



Serving Northern  
British Columbia

# English as a Second Language

## Library Subject Guide

<http://library.nlc.bc.ca>

*Information literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to "recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information."*

Association of College and Research Libraries

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program emphasizes communication and prepares students to enter credit courses or find employment. Listening, speaking and vocabulary-building skills are introduced at the lowest levels. Writing and reading skills necessary to the college environment are taught at the higher levels.

**Ask a Librarian** for assistance in finding relevant books and journal articles and/or if you need help researching a course related topic. The librarian will also provide assistance in using the Library's website, online catalogue, article databases, and the Internet. Contact the librarian directly or use the "Ask a librarian" section on the Library web pages.

### Dawson Creek Library

Janet Beavers, Coordinator of Library Services  
Phone: (250)-782-5251 (local 1251)  
Email: [jbeavers@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:jbeavers@nlc.bc.ca)

### Fort St. John Library

Dawna Turcotte, Librarian  
Phone: (250)-785-6981 (local 2012)  
Email: [dturcotte@nlc.bc.ca](mailto:dturcotte@nlc.bc.ca)

## REFERENCE

Dictionaries, encyclopedias and handbooks can be a useful starting point for learning. Many of these sources provide basic information, overviews of topics, as well as introduce specialized terminology and detailed information. Major reference works are held mainly at the DC and FSJ libraries. Some titles of interest located in the **Reference Section** are:

### Dawson Creek Reference Collection

PN 41 C3 1999	A Multicultural Dictionary of Literary Terms
PE 1146 B35	Bantam Instant Spelling Handbook, The
PC 1640 M54	Bantam New College Italian & English Dictionary, The
PC 4640 W53 1968	Bantam New College Spanish & English Dictionary
PR 83 C35 1999 V.4	Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature, The
PR 85 C34	Cambridge Guide to Literature in English
PE 3239 M34	Canadian English Idioms
PE 3235 C36 1998	Canadian Oxford Dictionary
PE 1146 C34 1999	Canadian Oxford Spelling Dictionary
PC 4640 C35 1968B	Cassell's Spanish Dictionary
PC 2640 C64 1982	Collins French-English Dictionary
PE 1128 A2 V36 1990	English as a Second Language Bibliography
PE 3235 F44 1997	Guide to Canadian English Usage
2640 H32 1974	Harrap's New Shorter French and English Dictionary
PE 1689 A48	Have a Nice Day--No Problem! : A Dictionary of Clichés
PL 1455 S463	Hsin Han Ying tz: A New Chinese-English dictionary
PL679 K388 1980	Kenkyusha's New English-Japanese Dictionary
PE 1689 L66	Longman Dictionary of English Idioms
PL 679 N4 1974	Modern Reader's Japanese-English Character Dict., The
PE 1628 F652 2000	New Fowler's Modern English Usage, The
Z 1001 H37 2000	On Compiling an Annotated Bibliography
PE 1591 U7	Oxford Thesaurus, The
PN 849 C5 P4	Penguin Companion to English literature
PE 1689 K57 2001	Roget's Thesaurus of Phrases
PE 1408 H276 1996	Rules for Writers: A Brief Handbook

