



GRADED COMMUNICATIVE ENGLISH FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS

SOCRATES COMENIUS / GRUNDTVIG COURSE 2008

29th June - 7th July

5th - 13th October

2nd - 10th November

COURSE INFORMATION

This course is intended for English language teachers in primary, secondary and adult education in the European Union. It aims to upgrade their communicative language skills, preparing each participant for an internationally recognised Trinity College Certificate in spoken English which they will take at the end of the two week course. Simultaneously, teachers will update their teaching skills in the communicative context. The course trainers will be qualified trinity examiners, and will give teachers an insight into teaching their own pupils using a communicative approach and preparing their own students fully for a Trinity College spoken certificate.

The course fee is 1350€ and this includes training sessions, cultural visits at the weekend, and the Trinity exam entrance fee. Bed and breakfast accommodation is also provided in a comfortable B&B close to the training centre and dinner in a local restaurant. Costs that are not included are flights, airport transfers and lunches each day. You can apply for full funding to the EU Socrates programme. For further details please see page 3.

PREPARATION:

Participants will also complete an electronic language test to identify their current level of English and to identify any problem areas. This will be followed by a spoken interview with the course trainer on arrival.

Participants will be sent a needs analysis questionnaire, which will help course tutors to meet the needs of each participant.

Finally, participants will be asked to describe a communicative language teaching technique they have used recently and to why they have found it successful. This will be used as a starting point for discussion on successful teaching methodologies during the course.

OBJECTIVES:

- To enhance participants' spoken language skills and practical teaching skills using the communicative method
- To prepare each participant for a Trinity Spoken Examination at an appropriate level
- To give teachers a full insight into preparing their own students for the Trinity graded examinations
- An introduction to Welsh language and culture including cultural visits in the area

METHODOLOGY:

The participants will be in multi-lingual groups where all the interaction will be in English. Many sessions will be workshop-based involving problem-solving and discussion. Participants will also experience various language learning techniques which can be transferred to their own classroom. There will be an ongoing evaluation and one-to-one sessions to set targets and draw up an action plan.

OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, the participants will have improved their spoken language skills, gained a Trinity College qualification at an appropriate level and will have gained an insight on how to prepare their students for Trinity spoken examinations. As teachers they will have shared experience and best-practice and become more aware of methods of teaching students communicatively. They will also have learnt about Wales and Welsh culture.

FOLLOW-UP:

At the end of the course there will be a one-to-one session with tutors to draw up an action plan for each participant. Students will evaluate their own progress during the course and use this to create a plan of i) personal study after the course ii) use of different language learning techniques in the classroom.

PROGRAMME OF THE LANGUAGE COURSE DAY BY DAY:

The morning sessions will consist of intensive language input and preparation of participants for the Trinity oral examinations at the end of the week. Afternoon sessions will focus on methodologies: teaching communicatively and how to prepare your own students for the spoken exams.

SUNDAY

PM: Arrival in Llangollen

MONDAY

AM 09.00-10.45 Welcome, registration and introductions

11.15-13.00 An introduction to Trinity exams & one-to-one with tutor for exam grading purposes

PM 14.00-16.00 Methodologies - Pre-grading students' spoken English according to common European Framework Reference for Languages

Evening INTERNATIONAL FOOD EVENING Teachers will be invited to bring a typical food item from their region for the other participants to taste!

TUESDAY

AM 09.00-12.00 Language input (structures)

12.00-13.00 Topic preparation

PM 14.00-16.00 Methodologies – Preparing students for the conversation phase

WEDNESDAY

09.00-12.00 Language input (functional English)

12.00-13.00 Topic Preparation

14.00-16.00 Methodologies - Preparing students for the conversation phase

16.00-17.00 AN INTRODUCTION TO WELSH HISTORY AND CULTURE

THURSDAY

AM 09.00--13.00 Language input (Vocabulary and pronunciation)

PM 14.00-16.00 Teaching Vocabulary (The lexical approach)

FRIDAY

AM 09.00-13.00 Language input (Real English – 'Street language')

PM 14.00-16.00 Trinity oral exams

16.00-17.00 Farewell drink

SATURDAY 09.30-16.00 DAY TRIP TO CHESTER, CITY TOUR AND SHOPPING

SUNDAY 09.30-18.00 DAY TRIP TO SNOWDONIA, visit to Conwy Castle and guided walk at Cwm Idwal.

MONDAY Departure

OFFICIAL COURSE DETAILS CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON THE SOCRATES DATABASE OF TRAINING COURSES FOR TEACHERS. ADDRESS BELOW: <http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/>

APPLYING FOR THE COURSE AND FUNDING

If you are a teacher in Europe or in a European Candidate country (Croatia, FYR Macedonia and Turkey) you can apply for an EU Socrates Comenius grant for funding of up to € 1500 to cover all of your course costs. If you are a teacher in adult education you can apply for a Socrates Grundtvig grant. The course fee is € 1350 and this includes all costs e except flights, transfers to the centre from the airport, and lunches each day.

HOW TO APPLY FOR EU FUNDING FOR YOUR COURSE

1. Check availability with ECTARC and complete ECTARC pre-registration form.
2. Contact your Socrates National Agency for a Socrates Comenius/Grundtvig Application Form.
3. Apply to your National Agency for a grant for the course.
4. Complete and send the full ECTARC Registration Form with a copy of your completed Socrates Comenius Grundtvig Application Form to ECTARC.
5. Your place will be reserved until 5 weeks before the start of the course. You **MUST** advise ECTARC immediately your application for funding has been approved or not approved. You can register at any time after that date if places are still available.

If you are not applying for EU funding, complete and send a full ECTARC registration form to reserve a place on a course. Once payment has been received your place on the course will be confirmed.

For any questions regarding funding, including the address of your Socrates National Agency please contact us at the address below.

DEADLINE

The next deadline is 31 May 2008. However, please check this with your own National Agency as deadlines for applications for funding can vary from country to country.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU IN LLANGOLLEN!

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: VANESSA.BALDRY@ECTARC.COM AT ECTARC, THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR TRAINING AND REGIONAL COOPERATION, PARADE STREET, LLANGOLLEN, WALES, UK. WWW.ECTARC.COM. TEL:0044(0)1978861514 FAX:0044(0)1978861804