

USING HUMOUR IN THE ENGLISH CLASSROOM

Course dates

28 June - 4 July

Course fees

£685

Course location

University of Kent

Target audience

Non-native and native teachers from secondary to tertiary levels

You will need an upper intermediate to advanced level of English(B2/C1 to C1/C1+) to participate successfully on this course

Please note: This course is **not** designed for primary teachers

Course summary

This short but highly intensive language improvement course aims to show you how fun and laughter can be two fundamental sources for effective and memorable learning.

The course will engage you in a wide range of creative, humorous and stimulating activities which will help you practise your English in a lively and enjoyable manner.



Course content

Group dynamics: building and maintaining a fun loving atmosphere

Healthy fun and laughter: laughing with people not at them

Using jokes for listening and speaking practice

Language play: puns, (word play) ambiguity and nonsense

Humour and literature: prose and poetry
The "English Sense of Humour"

Laughter as a therapeutic channel
Drama activities

Culture and humour: different perspective
Blended learning and using on-line resources



Sample Programme

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

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00-10.30	Introductions and group bonding. Ice breakers and group formation activities	Retelling urban myths. (Learnt from homework) Reordering texts through listening and movement	Exploiting jokes and witticisms in the classroom In a productive manner	Political correctness. What it is and how it is expressed	The shadow side of humour. Epitaphs, graffiti and "Doctor doctor..." jokes
11.00-12.30	Different types of humour and they can be exploited to build healthy	Homonyms, homographs and homophones as a source of humour	Ludic language. Language creativity through minimalism and restriction	The boundaries of meaning. Nonsense and ambiguity	Native speaker errors and correcting "howlers" In texts
14.00-15.30	Listening and narrative building. Using humorous urban myths in the classroom	Kinaesthetic activities for practicing grammar and vocabulary	Humour and culture. Examining the quintessential nature of English humour	Simple drama techniques to enliven the classroom.	Course review, including evaluation and farewells

Recommended reading

"Lessons with Laughter" G. Wollard (LTP) 1996

"Laughing Matters" P. Medgyes (CUP) 2002

"Language Play, Language Learning" G. Cook (OUP) 2000

Please note it's not necessary to buy or bring those books to the course.

Type of certification awarded

Attendance certificate detailing topics covered, course content and the number of training hours.



Is this the right course for me?

Yes, if you want to participate in a high energy, life-affirming one-week language improvement course.

Yes, if you want to inject humour and vitality into your lessons

Yes, if you also want to refresh and update your English

Yes, if you want to motivate students tired of an overly academic syllabus

Contact

Lizzie Wojtkowska-Wright

lizzie@pilgrims.co.uk

0044 1227 762111

Suite1b Orchard House, Orchard Street,
Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8AP