



Pronunciation and Storytelling: From Phonemes to Fluency

– with Adrian Underhill

2 weeks – face to face

On-campus (face-to-face) participants enjoy:

- 15 hours' course content per week (30 total)
- 5.5 hours of workshops and talks per week* (11 total)
- A full social programme

The sample face to face timetable can be found [here](#)

*please note workshops and talks will be on a wide variety of subjects with broad appeal to participants on all Bell Teacher Academy courses and are not specific to this course.

Course summary

This highly participatory and inspiring course develops the knowledge and skills participants need to teach English pronunciation. Learn how to improve learners' confident self-expression, develop high level comprehensibility by others and deal with rapid speech. Participants will study new ways to develop facility and pleasure in the pronunciation of sounds, syllables, words and the energy distributions of stress and unstress. All of this is in the service of connected speech, personal presence as a speaker, and speaking in a manner that draws listeners in. Thus, the second part of the course focuses on extensive practice of presentation skills through the art of storytelling. Participants will develop the clarity, engagement and beauty of their spoken English and experience a range of teaching techniques they can apply with their own students.

This course is for:

- This course is for teachers, academic managers, Directors of Studies, teacher trainers and materials writers.
- Participants with an upper-intermediate (B2) language level or above.
- Participants who want to refresh and improve their teaching of pronunciation.
- Participants who want to explore and develop the use of storytelling as a learning tool.



What you will gain by attending the course:

- Knowledge and experience of how your mouth, breath, voice and sound production work – from the inside, not just from theory. This then sets you up to understand and usefully assist with any learning challenges.
- Concrete and usable insight into different pronunciation features and how they can affect learners' ability to comprehend and use English.
- A new generation of techniques and strategies for improving your students' pronunciation, pleasure and motivation. A new toolkit that revitalises grammar and vocabulary teaching as well.
- Opportunities to practice and experiment with new teaching techniques and activities in a safe and supportive environment.
- Greater confidence in teaching relevant English pronunciation, with any coursebook, at any level and any age.
- The opportunity to share ideas with teachers from around the world and build your own international teaching support network.

Course content

This course will cover some or all of the following topics:

- A thorough grounding in English pronunciation at the level of sounds, words and connected speech. This will include a complete workout using the Sound Foundations phonemic chart, and daily teaching practice to gain confidence, receive feedback, and to personalise a range of teaching techniques.
- Extensive practice of presentation skills through the art of storytelling, both the telling of traditional tales and on-the-spot improvisation of new stories. The aim is to develop the clarity, engagement and beauty of participants spoken English using the story as the device to provide meaningful context. All story material is provided and no previous skill or experience is necessary. Practice will be developed to embrace other aspects of presentation skills and spontaneous speaking.
- A story festival with each person telling by heart a story they have been developing during the second week. This draws together every aspect of the course, and takes participants to a higher feeling of personal achievement than they might have thought possible. You can then develop this with your own classes.



Location

The face to face course will take place at **Bell Teacher Academy** in **Cambridge**, based at **Bell Cambridge School**. The Bell Cambridge campus is located in quiet and beautiful grounds with easy access to Cambridge town centre. It has first-class learning and social facilities. The training staff at Bell Teacher Campus are all highly qualified and include published authors, materials writers and conference speakers. Afternoons entail a conference style approach with participants able to join an interesting variety of workshops, cultural talks and a special plenary lecture each week from a prominent speaker.



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