

Welcome to Eric Baber Consulting & Training!

Thank you for requesting information about my training courses. I offer talks, workshops and seminars on a range of IT-related subjects; a full list of topics and summaries is available over the next few pages. Clients' needs vary and my offerings reflect this, with anything from one-hour talks to two- or three-day seminars available.

Please feel free to browse the topics below and visit my website at www.ericbaber.com for further up-to-date modules. To discuss your training needs please contact me via the website or at eric@ericbaber.com. I look forward to hearing from you!

Eric Baber

About Eric Baber



I am an educational technologist specialising in the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) for language teaching and learning, in particular within the field of Business English teaching. With a background and DTEFLA in English Language Teaching I am now Associate Lecturer on a number of Open University courses including *Learning in the Connected Economy*, *Innovations in eLearning* and *Exploring the English Language*. I am also tutor on two online courses in

Teaching Business English and *Using Moodle* and key author for the Cambridge University Press *Professional English Online* website. I furthermore act as consultant on e-learning related matters to institutions such as the British Council and Cambridge University Press. Previous training clients include the British Council, EuroCALL, Oxford House College London, Sultan Qaboos University (Oman), St. Giles College of English, Royal Holloway, University of London and the Russian Ministry of Education.

My publications include *50 Ways to Improve your Business English Using the Internet*, Summertown Publishing 2007 and *Teaching English with Information Technology*, Keyways Publishing/Modern English Publishing 2005.

Overview of training sessions

Please note that time indications are guidelines only and can be adjusted to suit your needs

An overview of online technologies (3 hours)

This session offers an overview of online technologies and how they can be used for language teaching and learning. Technologies covered include blogs; wikis; Moodle; online chat; podcasts; web-based materials; Second Life; and exercise-creation websites. Note that this session offers a brief overview of each type of technology with little or no hands-on experience.

Blogs (2 - 3 hours)

Blogs (short for “weblogs”) are mechanisms for writing online diaries and receiving feedback from readers in the form of “Comments”. Blogs are used by journalists, companies and writers, but also by millions of private individuals. In this session we will look at

- how teachers can use blogs to disseminate information to students
- tasks teachers can set their students around the use of blogs to encourage reading and writing practice
- ways in which students can use blogs to develop their language skills independently of a teacher

Wikis (2 hours)

Wikis are collaborative online platforms. Instead of one person putting up content for others to read, a wiki allows any reader to edit the text contained on the wiki. Perhaps the best-known example of a wiki is Wikipedia, an online encyclopedia written collaboratively by thousands of people.

In this session we will look at ways in which teachers and students can use wikis in order to collaborate on texts for the purposes of language practice, as a means of collecting useful information (such as vocabulary or grammar points) and more.

Moodle (2+ hours)

Moodle is one of the most popular Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs) in use today. In this session we will explore Moodle and the tools it has to offer, including

- uploading and making available materials
- quizzes, exercises and activities
- online discussion forums
- learner management

Online chat (Text and audio/video-chat) (2 hours)

The world has now become a much smaller place. Rather than being able to speak only with other learners in the same classroom, students can now interact live with native and non-native speakers of English around the world. In this session we will look at ways in which students can practise their English using text- and audio-chat with e-pals in other countries.

Podcasting (2 – 3 hours)

Once upon a time the web was text-based. Nowadays the web includes so much more, including audio, video and other media. In this podcasting session we look at ways in which podcasts – recordings made and placed on the web for others to download and listen to – can be used by teachers and learners of English. We will even learn how to make our own podcasts and how to distribute them with minimal technical knowledge!

Web-based materials (1 – 2 hours)

The web is a treasure-trove of materials that are either specifically aimed at language learners or teachers or which can easily be adapted for language training. The problem, however, is knowing where and how to find the really good materials. In this session we look both at ways of finding the best websites and those sites currently offering the best range of learning and/or teaching materials.

Using english360.com (2 hours)

www.english360.com is an innovative website which allows teachers to create their own content (plain text, quizzes, closes, matching exercises and more) and combine it with content created by other users to form learning paths or full online courses for their learners. This website is ideal for teachers who would like to supplement their face-to-face teaching with online content with minimal technical know-how.

Creating online exercises using Quia.com (2 hours)

Quia.com is a website which enables a teacher to create a number of activity-types such as crossword puzzles, wordsearches, cloze exercises, hangman and more, without any technical knowledge needed. In this session we will cover how to use quia.com to create a range of activity types for printing out and taking into the classroom and for students to engage in their own time.



Rates

Training rates are as follows:

1-hour talk or workshop: £100

½ day seminar: £200

Full day seminar: £350

2+ days: on request

Note that any expenses incurred will be payable.