

# Assessing learning

## Workbook

Your reflective journal  
and additional learning  
resources



Assessing  
learning

## Forward

We're delighted you've chosen to continue your professional development with TeachingEnglish training and look forward to learning with you over the coming weeks.

In this workbook you'll find additional learning materials to complement your course, places to note ideas of interest, encouragement and guidance in applying them within your teaching practice. Whether you prefer to save and update it on your device, to keep handwritten notes, or use it as a prompt for your on-the-go reflection, do what works for you. We hope you and your learners find it beneficial.

Happy learning.

**The British Council open learning team.**

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# Your learning goals

## Your course

Help all your learners benefit from and get actively involved in assessment in the language classroom.

During this TeachingEnglish training, you'll engage with learning content in four modules, supported by a series of live online community events. You'll find practical support and encouragement from course tutors and other members of the [British Council courses for teachers global learning community](#) as you work to introduce new teaching ideas within your classroom.

Just as every classroom is unique, so is your learning journey. Ensure you're heading in the right direction by reflecting upon and noting your reasons for taking this course and learning goals. Keeping these in mind will help you focus on the most beneficial content and discussions for you.

### Your goals and reasons for learning

**Why are you taking this course? What do you want to be able to do?**

# Your learning tools

## Online learning modules



After gaining confidence using your online learning platform and exploring effective learning strategies in the introductory Getting started module, you'll work through three further modules, each exploring a different area of teaching and learning. Involving an average of 12 hours of study, you will find a blend of theory, practical teaching suggestions and case studies that explore new ways of teaching. Repeat activities until you feel ready to move on. Return and review them as often as you like before the end of your course.

Learn how to access the online learning modules by visiting your course's page at <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/training>.

## Courses for teachers community



Join course tutors and other educators working on their professional development in our supportive, Facebook-based learning community. You'll gain access to a wide selection of additional learning resources, you'll also have the opportunity to engage in developmental discussions while getting the support and encouragement you need to successfully bring ideas from the course into your classroom. Access all the discussions and content related to your specific course in [the Guides section](#).

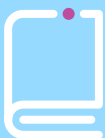
Find the community at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/coursesforteachers>

## Live events



Attend live community events and webinars led by expert educators. These sessions are focused on different aspects of your course and provide you with an opportunity to seek answers to your questions - and share your own expertise and insights with other community members. Recordings of all live sessions are available on-demand. For more details, check the Events section on your online course platform.

## Workbook



Use this workbook to keep a record of useful course and community content, questions you'd like to ask in the community, links to resources, or to note ideas from any of the live events. You can save a version online or print the workbook - or both.

# Module 1

## Engaging with SEN – inclusive assessment approaches



## Overview

This module explores assessment methods that support different learning preferences, helping you build a range of inclusive assessment strategies for your classroom. You will:

1. assemble a set of checklists
2. reflect on the difference between assessment of learning and assessment for learning
3. gain a range of strategies to include pupils in their own assessments
4. consider assessment methods that take into account learners' different learning preferences.

## Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Resource description (tap/click to open)	Type
<a href="#">Article about assessment for learning</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on inclusive assessment approaches</a>	Read
<a href="#">Blog exploring ten approaches to inclusive teaching and learning – part 1 (Cambridge)</a>	Read
<a href="#">Blog exploring ten approaches to inclusive teaching and learning – part 2 (Cambridge)</a>	Read
<a href="#">Explanation of the term 'Formal assessment'</a>	Read
<a href="#">Explanation of the term 'Informal assessment'</a>	Read
<a href="#">Teacher training toolkit: Assessing young learners</a>	Use
<a href="#">Discussion: Are our classrooms inclusive?</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video sharing five ways of conducting formative virtual assessments (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video on assessing student understanding through drawings (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video about making (low-stakes) practice tests more effective (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Talk about inclusion</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video about the flipped class and formative assessment (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Webinar on assessment training for language teachers</a>	Watch

## Your learning

This is a space to record ideas from the course. You may have lots to write in some sections, less in others. The important thing though is to note some ideas that may be useful for you and your learners.

