) context. In particular, participants will explore models for funding a writing center, best practices for hiring and training staff, writing center policies and procedures, and methods of promoting a writing center's services.

**Dates to remember**

Enrollment opens: May 24, 2021

Course starts: June 21, 2021

**Enrollment closes: July 23, 2021**

Course ends: August 2, 2021

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**Using Educational Technology in the English Language Classroom-** This MOOC is provided by Iowa State University. This course is designed to prepare TESOL professionals to integrate language learning tools into their English language teaching. Participants will become aware of free technological tools, learn how to use these tools for language learning and teaching, and evaluate the appropriateness of a technology tool for their specific contexts.

**Dates to remember**

Course Starts: May 31, 2021

Course End Date: August 23, 2021

## English Teaching Forum

59/1 coming soon!



**Latest Issue:** *English Teaching Forum* (Volume 58, Number 4)

- This issue includes articles by teachers from, or with strong connections to, Madagascar, Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Switzerland, China, and the United States, and the My Classroom article is focused on a teacher in Libya. The articles cover, among other topics, the following:

- o tips for creating a bilingual thematic vocabulary workbook (particularly useful in low-resource environments, but applicable anywhere)
- o guidelines for assessing assessment
- o techniques for integrating writing and speaking
- o suggestions for using picture books with young learners
- o a step-by-step approach for using identity to introduce intercultural communicative competence

**Link:** <https://americanenglish.state.gov/resources/english-teaching-forum-2020-volume-58-number-4>

## For English Learners:



### American English at State Facebook Page

**Description:** The [American English at State Facebook Page](#) is an interactive platform aimed toward engaging English language learners with content and opportunities for language practice that support the English language acquisition process. Please share it as appropriate with relevant audiences in your area.

April's Theme: **Digital Literacy**  
April's Language Point: **Synonyms**

**Synonyms for:** **HAPPY**  
(adjective) /ˈhæpi/

glad

/ˈɡlæd/

content

/ˈkɒntent/

joyful

/ˈdʒɔɪfəl/

thrilled

/ˈθrɪld/



[americanenglish.state.gov](https://americanenglish.state.gov)



AMERICAN ENGLISH

# A Podcast of Exchange Stories



Listen to the RELO Podcasts still available: [#KellePaçaAndEnglish](#)



Listen on:

- ✚ **Spreaker:** <https://www.spreaker.com/show/kelle-paca-and-english>
- ✚ **Spotify:** <https://open.spotify.com/show/5xYMQwCFgVMEjg0K9I6HVh?si=hKJRYQmBT0iHrIbWAQggWw>
- ✚ **Apple Podcasts:** <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/kelle-pa%C3%A7a-english/id1521468356?uo=4>
- ✚ **Google Podcasts:** <https://www.google.com/podcasts?feed=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuc3ByZWFrZXluY29tL3Nob3cvNDQ4Mjc0OS9lcGlzb2Rlcy9mZWVk>

## Kelle Paça & English podcast series by U.S. Embassy Turkey

Kelle Paça and English is a podcast for English language enthusiasts - both teachers and learners. On each episode, U.S. Embassy Turkey former Regional English Language Officer David Fay invites an English Language Fellow in Turkey to talk about English language, teaching in Turkey and Kelle Paça - the soup that is as complex and nuanced as the English language. You can watch all the series in the links above.





### ECA Podcasts:

**ECA's podcast** can serve as a teaching tool to help English language learners develop their language and critical thinking through stories. From native speakers from the United States to foreigners from around the world, students will have access to the diverse sounds of global English. Audio and transcripts for each episode can be downloaded directly from the website [eca.state.gov/2233](http://eca.state.gov/2233).

Currently the podcast is featuring a series called "**Trekkig in India**." If you're developing creative ways to make use of the 22.33 podcast in the classroom or virtually, please reach out to share your experience with the ECA podcast team at [ecacollaboratory@state.gov](mailto:ecacollaboratory@state.gov).

## Other open education resources (OERs):

### Learn

- American English Massive Open Online Course (MOOCs) <http://bit.ly/AmEnMOOCs>
- Scholastic has posted daily online activities for students and teachers <https://bit.ly/SchlStcLrn>
- Free online courses from the top U.S. Ivy League universities <https://bit.ly/IvyLgCrS>
- 1500 Free online courses from top universities - <https://bit.ly/UnivMOOCs>
- NASA's STEM at-home activities - <https://go.nasa.gov/2QUDVV5>
- United States Agency for Global Media videos of news from all over the world in multiple languages - <https://www.usagmdirect.com/en-US>
- NASA has put together an excellent toolkit with resources, videos, lesson plans, and posters. <http://bit.ly/NASAApr22>

### Explore

- Hidden Worlds of U.S. National Parks 360 tours - <https://bit.ly/NtnIPrksHdnWrlds>
- U.S. National Parks virtual tours - <http://bit.ly/NtnIPrkVT>
- NASA's Explore Mars - <https://accessmars.withgoogle.com/>

