UCAR ESL - English as a Second Language

The mission of the UCAR ESL group is to help scientific staff for whom English is a second language to become world-class communicators, orally and in writing. Promoting exchanges among staff from around the world; increases mentoring and collaborating opportunities, prepares any staff member who travels abroad by improving language skills and enhancing cultural awareness, and enhances appreciation of the diversity of NCAR and UCAR staff.

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Current Events

NEW UCAR ESL Writing Workshop: Lessons in Clear and Effective Writing - *Mastering Compounds, Hyphens, and Dashes Creating Coherent and Powerful Paragraphs*

9:00am-12:00 noon, Monday, 20 May 2013, FL2, Room 1003

by Alice Levine, Alice Levine Editorial Services www.alicelevine-editorial.com

Is it *bandwidth* or *band width*? Should we hyphenate *beamwidth and low frequency*? Our first goal in this session will be to identify closed, open, and hyphenated compounds and learn how to handle compound nouns, compound adjectives, compound adverbs, prefixes, and suffixes. We'll explore the use of hyphens, en-dashes, and em-dashes to clarify meaning.

Our second goal is to examine how we construct paragraphs. Many of us begin a new paragraph simply by pressing the indent key, but that the approach is unlikely to result in an effective and coherent unit of thought. Paragraphs are like paper chains; each link holds one idea to the next one. Without a sturdy chain, a paragraph falls apart. We will analyze weak paragraphs and learn how to transform them into successful transmitters of our message.

If you would to submit questions and text samples on these two topics, please send them to Alice Levine (alevineed@aol.com) by May 14, so she can address them in the session.

To be sure that there are enough handouts for all participants, please email Jielun Sun (jsun@ucar.edu) if you plan to participate in this workshop.

Programs

TableTalk

TableTalk is a low-pressure way to practice English conversational skills, to form relationships with each other and with native speakers of English, and to have a good time. If English is your first language, come join us to get to know more of your colleagues from abroad.

Currently, we have focused discussions about American cultures, and we will recruit some professionals in local area to talk with us. By organizing these focused table talks, we hope participants can gain professional knowledge and vocabularies in different professional areas during this one hour program. Experts agree on that people need broader knowledge to build a good life, and a better career. See you in the Table Talk.

We meet from 12-1 p.m. in the Foothills Cafeteria Atrium. Look for the TableTalk sign. We usually meet on the first Tuesday of a month. Check the ESL calendar for our next meeting. Reminders are also posted in the Today@UCAR Calendar.

For more information, contact Charlie Krinsky .

ESL Writing/Presentation Clinics & Events

We meet regularly for brown-bag lunches and special workshops to improve presentation and writing skills in a casual, supportive environment. We also arrange lectures on pronunciation and other subjects as opportunities and requests arise.

Please email Jielun Sun (mailto:%20jsun@ucar.edu) with suggested topics.

Missed an event?

Catch up via the Presentations & Events Archive, where you can download the slides or watch a webcast of past writing & presentation clinics.

Cultural and Language Groups

From time to time, we sponsor lunchtime groups for those interested in a particular culture or language. Maintain foreign language skills, prepare for travel abroad, or learn more about a culture and multicultural potluck events .

Let us know your interests by contacting Jielun Sun (mailto: jsun@ucar.edu).

Previous UCAR ESL Events

Photo Gallery

The UCAR ESL Group Steering Committee

Huaqing Cai, Charlie Krinsky, Jielun Sun, Leiwen Jiang, Qian Wu, Daniel Packman, and Liangying Zhang

ESL Email Access

subscribe or unsubscribe

Contact Us

Let us hear from you about your language needs and interests. And if you find any information on this site that is outdated, please let us know.

Resources

ESL Resource Pages

We maintain an extensive list of resources to assist you with.

- Clear Talk Mastery on YouTube

- Mentoring
- Books, Articles and Websites
- Poster Presentations
- Oral Presentation Skills
- Local ESL classes

Pronunciation Help

Advice for Practicing English

Phonetics: The Sounds of Spoken Languages (University of Iowa). An online audiovisual guide to spoken American English as well as German and Spanish.

Speech pronunciation training

For individual coaching, contact Mary Golden to set up an appointment.

Quick Tips

English Speakers: Learn a Foreign Language

- Learn a foreign language - NCAR Library resources

Learning English as a Second Language

- Writing
- Speaking

How to use the UCAR Wiki

- Add a new page that links from an existing page (like this one)

- Help
  - Playground Home (provided by the CISL Web Engineering Group)
  - Confluence User Guide

Useful Websites

About English as a Second Language

- ESL Resources, Handouts and Exercises from Purdue's Online Writing Lab (OWL).
- Dave's ESL Cafe — billed as "the Internet's meeting place for ESL and EFL teachers and students from around the world."

