

# Clatsop Community College Volunteer Literacy Tutor News

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## Portland Literacy Conference @ Reed College

### UPDATE:

We will be presenting new ideas and worksheets at the training on April 13. Some of what you will hear about see below:

- When adults learn a second language, they have to create new neural pathways/connections in the brain; it's a rewiring process that takes a lot of repetition and practice.
- Learn what a **voiced/voiceless consonant** is and how you can help your student pronounce the sounds of English better.
- Learn techniques for getting the even the newest students writing.

## PRONUNCIATION TIPS FOR SPANISH-SPEAKERS

English	Spanish
"th"	Sounds like the "d" in Spanish - <i>verdad</i>
"w"	Sounds like "gu" <i>guacamole, guante</i> (glove) or "hu" in Spanish like <i>huevo</i> (egg), <i>hueso</i> (bone)
"s"	Spanish speakers pronounce "s" like "es." Suggest "s" like in <i>silencio</i> (silence), <i>serio</i> (serious) or <i>serpenta</i> (snake)
"r"	Spanish speakers have a hard time not trilling "r." Remind them of the Tony the Tiger commercial where he says, "They're grrrrrrrrrrreat!" have them practice just saying urrrrrrrrrrr like urgent.
"you"	Spanish speakers pronounce "you" as "jew." Try reminding them with saying "u" by itself.



**Spring 2013 CCC Tutor Training**  
Saturday, **April 13, 2013/12:30-3:30**  
**Columbia Hall, room 117**

Learn from and work with fellow volunteers who attended the **Portland Literacy Conference** on March 16. We will present highlights/new materials from what we've learned. Call 338-2557 to RSVP.



Yes, it's officially **post-testing** time! Expect me to contact you.

Now is a good time to get an estimate of how many **hours** you have met with your student and how much time he or she has put into **homework**.

### Writing Activities

- **Object Description:** Bring or use a picture of an interesting object, such as a pinecone, a piece of fruit, a stuffed animal, etc. Take turns writing down a word that describes the object. This simple activity will stretch vocabulary while helping the student become more comfortable putting words on paper.
- **Language Experience:** This activity is an approach to reading/writing instruction based on activities and stories developed from personal experiences of the learner. The stories about personal experiences are written down verbatim by the tutor and read aloud together (and then by the student) until the learner associates the written form of the word with the spoken.



## ESL Lesson Plan Ideas

- Have you ever taught your student **frequency adverbs**: always, sometimes, rarely (seldom), never? This is a grammar point that can be presented easily as a speaking and listening exercise. Worksheets are available.
- Does your student need to **practice taking phone messages**? Simple scripts and message-taking formats are available.
- Learning how to **read job ads** is a useful skill. Using them in a lesson is also a good way to study common **abbreviations**. Worksheets are available to give tutors ideas for comprehension checks.



## Something for our math tutors

### Geometry Projects

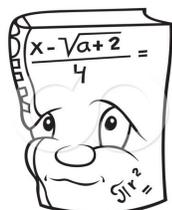
- Design a quilt. Draw your design on grid paper. Name and measure the shapes.
- Determine how many square feet are in your home/apartment. Draw your floor plan on grid paper to scale. Calculate perimeter and area of each room.

*Did you know that . . .*

= The **equal sign** was first recorded in **1557** by Welsh physician and mathematician Robert Recorde in *The Whetstone of Witte*, a book for teaching arithmetic. He is reported to have used the symbol to indicate equality because he believed that nothing could be more equal than two parallel lines. The equal sign was not popularly used until centuries later.

There is an interesting publication called "Focus on Basics-Numeracy" at the link below which addresses math instruction for adult education students. If you would like a printed copy let me know.

[http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/fob/2008/fob\\_9a.pdf](http://www.ncsall.net/fileadmin/resources/fob/2008/fob_9a.pdf)



### Smart Phone Apps for ESL:

Does anyone have an i-Phone and want to try this out and report back?

### ESL Express: Words Frequently Confused Lite

An abbreviated version is free @

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/esl-express-words-frequently/id438022699?mt=8>

*The full version has over 2150 words.*

### Interesting Websites:

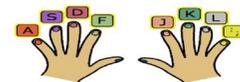
This is a site put out by **Goodwill** with different tutorials ranging from math, computer software (for example, Excel practice) and interactive vocabulary and reading.

<http://www.gcflearnfree.org/topics>

The link below from **Merriam-Webster** allows students to sign up for and receive (at no charge) a new word each day through email. The student can read the definition and hear the word pronounced. There are free pronunciation exercises also available at this site. There is also an app for i-Phones for \$4.99 with many handy features.

<http://www.learnersdictionary.com/>

**Do your students want to study keyboarding?** There are free websites where they can practice while being timed. Call 338-2557 for a list of sites.



*Help! Does one of you have a copy of **Sam and Pat: Book 1**? I can't remember if I loaned it out or have just plain lost it.*