### Fort St. John Reference Collection

PE 1628 F65 1983	A Dictionary of Modern English Usage
PE 1591 D45 1982	A Dictionary of Synonyms and Antonyms
PE 1146 B35	Bantam Instant Spelling Handbook, The
PC 2640 S74	Bantam New College French & English Dictionary
PR 85 C34	Cambridge Guide to Literature in English
PE 3235 C36 1998	Canadian Oxford Dictionary
PC 2640 C28 1077	Cassell's Concise French-English English-French Dict.
PF 3640 B453 1978	Cassell's German-English English-German Dictionary
PC 2640 C64 1982	Collins French-English Dictionary
PJ 6640 C66 1982	Concise Oxford English-Arabic Dictionary
PE 1689 R65 1992	Dictionary of Clichés, The
PL 678 E64	English Japanese, Japanese English Dictionary
PC 2640 H32 1974	Harrap's New Shorter French and English Dictionary
PC 4640 H53	Harrap's Spanish Paperback Dictionary
PL 679 K388 1980	Kenkyusha's New English-Japanese Dictionary
PL 679 K4 1974	Kenkyusha's New Japanese-English Dictionary
PL 937 K67 1992	Korean/English, English/Korean Dictionary
PC 5333 L37 1998	Larousse Pocket Dictionary Portuguese-English
PE 1628 L66 1991	Longman Active Study Dictionary of English
PE 1689 L66	Longman Dictionary of English Idioms
PL 679 N4 1974	Modern Reader's Japanese-English Character Dict., The
PE 3721 O94 1999	Oxford Dictionary of Slang
PK 1936 O9 1997	Oxford Hindi-English Dictionary
PC 4640 O94 1994	Oxford Spanish Dictionary, The
PE 1591 U7	Oxford Thesaurus, The
PE 1408 H276 1996	Rules for Writers: A Brief Handbook
PL679 S26 1979	Sanseido's Daily Concise English-Japanese Dictionary
PL 679 V34 1990	Vaccari's Standard Japanese-English Dictionary
PL 679 W385	Webster's New World Compact Japanese Dictionary

## CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

To assist you in browsing the collection for materials on English as a Second Language, try the following areas:

P Language & Literature      PR English literature      AG Dictionaries      PE English      AE Encyclopedias

## LIBRARY CATALOGUE AND ELECTRONIC DATABASES

To find books, journals, and audiovisual materials on your topic, search the library's online **catalogue**. If you are looking for journal articles, search the library's online **journal article indexes & electronic databases**. Use **keywords** to search the online catalogue and/or electronic databases. A keyword is a word or term that best describes the information you are looking for. You can search the library catalogue or an electronic database for either a single keyword or a combination of keywords in order to find articles in an electronic database or books in the online catalogue containing the keyword(s).

### **Examples of keywords:**

adult education	English language	idioms	pronunciation
business writing	figures of speech	international education	reading
conversation	foreign students	life skills	spoken English
educational exchange	grammar	phrasebooks	vowels

## PERIODICALS & NEWSPAPERS

The library currently subscribes to several periodicals and newspapers of particular interest to students:

Periodical Title.....	Library Holdings.....	Campus Library
Business Week	current	FSJ
Canada & the World Backgrounder	current	FSJ
Canadian Geographic	current	All NLC Libraries
Globe & Mail	current + 1 mth	DC/FSJ
Maclean's	current	All NLC Libraries
Newsweek	current	DC/FSJ
Time	current	DC/FSJ/FN/CHET
Vancouver Sun	current +1 mth	DC/FSJ/CHET

You can also browse the NLC periodical holdings when you search the NLC library catalogue **WebCat** using the *periodical title* option on the library webpage *Journals & Articles* button.

## DATABASES & INDEXES access: [www.nlc.bc.ca/library/ARTICLEINDEXES.html](http://www.nlc.bc.ca/library/ARTICLEINDEXES.html)

**Academic Search Premier:** Provides coverage for social sciences, humanities, education, computer sciences, arts and literature, medical sciences, and ethnic studies. Citations and full text available. 1984-present. Updated monthly. Provides access to the journal: **World Englishes**

**CBCA Fulltext Reference:** Canadian Business and Current Affairs is a major index for Canadian newspapers, popular & business scholarly journal and popular magazines. 1982– present.

**Humanities & Social Science Index:** Provides coverage in literature, sociology, anthropology, geography, etc. 1983- present. Updated monthly.

**Oxford English Dictionary:** The accepted authority on the evolution of the English language over the last millennium, a guide to the meaning, history, and pronunciation of over half a million words, both present and past.

