

Classroom Activities, Interaction and Motivation

Overview and Outcomes

This 30-hour **NILE Classroom Activities, Interaction and Motivation** course focuses on the kinds of activities which help students to learn languages well, through exploring factors such as interaction, motivation and classroom management, which we need to consider when choosing, using and adapting activities.

We will also look at how to evaluate activities and adapt them or devise our own when necessary. Each course session will also focus on activities related to a particular language area. Over the course you will build up a bank of activities that you can use with your students and we will help you to organise and share this with other teachers.



Trainers

NILE and British Council's highly experienced trainers are experts, not only in their fields, but also in working with teachers for continuing professional development.

Teaching approaches

- We make courses practical and 'hands-on', with reference to relevant theory.
- Our courses are participant-centred and collaborative, designed to build knowledge and confidence.
- We use activities and tasks to help you apply the course content to your setting.
- Courses are divided into individual sessions and activities, each with specified learning outcomes, forming a clear structure.
- Teaching is interactive and utilises a range of multimedia including image and video.

Certification

- Your end-of-course NILE certificate details all the areas covered on your course. It comes with recommendations for sharing what you have learnt and implementing your action plan at your institution.
- The course can be extended to include [The Trinity Certificate for Practising Teachers](#)

[\(CertPT\)](#) - awarded upon completing an 8-week assignment after the course, fulfilling the skills and knowledge descriptors as set out by Trinity College London.

Who should apply?

- Teachers of older primary school children (7-12), teens and adults, who wish to expand their repertoire of activities to increase interaction and encourage motivation in the language classroom.
- Participants should have a minimum language level corresponding to B1 on the Common European Framework.

Venue and Facilities

- The course takes place in British Council Bogotá's fully-equipped teaching venue. All course materials are provided.
- All participants have access to NILE's extensive ELT eLibrary and the NILE digital learning platform during the course and for a further six months, to access course materials and other resources. We also encourage you to sign up to NILE Membership Area, which provides a great range of free resources for ELT professionals.

Content

Classroom Activities, Interaction and Motivation includes content drawn from some or all of the following areas, according to participants' needs and interests:

- What makes a good activity
- The importance of interaction and how to promote it in your teaching
- Motivation inside and outside the classroom
- Setting up activities
- Warmers, fillers and coolers
- Activities for recycling vocabulary
- Activities for developing writing and speaking skills
- Building a repertoire of activities
- Evaluating, adapting and creating activities
- Storing, organising and sharing activities

Each course has a maximum of 18 participants and consists of 10 sessions, each scheduled on a Monday, with an optional 8-week Trinity College London assignment at the end.

Time will be built into the course for reflection, to consider how to adapt the content to your own professional context. We then support you in creating a strategy for putting your ideas into practice in your institution.

The complementary NILE Online platform which is available to all course participants contains all course materials, plus additional resources including videos and academic journals and e-books.

Schedule

This course consists of 10 sessions. Each session lasts 3 hours and takes place on Mondays at British Council Bogotá teaching centre.

<p style="text-align: center;">Session 1: Orientation and Introductions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 2: Effective Classroom Activities</p>
<p>This session will introduce you to the course structure, content and learning outcomes. You will also find out what you can expect from us and what we expect from you, and learn how to access the supplementary digital resource platform. We will introduce ourselves, get a general overview of the content, your teaching contexts and discuss what we mean by classroom activities and the concept of interaction, and how they can impact on learner motivation.</p>	<p>This session looks at what makes a good classroom activity. You will learn to identify the aims for some key activities. There will be a focus on vocabulary learning, so here we will think about the importance of vocabulary recycling and look at a range of activities for reviewing vocabulary. Finally, you will either micro-teach a vocabulary activity for your fellow course participants, or watch one being taught.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sessions 3 and 4: Interaction</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 5: Motivation</p>
<p>In these sessions we are going to look at why we need to encourage students to interact with each other in classroom activities. There are many different interaction patterns we can include in a class. You are going to think about the benefits of each of these. Then we will focus particularly on speaking activities and you will explore several different speaking activity-types. The next focus is on setting effective discussion questions. Finally, we discuss about common problems teachers face in speaking classes and how we can encourage students to interact more. You will reflect on the interaction patterns you currently use most, and why, and which ones you feel comfortable introducing to your classrooms.</p>	<p>In this session we are going to look at motivation. You will start by thinking about what motivates people in general. And then you will use this knowledge to discuss how to make language learning activities more motivating. The other focus for this session is writing, as teachers often ask how to motivate their students to write. We will ask why students may not want to write and then you will consider classroom writing activities which promise to make learners more enthusiastic about writing. Finally, we will take a look at a collaborative writing project and share your ideas for one you could use to motivate your own students.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sessions 6 and 7: Classroom Management</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 8: Building and Sharing a Bank of Activities</p>
<p>In these sessions we are looking at classroom management for different stages of activities. We will especially look at giving good instructions. We will see that classroom management is different for different contexts (where you work, who your students are, etc.). Then we will look at a range of short activities that can be used at the beginning or end of a lesson, or when we need to wake students up or calm them down. Finally, we will plan the stages and instructions for one activity. We will share this with our course colleagues and micro-teach some mini activity sequences.</p>	<p>In this session you will look at different ways that teachers can find new classroom activities. You will think about both paper and digital sources. Then you will focus on grammar activities and share some useful activities to satisfy particular grammar learning aims. After that you will look at some ways of storing and organising the classroom activities that you discover so you can easily find them the next time you need them. Finally, you will look at ways you can share activities and resources with colleagues.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Session 9: Evaluating, Adapting and Devising Activities</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 10: Course Review and Action Planning</p>
<p>In this session you are going to look at some ways of evaluating classroom activities. You will learn about some ways to adapt activities where necessary, so they are more effective for your students. Finally, there will be some hints for creating your own activities, and this will help you to make an activity yourself. The focus of this unit will be receptive skills – that is listening and reading activities.</p>	<p>In this final session we will review the whole course and consider the implications of your learning for your own professional context and future action planning. You will be encouraged to self-assess against the intended learning outcomes, and to discuss ways in which your use of different classroom activities and interaction patterns will affect your learners' motivation and achievement.</p>
<p>Optional Assignment Trinity Certificate for Practising Teachers (NB. Additional fee applies)</p>	

At NILE we are committed to offering the best in language teacher education. NILE courses have been developed specifically to maximise the classroom experience and harness participants' own experience, knowledge and ideas to co-construct the learning experience. Participants will benefit from tutor expertise, extensive resources and tailored materials, and the support of fellow course participants in every session. NILE courses are formally aligned to the Equals Framework for Language Teacher Training and Development, and the effort we take to make the NILE experience both positive and productive has been recognised by inspections from AccreditationUK and Equals.