



Teaching, Examining and Assessing Spoken English

Who is the course suitable for?

This course is aimed at ELT professionals working at all levels and with different age groups, who are interested in:

- improving their understanding of what spoken English is really like
- enhancing their ability to explain and exemplify the key aspects of spoken English
- learning how to teach spoken English more effectively
- learning how to test, examine and assess spoken English more effectively

Participants should have a minimum language level corresponding to B2/C1 on the Common European Framework

What are the aims and objectives of the course?

- To review how spoken English is used in a range of authentic contexts
- To explore the differences between the grammars of spoken and written English
- To review the principles and practice of teaching spoken English to non-native learners
- To introduce and critically survey recent developments in materials and methodology for the analysis, teaching and testing of spoken English
- To examine the relationship between teaching and testing spoken English
- To evaluate existing materials for stimulating spoken English in class and in tests
- To examine existing assessment criteria and develop new criteria for different contexts
- To provide practical hands-on experience of spoken language assessment
- To encourage participants to re-examine their own practice in the light of the above

What will the course include?

All course participants receive a pre-course questionnaire, which should be returned prior to the course. This is to ensure that the areas of most relevance to participants are covered. The main strands of the course will be carefully integrated but will include attention to some or all of the following, in line with participants' needs and interests:

- Personal language development
- Pedagogic grammar for spoken English
- Grammar at discourse level
- Motivating learners to speak in class
- Assessing spoken English
- Spoken English test design
- Assessor training for spoken English
- Evaluation of exams in spoken English
- Language awareness for spoken English
- Materials design for teaching & assessing
- Interactive methodology
- Maximising learners' speaking practice
- Testing & examining spoken English
- Designing good assessment criteria
- Making marks meaningful
- Review of the literature on TEASE

Time will be built into the course for reflection and for participants to consider how to adapt ideas from the course to classrooms in their own professional contexts.

All NILE's courses involve a significant element of English language improvement and/or development of language awareness.

How long is the course and what approach is used?

The 50-hour course provision includes intensive tuition by trainers who are experts in the field of teaching, examining and assessing spoken English, as well as opportunities for reading and research and guest lectures from well-known figures in the field of ELT.

Classes will be practical and 'hands-on' but with reference to relevant theory.

Classes are held from Monday to Friday and take place as detailed in the course-specific timetable, but always within the hours 0915 – 1715.

NILE course participants have free access to an extensive ELT library and a modern suite of computers with broadband Internet link. The NILE course venues have a wireless (Wi-Fi) environment.

[Sample Timetable](#)