




Comenius Funded Teacher of English Refresher Course 2013

Dates: 12th – 23rd August 2013

Course Reference Number: IE-2013-282-001

Contact person/title	Danielle Flanagan– Marketing Co-ordinator/ Edgewater College
Contact details	Tel: 00353 - 41 – 9846500 Email: danielle@edgewater.ie Website: www.edgewater.ie
Address	Merchant House, 9/10 Merchant’s Quay, Drogheda, Co Louth, Ireland
College Overview	<p>Located in the medieval town of Drogheda, in County Louth, Ireland just 20 minutes north of Dublin Airport, we are in an ideal location for students to learn English and explore the beautiful country known as the "Emerald Isle".</p> <p>Edgewater College gives students more options regarding their choice of education. The success of the college has been based on the quality of the courses and the professionalism of the tutors who deliver them.</p> <p>Our client base varies from business executives to groups of young students following general and specialised English language programmes, pre-university and third-level courses.</p> <p>Edgewater College has almost 20 years experience in providing high quality English language courses to non-native speakers of English, particularly ESP (English for Specific Purposes). We are widely known and highly regarded internationally for the commitment and expertise of our bespoke language programmes.</p>
Location Overview	<p>Located in one of Ireland's oldest and most historical towns, the town of Drogheda is situated only 28 miles (45K) from Dublin. It is very accessible from Dublin and Belfast, Air and Seaports. A busy, bustling town with a delightful mix of old and new buildings, wide streets and narrow lane-ways. A shopper’s paradise with modern indoor shopping facilities ensure students can browse in the most unpredictable of Irish weather. Students are invited to explore our wonderful town, and witness first-hand just how much the town of Drogheda and its friendly people have to offer.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: flex-end;">    </div>

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College Accreditations

Irish Department of Education & Science: Edgewater College is approved by ACELS (Advisory Council of English Language Schools who work under the auspices of the Department of Education) as a quality English language training provider.

MEI Relsa: Edgewater College is a member of MEI RELSA. MEI~RELSA is an association of 66 high quality English Language Schools, operating language courses in over 120 locations around Ireland.

TOEIC: Edgewater College is an approved test centre for the TOEIC test. The TOEIC test (Test of English for International Communication) measures the ability of non-native English-speaking people to use English in everyday work activities.



Course Overview

The programme will consist of a 2 week course of General English including methodology & strategy update for teachers of English. Classes will be held in Edgewater College from Monday – Friday. The participants will be in a mixed group with other nationalities where possible.

Classes will be held from 09.00 until 13.00.
Lunch will be from 13.00 – 14.00 and will be followed by daily activities/excursions.

The aim of the 2 week course will be to improve the *communicative competence* of each individual in all contexts and situations – social, inter-personal, academic and educational.

The course will also help to boost the quality of school education, strengthen its European dimension and promote mobility, language learning and greater inclusion. It supports partnerships between schools in the area of common interest and multilateral projects to develop new pedagogical methods or curricula.



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Preparation (Pre course)

All participants should be ready and willing to share their teaching experiences with others. They also will need a basic knowledge of computers. Some background information on the traditions and cultural aspects of Ireland would also be beneficial. Participants will be required to do some pre-course reading and tasks in preparation for the course. Participants will also be required to do a pre-course reflection on their experience of teaching so far.



Course Objectives

By the end of the course participants will have:

- Developed their skills as teachers with regard to speaking skills, understanding the learner and understanding teacher roles.
- Learnt from others' experiences through sharing professional experiences
- Explored some of the innovations in language teaching, such as using multimedia, CALL etc
- Developed communication skills
- Explored some of the different aspects of Irish culture

Methodology



The sessions are conducted face-to-face and will have a practical focus, in that, teachers will be expected to reflect on their experiences. Teachers will then use their experiences and those of their peers to develop their skills in a group framework. Teachers return to their classrooms equipped with new skills and material to use with their students.

Trainers

All of our teachers are native English-speaking university graduates, most holding post-graduate qualifications in TEFL, many have wide-ranging and diverse work experiences gained locally and internationally. Our teachers have extensive knowledge in numerous backgrounds including Aviation and Business to name but a few.



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Activity/Excursion Programme	<p>The course includes a fully organised activity programme with daily cultural/social and educational activities/excursions. All activities, excursions, transport and supervisors are included in the course fee.</p>
Airport Transfers	<p>We work very closely with a reliable, efficient transport company in our area. We can arrange for the trainee to be welcomed and collected at Dublin airport and dropped safely to their accommodation. We will also arrange collection from their accommodation to Dublin airport for their return journey.</p>
Accommodation	<p>Edgewater College has a wide selection of carefully selected families that are regularly inspected to ensure the highest standards are met.</p> <p>All of our host families are friendly and interested in the students they host. Our accommodation officer visits each to ensure that the highest possible standards are maintained. For you, we can arrange host family accommodation within 30 minutes walking distance of the college, if the distance is further, transport will be provided. Students will be provided with breakfast, a packed lunch and evening meals for the duration of their stay.</p> <p>If for any reason you are unhappy in your host family, we will arrange alternative accommodation within 48 hours.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>
Edgewater College Facilities	<p>Students will have access to all Edgewater College facilities including:</p> <p>Library: A self-access library is stocked with graded language materials for students who wish to carry out further studies outside of normal class hours. Teaching staff are available to assist students with their extra study sessions.</p> <p>Computer Lab: Students have use of our computer lab with free internet access. Edgewater College also operates a WIFI system, so students can enjoy Internet access throughout the building with the use of a laptop.</p> <p>Student Area: Participants will have access to the student area which has a kitchen with tea/coffee making facilities, a water cooler, vending machine for snacks etc. There is also a lounge area with a flat screen TV, sofas, magazines and newspapers. Participants can also find information on local bus/train time-tables and local sites of interest and events.</p>

