

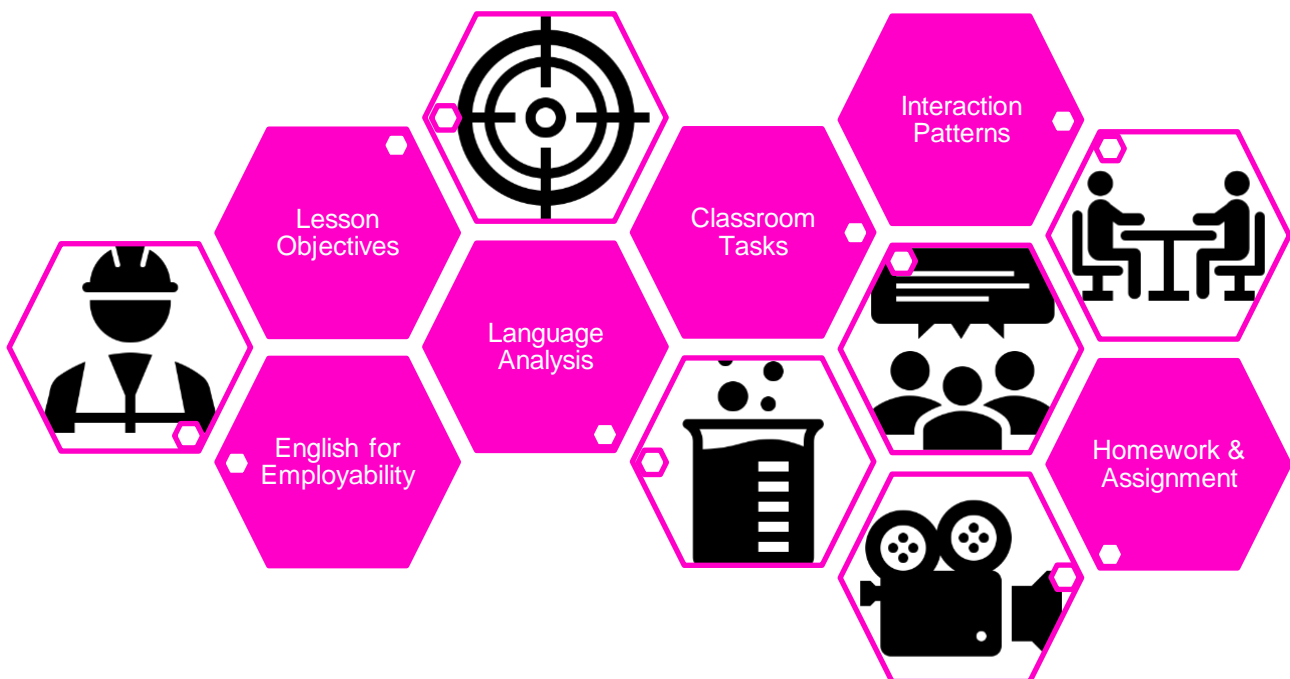
English for Employability

Webinar handout

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English for employability: why and how English teachers should prepare learners for their career journey

English for employability has always been there. Teachers who experienced their first days of their career journey in 1980s/90s have nice memories around how they were preparing their learners for job interviews, writing project reports and delivering lectures. These days, however, English for employability is becoming more important. As the British Council's Future of English publication (www.futureofenglish.britishcouncil.org) reveals, today 67 countries use English as their official language, 31% of the global population speaks English as a first or additional language, and 60% of online content is in English. This shows that more people are learning and using English, and therefore employers' demands for skills in English are growing.



A recording of **Ehsan's** webinar can be seen here: <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/news-and-events/webinars/webinars-teachers/creativity-and-21st-century-skills-english-language>

How to plan a lesson which scaffolds English for employability:

Step	@	Tip
Lesson Objectives	Lesson planning	Include language can-dos which improve skills needed in job hunting, office life and soft skills, such as <i>how to write Kudos feedback cards to team members.</i>
Classroom Tasks	In class	Help your learners' HR ranking grow with employing and integrating the four main soft skills and their amazing sub-skills (shown below) at different classroom tasks.
Interaction Patterns	In class	Try various speaking settings: back-to-back (phone conversations), solo-times, debates which welcome diverse opinions, etc.
Homework & Assignment	Outside of the class	Assign the same writing or recording task, but different topics according to each student's job profile; for instance, <i>an architect vs. a nurse.</i>

The materials in www.learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/business-english/business-magazine can help B1 & B2 learners develop good understanding of world-class working culture and trends.

Valuable learning experiences should be designed carefully. We can also improve our learners' HR ranking with designing tasks which foster learning and practicing 21st century soft skills. The indicators to notice while designing tasks are shown here.

These are also called **transferrable human skills**. Just think about 10 years ago: many jobs we have today were not even imagined those days. Surely, we will have some jobs which we might not have any idea of today. What is in common is that these transferrable skills will be still highly demanded, or maybe more than they are now, in any workplace in the future as well.



This simple question will check if we are preparing our learners for their current/future career journey well:

How will my learners use this language knowledge, structure, tense or skill in a real 'work' context?