

Course code LANG.1.SPEAK

Last update 02/08/21

Course information

Title	Speak Like a Native: Understanding Formal English Discourse Patterns
Concept by	Peter O'Neill
Course URL	teacheracademy.eu/course/speak-english-like-a-native/
N. of participants	Min. 4- max. 14
Course length	One week (6 days, Monday - Saturday)
Language	English. Other languages may be available upon request
Locations and starting dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dublin - Fourth Monday of the month • Drogheda - Second Monday of the month <p>On request, we can organize this course directly at your school. Discover all the dates at teacheracademy.eu/courses-dates/</p>
Free time activities offered	All courses include at least one city guided tour and one full-day Cultural Activity.
Type of certification awarded	Certificate of Attendance, including a description of the course contents (80% of attendance required); other Certificates may be available upon request
Price	<p>Starting from 480€ *</p> <p>* Our courses are eligible to be completely funded by the Erasmus+ KA1 funds and several other programs.</p>

Course contents

Description

One of the fundamental skills in learning a foreign language is to be able to discover specific patterns and apply them in the right context. There are many lexical phrases that are commonly used. We take all of this for granted in our own language, but they are absolutely essential if you would like to express yourself in a more native-like or natural way in another language.

This course will train language teachers to master specific patterns related to important modern-day issues by presenting some key language functions – paraphrasing, giving accounts, stating issues, making proposals, before speculating on the possible outcomes that they may have. This will help the participant maximize their potential in the language – be it for professional, academic, or personal reasons – as well as their capacity to teach English to non-native speakers.

The course will cover the following main areas:

- Understanding key language functions in English and their corresponding grammatical patterns;
- Planning out essay writing (applying FEDPs) while inserting key topic-specific collocations;
- Academic writing;
- Speaking as you write and writing as you speak;
- Improving Reading Skills – You are what you read! (language acquisition and extensive reading);
- Testing listening comprehension.

By the end of the course, participants will have a deeper understanding of common English speech patterns, cohesion, and coherency in texts they create, whether they are written or spoken.

Learning outcomes

- Comprehend the importance of language functions in English;
- Identify clearly the specific grammatical patterns which apply to each function;
- Understand how to generate a discourse by applying a systematic approach;
- Insert key topic-specific collocations and phrases thus elevating significantly their vocabulary;
- Speak with a greater understanding using stress and intonation;
- Apply a variety of strategies for reading and writing in English with greater fluency and clarity of purpose.

Tentative schedule*

Day 1 – Course introduction	Day 2 - Discourse Patterns in Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the course, the school, and the external week activities;• Icebreaker activities;• Presentations of the participants' schools;• Introduction to FEDPs (Formal English Discourse Patterns);• Skill – Reading: an introduction to collocations and their importance in improving rapidly one's existing vocabulary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skill – Writing;• How to put together a discursive essay by identifying key language functions and inserting the relevant grammar required while inserting the topic-specific vocabulary that is also required.
Day 3 - Discourse Patterns in Speech	Day 4 - Discourse Patterns in Grammar and Listening
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skill – Speaking;• Identifying the same formal discourse patterns in speech;• Breaking spoken discourse into its corresponding functions;• Inserting appropriate grammar, vocabulary and stress and intonation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skill – Listening;• Listening for key ideas;• Understanding through context;• Using grammar to see/hear better.
Day 5 - Academic writing	Day 6 - Course closure & cultural activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approaches to academic writing;• Participants write a 250-word discursive essay which they will then present orally to the class.	<p>Course closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course evaluation: round-up of acquired competencies, feedback, and discussion;• Awarding of the course Certificate of Attendance. <p>Cultural activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excursion and other external cultural activities.

*The schedule describes likely activities but may differ significantly based on the requests of the participants, and the trainer delivering the specific session. Course modifications are subject to the trainer's discretion. If you would like to discuss a specific topic, please indicate it at least 4 weeks in advance.

Links and resources

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- Self-paced online courses for teachers: online.teacheracademy.eu
- Online English Courses for Teachers: online.teacheracademy.eu/tag/english-courses/
- The New 2021-2027 Erasmus+ Programme Made Easy: online.teacheracademy.eu/course/erasmus-programme-2021-2027/
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 teachertraining@europass.it

 +39 055 247 9995

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