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Course Summary

- Classes Monday—Friday (09.00—13.00)
- Certificate on Completion
- Full Activity Programme—daily activities/excursions
- 1 half day & 1 full day Excursion per week
- Return Airport Transfers from Dublin Airport
- 13 Nights Full Board Host Family Accommodation

(Trainees should arrive on Sunday 11th August and depart on Saturday 24th August. Additional nights will be charged at a rate of €25 per person per night.)

Course Fee

€1,350

Session Outline

- **Course Intro/Getting to know you**

A chance for participants to share information about themselves, their jobs and their opinions on teaching. Participants will also be introduced to some new ideas for first lessons (or alternatively, fluency focused lessons) which they can use with their own learners.



- **Foreign Language lesson**

A chance for the participants to sit on the other side of the desk and feel what their learners feel. A new appreciation of the learners' experience guaranteed (plus, you get to learn some Irish!)



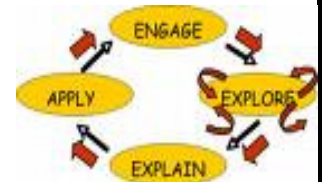
- **Pronunciation**

One of the biggest problems faced by language-learners, we introduce some techniques for presenting and practising pronunciation (including individual phonemes, sentence stress, word stress, connected speech, intonation and specific problem areas for participants L1s.



- **Learner Based Teaching**

One of the most effective ways to increase your learners' motivation; discover a multitude of ways to include your learners needs and interests in your lessons.



- **Using the Internet**

There are many different ways of using the internet in your classroom - find out some of the easiest and quickest ways to prepare your lessons, deliver your lessons and ways for learners to use the internet themselves to enhance their language learning.



- **Recent Methodologies**

The silent way, suggestopedia, dogme, CLL - just some of the different approaches you can take in your class - here you will see them in action and discuss which ones are appropriate for your classes and your teaching style.



- **Grammar Swap Shop**

Everyone has a favourite grammar lesson - share your favourite ideas and techniques for teaching grammar; learn from the collective years of experience in the room.



- **Irish Culture Lesson**

Collect some authentic Irish materials, organise them into a lesson and share it with your fellow participants. Also, learn some of our own teachers' favourite Irish based lessons and bring home plenty of ideas and materials for your learners.



- **Using Music & Song**

A great listening tool, songs represent authentic materials that your learners will find both interesting and useful - discover lots of different ways of including songs in your lessons for both fun and learning .



- **Teaching Vocabulary**

Discover new theories on how lexis is learned and uncover useful activities for the classroom.



- **Learner Autonomy**

Encouraging your learners to become confident, independent learners makes your job easier and their learning experience more effective.



- **Using Film**

A great way to engage your learners, and for them to learn at the same time - discover different techniques for including film in your classes, from whole movies to short clips - practice listening, pronunciation, vocabulary development and much more...



- **Skills Swap Shop**

Share your favourite skills lessons and learn some of ours; lots of practical ideas to bring home.



- **Task Based Learning**

Learn about this alternative approach to teaching (using the language to learn not learning the language to use it) by experiencing it for yourselves.



- **Using Projects**

Another method to increase learner autonomy and incorporate all styles of learning, we discuss projects that have been successful and those that were unsuccessful - decide for yourself if they would work with your classes.



- **Using Newspapers**

A ready resource with a huge variety of topics to interest your learners, learn ways to include them in your lessons that are appropriate to your learners.



- **Role-plays**

A great way to include some drama in your classroom - learn lots of role-plays that you can use in your classes.



grant

Follow these 8 simple steps to apply for your grant.

1. Contact your National Agency to obtain information on the grant application procedures.

National Agency contact details can be found at:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/national_en.html

2. Contact danielle@edgewater.ie to register for the course and get your pre-registration letter, and other supporting documentation to submit with your application.
3. Send your grant application form and supporting documents to your National Agency following the defined application procedure.
4. Your National Agency will inform you if you have been awarded a grant, normally 7-10 weeks after the application deadline.
5. You should then immediately contact Danielle at Edgewater College to formally register for the course or to confirm your pre-registration. If you have not been awarded a grant but made a pre-registration, it is your responsibility to inform Danielle at Edgewater College as a place will be provisionally booked for you.
6. From the moment your National Agency confirms that you have been awarded a grant, you have responsibilities towards the training provider. If you cancel your attendance at the event, you will be responsible for paying any cancellation fees which the training provider may claim. Only in very exceptional cases of *force majeure* (e.g. serious illness or death of the grant applicant or a family member) may your National Agency pay cancellation fees using grant money.
7. At the end of the training event, Edgewater College will distribute a course attendance certificate, which is proof of having carried out the training activity.
8. Within 30 calendar days after the end of the activity you must send the Final Report to your Agency. Approval of the Final Report is the basis for

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formal settlement of the awarded grant. The Final Report form is downloadable from your Agency's website.

Should you need any further information, please contact your National Agency or e-mail: danielle@edgewater.ie