



Teacher Training 2010 HUMANISING TESTING

Course Dates: 18 July – 31 July 2010	Course Location: The University of Kent at Canterbury	Course Fees: £855	Course Code: TTE 30
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Target Audience

- For all teachers who have to, or will have to, design their own tests
- For all teachers whose school syllabus includes testing students
- You will need an intermediate and above level of English to participate in this course

Course Summary

This course offers a clear overview of the basic principles of testing and will engage you in designing tests for your language classroom. These practical activities will help you develop tests which are effective and fair, and will help turn test-anxiety into a motivating learning experience for your students.

Programme of the training activities

- Essential principles behind good tests.
- Different purposes – different test types
- Designing tests for all language skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- Practical guidelines for test development and moderation.
- Do's and don'ts of a speaking test
- Self – assessment and portfolio assessment.
- How to tell whether a test is too difficult or too easy
- Reducing test-stress
- Washback effect – how do tests affect teaching?

Description of training content

Preparation

Each applicant to send in action plan 4 weeks before the course outlining hopes and objectives for achievement as a result of attending this course.

Objectives

The course aims to provide the participants with thorough knowledge of key issues concerning test design.

Expected results

As a result of attending this course, the participants will be familiar with best humanistic practices in test design and administration.

Is this the right course for me?

- Yes – if you want to see what makes tests work effectively
- Yes – if you want to make your classroom testing effective and learner-friendly
- Yes – if you want to create a set of tests ready to be used in your classrooms
- Yes – if you want to see how well designed tests can have a positive affect on your teaching

If this is not the right course for you, please consider the following:

- ***Creative Methodology for the Classroom*** for a more general methodology course

- **English for Primary Teachers** or **English for Secondary Teachers** for a more general language improvement course

Programme of the training activities day by day:

Please note this is an **example** of a daily programme. Course content may often be usefully adapted to incorporate the needs of each specific group.

Week 1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM 9.00–10.30	Group Bonding	The learner's perspective	Proficiency tests	Validity	Testing speaking 2
11.00–12.30	Needs analysis and goal setting	How to make tests stress-free	Achievement Tests	Test Design: guidelines	Testing Listening
PM 14.00-15.30	Why test?	Entry tests	Reliability	Testing Speaking1	Week review and feedback

Week 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM 9.00–10.30	Portfolio assessment	Writing good test items	Testing Writing	Evaluating a test	Group Project
11.00–12.30	Wash-back effect	Language test and language teaching	Test Authenticity	Interpreting Test results and setting scores	Feedback n group project
PM 14.00-15.30	Self assessment	Testing Reading	The Common European Framework of Reference	Test bias and fairness	Final Feedback and farewells

Recommended reading: Please note that you do not need to buy or bring these books to the course with you.

McNamara, T. (2000). *Language Testing*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
 Alderson, J. Clapham, C. & Wall, D. 1995. *Language Test Construction and Evaluation*. Cambridge, CUP

Type of the certification awarded in the language of the training:

Attendance certificate detailing topics covered and course content.