

Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Additional Resources

for English as a Second Language Study outside the CTE-ELP

The Center for Teaching Excellence's English Language Proficiency Program serves Texas A&M University **instructors** of all ranks (teaching assistant to professor) by providing instruction in **oral** English proficiency. (Priority goes to current TAs with Level 2 English proficiency, then to other groups, such as graduate students with upcoming teaching assignments and professors. As space permits, other students may receive services.)

For other language skills, or if you are not a student at Texas A&M, the following resources are also available:

- [face-to-face resources available on campus](#)
- [face-to-face resources available off campus in the Bryan/College Station community](#)
- [self-study resources available online.](#)

On-campus face-to-face resources

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
University Writing Center	Individual consultations about compositions and speeches; conversation appointments; for Texas A&M undergraduate and graduate students	free*	https://writingcenter.tamu.edu/English-Learners (979) 458-1455 uwc@tamu.edu https://writingcenter.tamu.edu/Grads/Graduate-Student-Services
Byrne Student Success Center	Tutoring for international <i>undergraduate</i> students in reading, writing, speaking, and listening	free	http://education.tamu.edu/byrne-student-success-center (979) 862-8489
International Student Mentor Association (ISMA)	Social events; mentoring of international students by American students	\$10 membership fee	https://www.ismatamu.org/

Aggie Toastmasters	Registered student organization that encourages public speaking; open to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff	\$10	https://aggietoastmasters.wixsite.com/website aggie.toastmasters@gmail.com https://maroonlink.tamu.edu/organization/aggietoastmasters https://tamu.campuslabs.com/engage/organization/aggietoastmasters/contact
POWER Writing	Academic writing support for graduate students and faculty, with the goal of more productivity and publishing	free	http://power.tamu.edu/
3 Minute Thesis	An international research communication competition; oral presentation	free	https://grad.tamu.edu/academics/professional-development/three-minute-thesis

* Funded by a mandatory student fee; no additional cost per service / visit

Off-campus face-to-face resources

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley Consortium Adult Education & Literacy	ESL classes at multiple sites; multiple levels	free	Contact information and registration links for each site location available here: http://bvjobs.org/programs/adult-education-literacy/
Workforce Solutions Brazos Valley Region VI + Grace Bible Church	Beginning ESL Advanced ESL ESL for Professionals	free	adulthood505@gmail.com (936) 438-1756 (979) 693-2911 700 Anderson Street College Station, TX 77840
Baptist Student Ministry Conversational English Classes	Speaking practice, vocabulary, and idioms	free	www.aggiebsm.org/international/s/ contact@aggiebsm.org 979-846-7722 203 College Main College Station, TX 77840
Bridges International at Texas A&M	Intercultural conversation on campus; cultural/religious activities off campus	free	Public Facebook page: Bridges International at Texas A&M andy.hurst@bridgesinternational.com 214-604-0278
Larry Ringer Public Library	Conversation practice "English Conversation Circle"	free	https://www.bcslibrary.org/programs/adults/ (979) 764-3416 1818 Harvey Mitchell Pkwy. S. College Station, TX 77845
Oasis	Conversations, games, and snacks for TAMU international students on Friday nights	free	TamuOasis@gmail.com
Discovery	Conversation practice for international spouses and their preschool children; some transportation provided	free	https://www.discoverybcs.com/ (979) 828-3721 directorofdiscovery@gmail.com First Baptist Church, 2300 Welsh, College Station 77845
Toastmasters	International organization that encourages public speaking; off-campus locations in	\$	www.toastmasters.org www.toastmasters.org/find-a-club

	College Station and in Bryan		
Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network	Conversation practice, preparation for US citizenship exam	free	https://brazosimmigration.com/conversational-english-classes/ 979-393-8228 2500 South College Ave. Bryan, TX 77801 viviana@brazosimmigration.com
Texas ENT & Allergy	Lorin Catalena, Certified Physician Assistant, specialist in voice disorders. Works under doctors for ear, nose, and throat (ENT) issues. Can diagnose speech disorders and refer patients to speech-language pathologists.	\$	https://texasentandallergy.com/team/lorin-catalena-pac/ (979) 693-6000 1730 Birmingham Rd College Station, TX 77845

