

DESCRIPTION OF ENGLISH ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE WORKSHOPS

INTRODUCTION TO EAL

This is an introductory workshop that examines some of the key factors in Adult EAL. It examines characteristics of adult learners, the settlement process, the role of culture, language diversity, and the roles of EAL volunteers. It is highly recommended for all volunteers working with adult immigrants.

CANADIAN LANGUAGE BENCHMARKS

What is a benchmark? What do the numbers mean? Volunteers will be introduced to Canadian Language Benchmarks. You will view a video of actual speaking situations and relate them to Speaking, Stage 1, Benchmarks 1, 2, 3, and 4. This is also an opportunity to learn more about the acquisition of English and a chance to pick up techniques for teaching speaking and listening.

READING & WRITING

This workshop will look at some key issues related to learning to read and write in a second language. It also provides practical approaches to teaching reading and writing to learners with a wide range of literacy skills. Differences between native and non-native speaker literacy issues will be discussed.

LISTENING & SPEAKING

This workshop introduces participants to the goals of Adult EAL instruction. A variety of methods for teaching and practicing listening and speaking are explored. Participants will examine activities and "play" the games that work in the classroom as well as those that do not. It is of practical value to anyone working as a teacher's assistant, tutor or language partner.

LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Learning a new language is more than learning grammar and vocabulary. How we communicate with each other is strongly influenced by our culture. Greeting people, shaking hands, opening and closing a conversation, handing something to another person, choosing a colour - all these things (and more!) are influenced by culture. Volunteers who are working in classrooms, one-on-one or with a language partner will find this workshop interesting and helpful.

COMPUTER-ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING

C.A.L.L.

The Internet is a vast resource for EAL students and teachers. Did you know that currently there are more than 12,600 registered EAL links at the Internet TESL Journal site? You will be introduced to some of the EAL websites that can be used to enhance the teaching of settlement topics, grammar, and reading. This workshop is in a computer lab and participants should be able to use a mouse.