- International English Center, University of Colorado Continuing Education Office, Boulder — Intensive full-day programs and evening classes in ESL (303-492-5547) ieccu@colorado.edu
- Babelfish online translation assistance
- NewEnglishLearners

UCAR Websites

- Communicating Science Program
- HR's Staff Development Offerings
- UCAR Communications Office
  - Acronym List
  - UCAR Writing Style Guide
  - Communications Services for NCAR & UCAR Staff

American Meteorological Society

- AMS Style guide for journal papers
- Monthly Weather Review (AMS)
  covers research results relevant to the analysis and prediction of observed atmospheric circulations and physics, including technique development, data assimilation, model validation, and relevant case studies.

Dictionaries & Thesauri

Among many others, we suggest:

- *Longman Dictionary of American English*, 2nd ed. White Plains, NY, Longman, 1997
- Long, T.H. ed. *Longman Dictionary of English Idioms*, Rev. ed. Harlow, England, Longman, 1984.
- Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus
- *Oxford Fowler's Modern English Usage Dictionary*, Fowler

Handbooks & Grammar Guides

Among many others, we suggest:

- Mayfield Handbook of Technical & Science Writing
- Quick grammar tips
- Diagramming sentences: a useful means of structuring your writing can be found in Guide to Grammar and Writing

Presenters: UCAR Staff Development Workshops

- Mary Golden:
  - Excellence in Scientific Writing
  - ESL for Professional Life

- Alice Levine Editorial Services
- Andi O'Conor, Ph.D.: Speaker Coaching

Attachments

File	Modified
JPEG File JSMSE-sm.jpg	Jan 15, 2010 by Zhenya Gallon
JPEG File DSCF0433-sm.jpg	Jan 15, 2010 by Zhenya Gallon
PDF File potluck_report.pdf	Jan 22, 2010 by jsun
PDF File esl_survey_all.pdf	Jan 22, 2010 by jsun
PDF File ESL-WritingWorkshops-ByMaryG-2011.pdf	Feb 03, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Word 97 Document ClearTalkLevelOne-ByAntoniaJ-2011.doc	Feb 03, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Word 97 Document ClearTalkLevelTwo-ByAntoniaJ-2011.doc	Feb 03, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Word 97 Document ClearTalkLevelThree-ByAntoniaJ-2011.doc	Feb 03, 2011 by dongl
File Dr.Johnson's-wrting-tips.rtf	Mar 02, 2011 by dongl
PDF File Antonia-2011Mar.pdf	Mar 19, 2011 by dongl
PDF File authguide.pdf	Apr 13, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Word Document Bates-Intro Sci Writing.docx	Apr 13, 2011 by dongl
PDF File prepositions-discussion-U_Minn.pdf	Apr 13, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Word Document Preposition Summary-MG 20110403.docx	Apr 13, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Word Document LEARN AMERICAN ENGLISH ONLINE.docx	Apr 13, 2011 by dongl
Microsoft Powerpoint 97 Slideshow JHacker.ppt	Apr 23, 2011 by dongl
JPEG File 025_24_smaller_another.jpg	Mar 16, 2012 by Liangying Zhang
JPEG File 025_24_2in.jpg	Mar 19, 2012 by Liangying Zhang
PDF File Biasca cv 01 02 12.pdf Debra H. Biasca's CV	Oct 19, 2012 by Liangying Zhang
Microsoft Word 97 Document Steven_T_Olson.doc Steven_Olson's CV	Nov 02, 2012 by Liangying Zhang
Microsoft Word 97 Document Mary_Golden_Bio_20130115.doc	Jan 30, 2013 by Liangying Zhang
PDF File AcademicWritingStyleWorkshop-UCAR_ 05015013d.pdf	May 16, 2013 by jsun

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UCAR ESL - English as a Second Language
Jun 21, 2013 • updated by Zhenya Gallon • view change
Previous ESL Events
May 16, 2013 • updated by jsun • view change
AcademicWritingStyleWorkshop-UCAR_ 05015013d.pdf
May 16, 2013 • attached by jsun
AcademicWritingStyleWorkshop-UCAR_ 05015013d.pdf
May 16, 2013 • attached by jsun
UCAR ESL - English as a Second Language
Jan 30, 2013 • commented by Liangying Zhang
Mary_Golden_Bio_20130115.doc
Jan 30, 2013 • attached by Liangying Zhang
Steven_T_Olson.doc
Nov 02, 2012 • attached by Liangying Zhang
Biasca cv 01 02 12.pdf
Oct 19, 2012 • attached by Liangying Zhang
Communicating Science Program
Aug 14, 2012 • updated by Zhenya Gallon • view change
025_24_2in.jpg
Mar 19, 2012 • attached by Liangying Zhang

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Mar 16, 2012 • attached by Liangying Zhang
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books on writing
Jul 18, 2011 • updated by dongl • view change
JHacker.ppt
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