

Teacher pathways: Knowing the subject

Theme workbook

Your reflective journal
and additional resources



Foreword

We're delighted you've chosen to continue your professional development with TeachingEnglish. We know that as a teacher, it's not always easy to find time in the day for your own learning. That's why we've created this workbook to help you get the most out of TeachingEnglish resources. It will help you make sure that the time you spend on your professional development has the biggest impact in your classroom and for your career.

We're delighted that you've chosen to boost your skills in [Knowing the subject](#). Here you'll find an overview of the theme, recommended learning materials, places to reflect and support for applying new ideas to your teaching practice.

You can use this workbook in different ways – keep handwritten notes, save and update it on your device, or print it. Do what works for you. We hope you find it beneficial.

The TeachingEnglish team.



Contents

Foreword.....	02
Knowing the subject.....	04
Self-assessment test.....	05
Your learning goals.....	07
Resources.....	08
Your learning – training courses.....	10
Your learning – webinars and live events.....	12
Your reflections and next steps.....	14



Knowing the subject

1. What does Knowing the subject mean?

Knowing the subject involves developing and demonstrating proficiency in the target language in order to provide a good model for learners, developing an awareness of language systems, and selecting appropriate methodology and resources for introducing and practising specific areas of the target language and language skills.

2. What are some examples of areas of the target language and language skills?

These include grammar, lexis, phonology, speaking, listening, writing and reading skills, register, genre, communication strategies, sociolinguistic skills, learning strategies, varieties and standards of English and contrastive analysis with other languages.

3. What else does Knowing the subject include?

It also includes having an awareness of the range of reference materials relevant to the subject and using these to support teaching and learning and an awareness of theories of language acquisition and how these relate to specific teaching contexts.

4. Which elements of Knowing the subject are most useful in your context?

The most useful elements of Knowing the subject in my context are...

5. How does Knowing the subject help your learners?

Knowing the subject helps my learners...because....



Self-assessment test

How can you start developing your understanding of different elements of Knowing the subject in your context?

Reflecting on the effectiveness of how well you know your subject at the moment is an important starting point. The way that you explore, research and keep up to date might be different depending on whether you are teaching face-to-face or remotely, synchronously or asynchronously, and according to the type of technology you have available.

Use the self-assessment test below to evaluate your strengths and areas of development.

1. I teach grammar, vocabulary, discourse management and/or pronunciation in ways that will motivate my learners and help them use English.



2. I discuss with others if my lessons are appropriate for my learners' stage of development and with regards to any special educational needs they have.



3. I develop my learners' reading, listening, speaking, writing and core language skills.



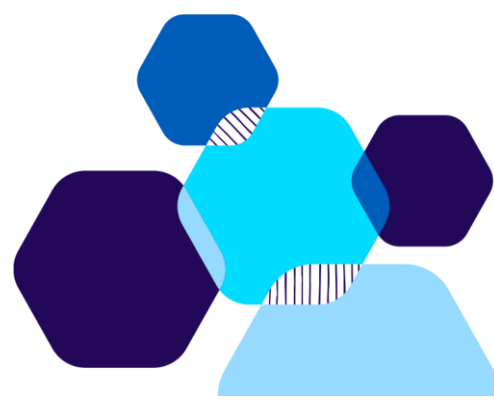
4. I select texts and use them in different ways to build language skills and literacy development.



5. I use free resources to support my teaching and my learners' learning.



6. I discuss how my learners learn and how these relate to specific teaching practices.



Scoring

Add up the points for each question based on your selected answer:

One star: 1 point

Two stars: 2 points

Three stars: 3 points

Four stars: 4 points

Five stars: 5 points

My total is:

Interpretation

6 points	We think the teacher pathway will help you to develop your understanding of Knowing the subject. Try the quiz again after you've followed it to see your progress.
7-18 points	You have a good awareness of Knowing the subject. Follow the teacher pathway with us and join our TeachingEnglish activities in October and November 2024. Come back to the quiz to see what you've learnt.
19-24 points	You have a solid understanding of Knowing the subject in your context. Which section would you like more help in from the teacher pathway?
25-30 points	Knowing the subject champion! You are already integrating this knowledge in your teaching. Share your knowledge and skills with other teachers in our TeachingEnglish community.



Your learning goals

Consider your strengths and areas of development in Knowing the subject. Refer to the self-assessment test to identify areas of development.

What are your strengths?

My strengths in Knowing the subject are...

What areas do you need to develop?

I need to develop...

How are you going to develop?

I am going to...

