

# LESSONS LEARNED – Online Teaching



English Now!

# Some things will be different, but many things will remain the same

Continue to:

- Start your class in a friendly way with some general conversation (Linda used to call this “catch up conversation” (This is the time to share about the TV shows you watched the night before or the spring cleaning that you accomplished over the weekend.)
- Tell students what your expectations are so that they come to class prepared. What should they bring to class? What do you expect in terms of their participation?
- Aim for equal participation in class conversations. Invite participation as you normally would.
- Begin wrapping up 10-15 minutes before class is scheduled to end - summarize key points and assign homework.



English Now!

# “Flipped Classroom”: Not new for us, but key to success online!

A flipped classroom is a student-centered classroom in which students are engaged and teacher talk is minimal

To achieve a flipped classroom, students need to get used to the idea that class time is intended to process information that they will spend time learning outside of class

Their homework should help them to prepare themselves for classroom discussion  
email them after class or write in chat box or on white board at the end of class, specific questions to think about for discussion next time



English Now!

# Flipped Classroom

**Longer reading assignments that carry over week to week:**

Choose a level-appropriate book to read as a class and assign a chapter to read each week. (If necessary, preview vocabulary together.)

**Students must come to class prepared to:**

- share their responses to the discussion questions given to them in advance (If they have done writing, they can work on oral presentation of written work)
- share new vocabulary words that they want to practice

**Examples:** Jennifer has started doing this with my Wednesday class, which is reading and discussing *Better*, by Atul Gawande.

You can also have them read an article from Washington Post, listen to/read an NPR story or a TED Talk

For morning classes using standard textbooks, try assigning large readings for homework and discussing them in class. You can have them prepare talks based on the writing section assignments.



**English Now!**

# Recommendations for Starting Well

## General Settings

Do not disturb setting to prevent popups (you don't want your emails popping up on the screen for all to see!)

Favorites or bookmarks in your browser so you will be ready to share material and not have to search for it

## Useful Zoom Tools

Speaker view - gallery works well for conversations (Nancy W)

Whiteboard - vocabulary, brainstorming, drawing games like Pictionary

Screen sharing - show web sites or documents on your desktop

Chat - vocabulary words, cut and paste web site links so students can view them individually during the lesson

Mute button - you can control this as the host and each participant can control their own mute button

Virtual backgrounds - you can add a fun scene so that people aren't distracted by whatever is in the room

I asked everyone to mute their screen/ turn off video when we went on break. Meanwhile, I shared a screen that had a timer on it so we'd come back at the same time and the meeting could continue to run. Super easy to use: <http://ipadstopwatch.com/timer-fullscreen.html> (Michelle)



English Now!

# Recommendations - Content

## Standard textbooks that have online resources:

American Headway - has audio and video that can be downloaded and played during class.

Teachers may need assistance to access the content. Bryce is successfully using this.\*\*\*

Keynote - Linda Chang is successfully using this

Grammar Explorer - Nancy W is using this but had some difficulty on ipad

Top Notch - need to check with Beth on how this is going

## Web sites that teachers are recommending:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/>

[englishpage.com](http://englishpage.com)

[readworks.org](http://readworks.org)

<https://learningenglish.voanews.com/>



English Now!

[NPR.org](http://NPR.org) - many stories have transcripts that students can view while listening together

[ted.com](http://ted.com) - TED talks have transcripts that students can view while listening

# THANK YOU.

---



English Now!