



## Tutor Training Workshop ESL Conversation

Winter 2022

*Literacy  
lifts Lives*

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### ESL Conversation: Learning objectives

- Understand basic principles for teaching dialogs.
- Learn and practice steps for teaching and creating a dialog.
- Learn about ways to foster new conversations.




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### Dialogs: Basic principles

- Conversation involves listening and speaking.
- Introduce **oral** conversations before **written** ones.
- Establish a context.
- Students need to hear conversations in a normal tone and speed.
- Repetition, repetition, repetition
- Follow dialogs with role play.




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## Gesturing

Listen



Stop



Repeat



Handout

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## Steps for teaching dialog

- Pre-teach new vocabulary.
- Read or say the whole dialog at least two times.
- Have student repeat each line.
- Each of you take a role.
- Switch roles.




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## Greetings dialog

T: Hello. How are you?

S: Fine thank you. How are you?

T: Fine thanks. My name's \_\_\_\_\_. (point to yourself)  
What's your name?

S: My name's \_\_\_\_\_. (use student's name)



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## Greetings dialog



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## Helpful hints



### Hints:

- Use pictures or puppets.
- Enter and say "hello."
- Simplify: begin at end and add one word at a time –

Example: "Hello, how are you?"  
 you  
 are you  
 how are you  
 Hello, how are you?




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## Sample dialog

Clerk: Hi, may I help you?  
 Customer: I would like some stamps, please.  
 Clerk: How many?  
 Customer: Five stamps.  
 Clerk: That'll be two dollars and fifty cents.  
 Customer: Here. (giving him the money)  
 Clerk: Here's your change.  
 Customer: Thank you.



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## Practice creating and teaching a dialog

- Choose a topic:
  - making a doctor's appointment, or
  - meeting the child's teacher
- Identify two roles
- Select 5 - 7 appropriate new words to use & teach
- Write your dialog of 3 or 4 exchanges
- Practice teaching dialog using gestures




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## New Dialogs

Receptionist: Doctor's office. How may I help you?

Patient: My name is Maria Lopez. I would like to make an appointment.

Receptionist: Can you come next Monday?

Patient: Yes, what time?

Receptionist: Is 11:00 all right?

Patient: Yes.

Receptionist: Okay, we'll see you then.

Patient: Thank you.

Teacher: Hello, I'm Ms. Smith.

Parent: Hello, I'm Mrs. Garcia, Juan's mother.

Teacher: I'm happy to meet you. Thank you for coming.

Parent: How is Juan doing in class?

Teacher: He is doing well. He is a good student.

Parent: I'm glad. Thank you for meeting with me.




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## Dialogs to role-plays

- Change the dialog
- Switch roles
- Add new dialog
- Use news articles, Q & A, or show and tell
- Talk about your surroundings




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## Useful websites

Conversation lessons [learningenglish.voanews.com](http://learningenglish.voanews.com)

Greetings [esolcourses.com](http://esolcourses.com)

Conversation starters [wordwall.net](http://wordwall.net)



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## Tips for creating your own dialog

- Use a topic important to your student. Start with what your student knows in their environment.
- Use correct sentence structure.
- Build on what you have by using the same topic.
- Enlarge the vocabulary and create more complex sentences.
- Return to and review dialogs periodically.
- The dialogs are not fixed. Keep them flexible and conversational.
- Act things out.




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