**Readers Guide to Periodical Literature:** Subjects include popular literature, current events, business, fashion, politics, crafts, food, sports, history & science. 1983-current

## WEBSITES

### ***Pronunciation:***

Eva Easton Authentic American Pronunciation: <http://evaeaston.com/pr/home.html>

Dave's ESL Café: <http://www.eslcafe.com/search/Pronunciation/>

Pronunciation Tips (ESL) from Lehigh University: <http://www.lehigh.edu/~incent/old%20site/esl/pronounce.htm>

Sounds of English: <http://www.soundsofenglish.org/>

ESL Pronunciation from *The Internet TESL Journal*: <http://iteslj.org/links/ESL/Pronunciation/>

### ***Listening***

Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Labs: <http://www.esl-lab.com/>

Reading Exercises from the INTERLINK Language Centers: <http://eslus.com/LESSONS/READING/READ.HTM>

The English Zone: <http://www.english-zone.com/>

The Online News Hour - from PBS: [http://www.pbs.org/newshour/newshour\\_index.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/newshour_index.html)

### ***Listening & Note-Taking***

Arlyn Freed's ESL/EFL Resources: <http://www.eslhome.com/esl/listen/>

♦ ESL Environmental Listening Resources <http://www.eslhome.com/chubu/>

♦ ESL Listening Resources: <http://iteslj.org/links/ESL/Listening/>

♦ ESL Reviews: <http://www.eslhome.com/reviews/>

CBC: <http://www.cbc.ca/>

The English Zone: <http://www.english-zone.com/study/index.html>

### **Writing**

Writing resources for English Language Learners at Ohio University ESL: <http://www.ohiou.edu/esl/english/writing/index.html>

Owl Online Writing Labs at Purdue University: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

The Writing Centre at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: <http://www.rpi.edu/dept/llc/writecenter/web/handouts.html>

The Writing Den: [http://www2.actden.com/writ\\_den/index.htm](http://www2.actden.com/writ_den/index.htm)

The UVic Writers' Guide: <http://web.uvic.ca/wguide/>

### **Grammar**

ESL Grammar and English Usage: [http://iteslj.org/links/ESL/Grammar\\_and\\_English\\_Usage/](http://iteslj.org/links/ESL/Grammar_and_English_Usage/)

Grammar Links for English Language Learners, Especially for Writers: <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwesl/egw/grlinkst.htm>

Guide to Grammar and Writing at Capital Community College: <http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/>

### **Reading Comprehension & Vocabulary Development**

Amby's Reading Resources: <http://amby.com/educate/reading.html>

Dan Kurlan's Criteria Reading: <http://www.criticalreading.com/>

Crosswords for ESL Students from *The Internet TESL Journal*: <http://iteslj.org/cw/>

History Television - Canadian content: <http://www.historytelevision.ca/>

Macleans Magazine: <http://www.macleans.ca/>

Project Gutenberg - over 16,000 free electronic books: <http://www.gutenberg.org/>

Readers Digest Canada: <http://www.readersdigest.ca/>

Reading: Online Lessons from *the INTERLINK Language Centers*: <http://eslus.com/LESSONS/READING/READ.HTM>

Self-Study Quizzes For ESL Students from *The Internet TESL Journal*: <http://a4esl.org/q/h/>

The Globe & Mail: <http://www.globeandmail.com/>

The Paper Boy: (5000 newspapers) <http://www.thepaperboy.com.au>

The Vancouver Sun: [http://www.canada.com/vancouver/vancouver\\_sun/](http://www.canada.com/vancouver/vancouver_sun/)

Time Canada: <http://www.timecanada.com/>

Virtual Tour of Canada's National Museum: <http://www.virtualmuseum.ca/>

Vocabulary University: <http://www.vocabulary.com/index.html>

WebTime Stories - Children's Literature: <http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/webtime/>

### **General: Multiple Skills**

Activities for ESL Students: <http://a4esl.org/>

Better English: <http://www.better-english.com/exerciselist.html>

Dave's ESL Café: <http://www.eslcafe.com/>

Karin's ESL Partyland: <http://www.eslpartyland.com/default.htm>

Selected Links for ESL & EFL Students from *The Internet TESL Journal*: <http://www.aitech.ac.jp/~iteslj/ESL.html>

### **Dictionaries**

Cambridge dictionary online: <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/>