Self-study resources online

Speaking

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Pronunciation Doctor	Marsha Chan's videos about English accent modification	free	www.youtube.com/user/PronunciationDoctor
Juna Accent Coach	App for English accent modification	free	www.junaaccentcoach.com
Rachel's English	Youtube channel for pronunciation advice	free	https://www.youtube.com/user/rachelsenglish
Spoken Skills	Speaking and listening activities. Record yourself and compare to the original	free	http://www.spokenskills.com/student-activities.cfm
Business English Pod	Youtube channel offering practical advice on oral communication in business settings	free	https://www.youtube.com/user/bizpod/videos
Well Said	ESL pronunciation textbook	\$	ISBN 1305641361

	by Linda Grant, with accompanying website		Available at online bookstores
American English Pronunciation Card	Laminated tri-fold card with downloadable audio	\$	https://www.languageartspress.com/product/the-american-english-pronunciation-card downloadable audio: https://store.cdbaby.com/cd/languageartspress
Color Vowel Minute	One-minute videos about pronunciation and spelling	free	https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL40At9EEsnl_zOZqOvkQhppjHTtFCDwd
Pure Pronunciation Practice	a 30-minute live pronunciation workout in Zoom, twice a month	free	https://learn.colorvowel.com/courses/pure-english-practice
Pronuncian	Information about suprasegmental aspects of English phonology	free	https://pronuncian.com/content-and-function-words/
Easy Pronunciation.com	International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) chart for American English. Audio and video of a native speaker reading each word	free	https://easypronunciation.com/en/american-english-pronunciation-ipa-chart
Phone skills	<p>“Improve Your English Telephone Skills” by ThoughtCo.</p> <p>“46 Must-Have Phrases for Professional Telephone Calls in English” by SpeakConfidentEnglish</p>	free	https://www.thoughtco.com/telephone-practice-english-with-dialogues-1211307 https://www.speakconfidentenglish.com/telephone-calls-in-english
Public speaking	Five Levels (of explanation by scientists) Useful for preparation for the Three Minute Thesis	free	five levels WIRED Video Search Results

Writing

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL)	A respected website offering writing advice for international students (and others); style guides	free	https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/english_as_a_second_language/esl_students/tips_for_writing_in_north_american_colleges/index.html https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html
ESLflow	Advice for writing paragraphs and essays	free	www.eslflow.com/AcademicWriting.html
Writefix	Preparation for writing tasks on the TOEFL and IELTS exams	free	writefix.com
Using English for Academic Purposes	Advice on academic writing "For Students in Higher Education"	free	www.uefap.com/writing/writfram.htm
Michigan Corpus of Upper-Level Student Papers	Database of real papers that earned the grade "A" in many fields, from undergrad seniors and grad students. Models	free	micusp.elicorpora.info
Paradigm Online Writing Assistant	A website offering advice, activities, and examples related to all aspects of the writing process (from pre-writing to editing)	free	https://www.powa.org/

Listening

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab	Listening activities and quizzes for everyday language and academic language	free	www.esl-lab.com/index.htm
TED Talks	"influential videos from expert	free	www.ted.com/talks

	speakers on education, business, science, tech and creativity, with subtitles” and transcripts		
English Accent Coach	Exercises and games to hear the difference between similar sounds (English vowels and consonants)	free	englishaccentcoach.com
English Listening Lesson Library Online (ELLLO)	Conversations about language and culture with audio and transcripts	free	http://www.ello.org/
Voice of America News: Learning English	News and current events, audio with transcript, and short videos teaching English	free	learningenglish.voanews.com
BBC Learning English: Dramas	British English	free	http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/drama
National Public Radio “This I Believe” series	Audio with transcripts by a variety of voices	free	https://www.npr.org/series/4538138/this-i-believe
60-second Science	Short podcasts with full transcripts, from Scientific American	free	https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/60-second-science/