- National Women's History Museum exhibit - <https://bit.ly/WmHstrExhbt>
- National Museum of Art virtual exhibit - <http://bit.ly/NtnlMoArt>
- National Museum of Natural History exhibit - <http://bit.ly/VRNtrlHstry>
- JSTOR digital library is now open to the public - <https://about.jstor.org/oa-andfree/>

## Enjoy

- New York's Metropolitan Opera streams free concerts <https://www.metopera.org/>
- Watch animals live at the Monterey Bay Aquarium - <https://bit.ly/MontBayAquar>
- NASA's media library is now accessible and copyright free <https://bit.ly/NASAMediaLbry>
- Take a virtual Disney ride - <https://bit.ly/DsnyRides>
- Watch celebrities reading children's books - <https://bit.ly/StarsReadng>
- iCivics games, which teach about U.S. politics, history, and democracy, can be downloaded and played without the internet. <https://bit.ly/iCvcsNoIntrnt>

## Additional Resources from UNESCO:

### Digital learning management systems

- CenturyTech – Personal learning pathways with micro -lessons to address gaps in knowledge, challenge students and promote long-term memory retention.
- Paper Airplanes – Matches individuals with personal tutors for 12-16 week sessions conducted via video conferencing platforms, available in English and Turkish.
- ClassDojo – Connects teachers with students and parents to build classroom communities.
- Edmodo – Tools and resources to manage classrooms and engage students remotely.
- Google Classroom – Helps classes connect remotely, communicate and stay-organized.
- Moodle – Community-driven and globally-supported open learning platform.
- Schoology – Tools to support instruction, learning, grading, collaboration and assessment.
- Seesaw – Enables the creation of collaborative and sharable digital learning portfolios and learning resources.
- Skooler – Tools to turn Microsoft Office software into an education platform.

### Systems purpose-built for mobile phones

- Cell-Ed – Learner-centered, skills-based learning platform with offline options.
- Eneza Education - Revision and learning materials for basic feature phones.
- Funzi – Mobile learning service that supports teaching and training for large groups.
- Ustad Mobile – Access and share educational content offline.
- KaiOS – Software that gives smartphone capabilities to inexpensive mobile phones and helps open portals to learning opportunities.

## **Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Platforms**

- Alison – Online courses from experts.
- Coursera – Online courses taught by instructors from well-recognized universities and companies.
- EdX – Online courses from leading educational institutions.
- University of the People - Online university with open access to higher education.
- Canvas – Lifelong learning and professional development for educators.
- Future Learn – Online courses to help learners study, build professional skills and connect with experts.
- TED-Ed Earth School – Online lessons about nature made available continuously during a 5-week period between Earth Day (April 22nd) and World Environment Day (June 5th)

## **Self-directed learning content**

- Discovery Education – Free educational resources and lessons about viruses and outbreaks for different grade levels.
- Facebook Get Digital - Lesson plans, conversation starters, activities, videos and other resources for students to stay connected.
- Khan Academy – Free online courses, lessons and practice.
- LabXchange – Curated and user-created digital learning content delivered on an online platform that enables educational and research experiences.
- OneCourse – Child -focused application to deliver reading, writing and numeracy education.
- Quizlet – Learning flashcards and games to support learning in multiple subjects.
- Code Week – List of online resources to teach and learn computer coding, available in all EU languages.
- Discovery Education – Free educational resources and lessons about viruses and outbreaks for different grade levels.
- Duolingo – Application to support language learning. Supports numerous base and target languages.

## **Mobile reading applications**

- Global Digital Library – Digital storybooks and other reading materials easily accessible from mobile phones or computers.
- StoryWeaver – Digital repository of multilingual stories for children.
- Worldreader – Digital books and stories accessible from mobile devices and functionality to support reading instruction.

## **Collaboration platforms that support live-video communication**

- Dingtalk – Communication platform that supports video conferencing, task and calendar management, attendance tracking and instant messaging.
- Lark – Collaboration suite of interconnected tools, including chat, calendar, creation and cloud storage.
- Hangouts Meet – Video calls integrated with other Google's G-Suite tools.
- Teams – Chat, meet, call and collaboration features integrated with Microsoft Office software.

- Skype – Video and audio calls with talk, chat and collaboration features.
- Zoom – Cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, collaboration, chat and webinars.
- ClassDojo – Connects teachers with students and parents to build classroom communities.

### **Tools to create of digital learning content**

- Thinglink(link is external) – Tools to create interactive images, videos and other multimedia resources.
- Buncee – Supports the creation and sharing visual representations of learning content, including media-rich lessons, reports, newsletters and presentations.
- EdPuzzle – Video lesson creation software.
- Kaltura – Video management and creation tools with integration options for various learning management systems.
- Nearpod – Software to create lessons with informative and interactive assessment activities.
- Pear Deck – Facilitates the design of engaging instructional content with various integration features.
- Squigl – Content creation platform that transforms speech or text into animated videos.
- Trello -A visual collaboration tool used by teachers and professors for easier coursework planning, faculty collaboration, and classroom organization.

\*\* Updated on April 2, 2021 with info from: <https://en.unesco.org/themes/education-emergencies/coronavirus-school-closures/solutions>

