

“QualityTime-ESL” presents...

Essential English

Beginners



Essential English - A Course for Beginners

An Introduction for Teachers

Hi. I am Marianne Raynaud. Recently I was asked to create exercises for students who have never studied English. For the last few years I have been working on series intended for learners with at least two years of instruction or who have completed an intensive basic course. These oral interactive podcasts are [Your English](#), [QualityTime-ESL Podcasts](#) and [5 Minute TOPs](#). They are for intermediate to advanced students preparing for international exams and job interviews. We try to get students up to levels B2 to C1.

Our new series, [Essential English](#) is for total beginners or “almost beginners”. The episodes are less than eight minutes long. They are intended as *complementary oral practice* for an English course. Teachers can use them in class with students working on computers or mobile devices with their headphones on. The podcasts can also be assigned as homework, since students can download them free from the iTunes platform in just a matter of minutes.

The progression in [Essential English](#) will be very gradual. The exercises will be *linguistic gymnastics* either to warm up or to master essential vocabulary and structures. We believe it is better to have real *active knowledge* of a limited number of vocabulary items rather than merely passive knowledge of many more words. We will thus focus on the most frequently used words. The idea is to train learners with word combinations that they will personalize to create their own sentences. Students will *repeat* and then *manipulate* language items.

We suggest teachers explain the vocabulary of the podcasts ahead of time in class in the students’ *native language*—and not only the words being introduced but also the instructions. Mind you the instructions in the beginning will be in very simple English. Once the students understand the vocabulary, the teachers can—if they so wish—go over the exercises or they can leave it up to the students to practice on their own. The lessons concentrate on top corpora words and structures such as verb tenses. It is the teacher’s role to introduce the specific vocabulary or proper names that will be appropriate and useful for *their* particular students in *their* environment. They can combine these personal items with [Essential English](#) structures.

These lessons will be short in the hope that learners will get into the habit of doing them regularly and even several times on their own. “Practice makes perfect” is our favorite saying.

Scripts are available on our website. The first series of five podcasts are free in both PDF and DOC. The scripts in DOC are customizable so teachers can add translations or explanations if they wish. Scripts after the first five can be purchased for a minimal fee.

We sincerely hope students all over the world, who have not learned any English as yet or who have forgotten most everything, will be able to acquire the rudiments in just a matter of weeks.

All the best from www.QualityTime-ESL.com. Bye for now. This is Marianne signing off.