Reading

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Breaking News English	Current events, texts at different levels, speed-reading and dictation practice	free	http://breakingnewsenglish.com
News in Levels	World news for students of English. Three levels of reading comprehension difficulty. Definitions of difficult words.	free	https://www.newsinlevels.com/
News ELA	Current events, texts at different levels, quizzes	free	https://newsela.com/articles/#/rule/latest

Using English for Academic Purposes	Academic ESL. Reading advice and exercises for university-level work	free	www.uefap.com/reading/readfram.htm
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Grammar

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Grammarly	Corrects grammar, punctuation, and spelling mistakes	free or \$	www.grammarly.com www.grammarly.com/premium
Ginger	Checks grammar and spelling, translates, and suggests alternate wording	free or \$	https://www.gingersoftware.com/ https://www.gingersoftware.com/online_store/ginger_upgrade
Perfect English Grammar	Instruction in English grammar for adult learners of English	free	www.perfect-english-grammar.com
Dave's ESL Cafe	Grammar lessons (explanation) and quizzes	free	www.eslcafe.com/grammar.html www.eslcafe.com/quiz
Elements of Success 3 online practice	Online exercises with feedback, corresponding to a high-intermediate grammar textbook	\$	https://elt.oup.com/catalogue/items/global/grammar_vocabulary/elements_of_success/elements_of_success_3/9780194706810?cc=us&selLanguage=en
English Grammar Revolution	Clear explanations with visuals (sentence diagrams)	free or \$	https://www.english-grammar-revolution.com/
Guide to Grammar and Writing	Grammar explanations, sentence/paragraph/essay writing tips, and interactive quizzes	free	http://guidetogrammar.org/grammar/index.htm
Game Show Grammar	Humorous short videos about ESL grammar using British English	free	http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/course/tgg

Vocabulary

<i>Name</i>	<i>Service / Audience</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Oxford Advanced American Dictionary for Learners of English	Meaning, usage, frequency, grammar, common errors, and pronunciation. For non-native speakers of English Online dictionary Available as an app for iPhones and iPads	free \$	www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/american_english https://apps.apple.com/us/app/oxford-advanced-learners-dict/id442911228
Word and Phrase Info	See frequency, meaning, part of speech, usage, and nearby words	free	www.wordandphrase.info/frequencyList.asp
Using English for Academic Purposes	Lists of academic vocabulary and subject-specific vocabulary, plus exercises	free	www.uefap.com/vocab/vocfram.htm
Reverso	Context-sensitive translation, vocabulary suggestions, spelling and grammar checker, and grammar explanations	free	http://www.reverso.net/text_translation.aspx?lang=EN
Duolingo	Gives practice for vocabulary and some grammar concepts	free	www.duolingo.com
De-Jargonizer	Highlights jargon (specialized vocabulary), which you should minimize when communicating to the general public	free	http://scienceandpublic.com/

Combined skills

USA Learns	Create a free account and learn beginner or intermediate English online using these video-based lessons. We highly recommend the Access America course, which	free	https://www.usalearns.org/free-online-english-courses
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	provides practical information about living in the USA.		
Learning Express at the local public libraries	Both Ringer Public Library in College Station and Bryan Public Library offer free accounts on Learning Express to library card holders. Learning Express has online courses for writing, speaking, grammar, TOEFL and more.	Free for library card holders	https://www.bcslibrary.org/education/#learningexpress
Mango Languages	Online language learning resource that teaches vocabulary, grammar, and listening skills for many different languages, including ESL	free if logging on through TAMU library	library.tamu.edu Select "Databases" Select "Mango Languages"
Rosetta Stone	Especially appropriate for beginning and intermediate learners of English	\$	https://www.rosettastone.com/learn-english/
English with Jennifer	Especially appropriate for beginning and intermediate learners of English	free	http://englishwithjennifer.co0m/
Elemental English	Short videos teaching "practical English pronunciation and grammar lessons"	free	https://www.youtube.com/user/eLeMentalEnglish
Ed TED lessons	Educational animated films with captions, short quizzes, and opportunity to discuss by writing	free	https://ed.ted.com/lessons

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Do you know of an excellent resource that should be added to this list? Please share it with us by emailing cte-elp@tamu.edu.