Dictionary.com: <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

Internet picture dictionary: <http://www.pdictionary.com/>

Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus: <http://m-w.com/>

- Visual Dictionary Online: <http://visual.merriam-webster.com/>

- Word Central.com from Merriam Webster for word games: <http://www.wordcentral.com/>

Roget's international thesaurus of English Words and Phrases: <http://www.bartleby.com/110/>

Translating Dictionaries: <http://dictionaries.travlang.com/>

World Wide Words - English words and phrases. "What they mean, where they came from, how they have evolved, and sometimes the ways in which people misuse them." : <http://www.worldwidewords.org/index.htm>

Your Dictionary.com - comprehensive and authoritative portal for language & language-related products and services on the web with over 1800 dictionaries with more than 250 languages: <http://www.yourdictionary.com/>

### **General Websites**

About.com's English as a Second Language: <http://esl.about.com/>

Activities for ESL Students from *The Internet TESL Journal*: <http://a4esl.org/>

English Club: <http://www.englishclub.com/>

English Zone.com: <http://www.english-zone.com/>

Boggle's world.com: <http://bogglesworldesl.com/>

- ESL for Adults: <http://bogglesworldesl.com/adultesl1.htm>

iteslj.org / links from *The Internet TESL Journal*:: <http://iteslj.org/links/ESL/>

English as a Second Language (ESL) Resources, Handouts and Exercises – OWL: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/esl/>

ESL Tower of English: Guide to the Internet: <http://towerofenglish.com/>

Everything ESL.net: <http://www.everythingsl.net/>

John's ESL Community: <http://www.johnsesl.com/templates/students>

Rong-Chang Li's ESL Page: <http://www.rong-chang.com/>

### ***Teaching***

Association Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), association Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL): [http://www.tesol.org/s\\_tesol/index.asp](http://www.tesol.org/s_tesol/index.asp)

Catesol - World Wide Web ESL Resources: <http://www.catesol.org/resource.html>

TEAL, The Association of B.C. Teachers of English as an Additional Language: <http://www.bcteaal.org>

The Educator's Reference Desk: <http://www.eduref.org/>

EnglishWebGuide.com: <http://www.englishwebguide.com/>

ESL/EFL Directory of Teachers' Organizations: <http://www.siuc.edu/~cesl/teachers/prdir.html>

ESL-EFL World Directory: <http://www.esl-eflworld.com/>

Everything ESL: <http://www.everythingsl.net/>

Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT) - information on teaching ESL in Japan: <http://www.jalt.org/>

ReadWriteThink - a partnership between the International Reading Association (IRA), the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), and the MarcoPolo Education Foundation.: <http://www.readwritethink.org>

Marco Polo Education Foundation: <http://www.marcopolo-education.org>

OISE, University of Toronto: <http://eslinfusion.oise.utoronto.ca/>

Rong-Chang Li's ESL Page: <http://www.rong-chang.com/>

TESL Canada: <http://www.tesl.ca>

TESOL France: <http://www.tesol-france.org/>

TESOL Journal: <http://iteslj.org/>

TESOL New Zealand: <http://www.tesolanz.org.nz>

University of Calgary: <http://www.learningbydesign.ucalgary.ca/>

World Wide Words: <http://www.worldwidewords.org>

TESOL Greece: <http://www.tesolgreece.com/>

TESOL Korea: <http://www.kotesol.org>

TESOL Spain: <http://tesol-spain.org>

### ***Testing***

Vancouver English Centre: <http://secure.vec.bc.ca/>

• Free Online TOEIC Test: <http://secure.vec.bc.ca/online-toeic.cfm>

TOEFL Testing Online: <http://www.toefl.org/index.html>

### ***E-Journals***

TEFL Web Journal: <http://tesl-ej.org/ej41/toc.html>

TESL-EJ: <http://www.kyoto-su.ac.jp/information/tesl-ej/index.html>

Internet TESL Journal: <http://iteslj.org/>

TESOL Publications: <http://www.tesol.org/>

### ***Translation Online***

AltaVista's Babel Fish Translation Services: <http://babel.altavista.com/>

FreeTranslation.com: <http://www.freetranslation.com/>

Updated 26-Jun-08