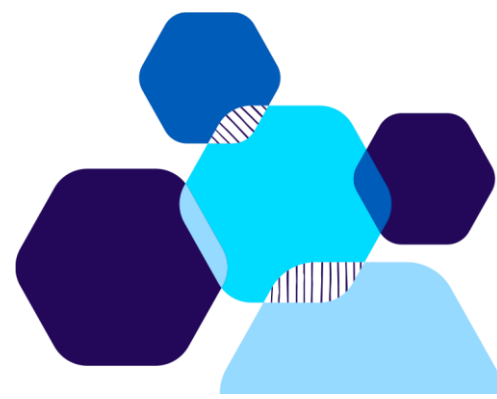


Resources

Below you will find a selection of resources to develop your understanding and application of Knowing the subject. Use the questions in the box to guide your learning and the check boxes to keep track of which resources you have used.

1. How can you teach grammar, vocabulary, discourse management and/or pronunciation in ways that will motivate your learners and help them use English?
2. How can you evaluate if your lessons are appropriate for your learners' stage of development and with regards to any special educational needs they have?
3. How can you develop your learners' reading, listening, speaking, writing and core language skills?
4. How can you select texts and use them in different ways to build language skills and literacy development?
5. What free resources can you find to support your teaching and your learners' learning?
6. How can you evaluate how your learners learn and how these relate to specific teaching practices?

Type	Resource description (tap/click to open)	Used?
Use	Knowing the subject self-study booklet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use	Teaching knowledge database	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use	Lesson plan: Task-based speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use	Lesson plan: Creativity and innovation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use	Lesson plan: Writing: mini things	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use	Lesson plan: How to learn more English: An English action plan	<input type="checkbox"/>



Use	Lesson plan: Children's rights	<input type="checkbox"/>
Listen	How can we teach vocabulary and grammar more communicatively?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Listen	Introducing new words	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	Task-based learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	Teenagers and grammar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	How can I make sure my class is truly communicative?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	Why won't they speak English?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	Global practices in teaching English to young learners: Ten years on	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	The significant 5 R's in vocabulary teaching and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	L2 reading and reading-while-listening in multimodal learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	Methods, post-method, and métodos	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	Starter Teachers: A methodology course for the classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watch	Six videos about grammar	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watch	Webinar: How to use PBL in the primary classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watch	Three webinars about pronunciation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watch	Three webinars about literacy development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watch	Six tips for how to teach language to teenagers effectively	<input type="checkbox"/>
Watch	Webinar: Communicative writing for the ELT Classroom	<input type="checkbox"/>

What did you learn from the resources above?

I learnt....

What will you change in your teaching?

I am now going to....



Your learning – training courses

Visit the [training pages](#) on TeachingEnglish to see what courses are running in October and November 2024.

Plan

Decide which training course(s) you will do and how they could help your knowledge and/or understanding of Knowing the subject.

Which training course(s) will you do?

How will the training course(s) help you develop your understanding and application of Knowing the subject?

Reflect

After doing the course(s), reflect on which ideas or strategies you learnt and how these will help your learners.

What new teaching ideas or strategies are you going to try?



How will the teaching ideas or strategies help your learners?

Revisit

After trying the new teaching ideas or strategies, reflect on how your learners responded to them and what you are going to do next.

How did your learners respond to the new ideas or strategies?

What are you going to do next?

Share what you learnt with the TeachingEnglish community in the comments section on TeachingEnglish or in the Facebook [Courses for teachers community](#).



Your learning – webinars and live events

Find out what webinar and other live events are happening connected to the theme of Knowing the subject on the [webinar page](#) on TeachingEnglish or on our [Facebook page](#). If you miss an event or can't attend live, don't worry! You can also watch recordings of sessions from past events.

Plan

Decide which event(s) you will attend or watch and how it will help your knowledge and/or understanding of Knowing the subject.

Which event(s) will you attend?

How will the event(s) help you develop your understanding and application of Knowing the subject?

Reflect

After attending the event(s), reflect on which ideas or strategies you learnt and how these will help your learners.

What new teaching ideas or strategies are you going to try?



How will the teaching ideas or strategies help your learners?

Revisit

After trying the new teaching ideas or strategies, reflect on how your learners responded to them and what you are going to do next.

How did your learners respond to the new ideas or strategies?

What are you going to do next?

Share what you learnt with the TeachingEnglish community in the comments section on TeachingEnglish or on the [Facebook page](#).



Your reflections and next steps

Consider how developing your understanding of Knowing the subject has changed over the last few weeks. Read back on your notes and reflect on what you have learnt from attending different training courses and events and accessing different resources. What will you do differently with your learners now?

Developing my understanding of Knowing the subject has helped my learners by...

I've tried...in my lessons

I'm going to continue doing...in my lessons because

I want to continue working on...because



Well done — you’ve developed the professional practice of Knowing the subject. We hope you’ve found this teacher pathway workbook useful. Continue your learning with us by exploring other resources, joining another teacher training course and attending more webinars and live events.

Explore our [framework for teacher knowledge and skills](#) for inspiration, support and resources.

Learn more about other free teacher training courses with TeachingEnglish on our [training pages](#).

Register for more of our [webinars](#).

Keep up to date with other live events by following us on [Facebook](#).