### Describe three things you learned from...

**Your online module**

**Live community events**

**Discussions and learning resources shared here and in the course community**



## Plan it

**Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?**

**What challenges might arise when you try to make this change?**

**What could you do to meet those challenges?**

## Teach it

**Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?**

# Module 2

## Engaging with assessment for learning



## Overview

This module clarifies the principles of effective questioning, explores the use of effective feedback strategies, and will help you develop your learners' self- and peer assessment skills. You will:

1. improve the quality of your teacher talk through the use of questioning
2. help your learners support their classmates
3. examine different ways of facilitating useful feedback
4. show how to apply assessment for learning strategies in your context.

## Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Resource description (tap/click to open)	Type
<a href="#">Blog with five research-based tips for providing meaningful feedback</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article about making learning targets clear to students</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on asking effective questions in class</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on assessing advanced students' progress</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on helping learners focus on the learning process, not the grade</a>	Read
<a href="#">Explanation of the term 'Continuous assessment'</a>	Read
<a href="#">Assessment for learning toolkit</a>	Use
<a href="#">60-second strategy: a method of peer feedback (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">60-second strategy: giving and receiving peer feedback (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video about developing confidence through delayed grading (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video exploring five keys to comprehensive assessment (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video on exit tickets (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video with six teacher-approved tips for faster, more effective feedback (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video about using games for assessment (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Webinar on efficient and effective strategies for written feedback</a>	Watch

## Your learning

Which new ideas in Module 2 are most useful for you? Note them here together with any questions you'd like to ask in the [British Council courses for teachers](#) learning community.

### Describe three things you learned from...

#### Your online module

#### Live community events

#### Discussions and learning resources shared here and in the course community

## Plan it

**Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?**

**What challenges might arise when you try to make this change?**

**What could you do to meet those challenges?**

## Teach it

**Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?**

# Module 3

## Understanding teaching for tests



## Overview

This module will help you recognise the effects of testing on teaching and learning, decide on a good balance between testing and learning in your context, and learn to make test tasks more motivational for your learners. You will:

1. explore the purposes and possible impacts of testing
2. consider how much to test your learners
3. recognise different types of test tasks.

## Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Resource description (tap/click to open)	Type
<a href="#">Article about young learner testing</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on advantages and disadvantages of different types of test questions</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on assessing learners online – noticing, self-checking and online quizzes</a>	Read
<a href="#">Article on test writing</a>	Read
<a href="#">Guidance on assessing learners online</a>	Read
<a href="#">Paper on assessment: Attitudes, practices and needs</a>	Read
<a href="#">Resources guide: Assessing learning</a>	Read
<a href="#">Assessing learning self-study booklet</a>	Use
<a href="#">60-second strategy: an alternative method of assessment (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Conference presentation: How assessment influences classroom teaching and learning of English</a>	Watch
<a href="#">English teaching talks: Assessing learning</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Live Q&amp;A: Language assessment in the classroom</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Video about using data to help differentiate learning (Edutopia)</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Webinar exploring language testing, teaching and learning</a>	Watch
<a href="#">Webinar: What do teachers want to know about assessment?</a>	Watch

## Your learning

Note any ideas you found particularly interesting and might like to bring into your classroom. Why not share them with other members of the [British Council courses for teachers](#) learning community?

### Describe three things you learned from...

**Your online module**

**Live community events**

**Discussions and learning resources shared here and in the course community**



## Plan it

**Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?**

**What challenges might you face when making this change?**

**What could you do to meet those challenges?**

## Teach it

**Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?**

# Your action plan

Make an action plan focused on applying learning from this the course. Complete any sentences that help you do this. Come back and check your plan now and then.

**In the next two weeks, I am going to...**

**Over the next two months, I'm going to...**

**Before the end of the school year, I'm going to...**

**Next school year, I want to...**

What do you want to learn about next? Explore our [framework for teacher knowledge and skills](#) for inspiration, support and materials.



Well done - you've made it to the end of the course! We hope you've found it useful, and will join us on another very soon. Learn more about free teacher training courses with the British Council at:

[https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/training\\_](https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/training_)