Academic Training Program

2027

Small is the New Big: The Power of Microteaching for Microlearning in the ELT Classroom



Ana Laura Martínez Vázquez, M.A.

Forget the marathon lecture; the future of learning is a sprint. Today's learners are masters of the quick scroll and the short-form video. As English teachers, how can we adapt our methods to meet them in their world of bite-sized information? This workshop offers a dynamic solution: pairing microteaching with microlearning.

Join us for an interactive session where we dismantle the “big” lesson into a series of powerful, “small” wins. We’ll delve into the art of microteaching—a practice of delivering focused, single-concept lessons—as the perfect tool for crafting effective microlearning experiences. You won't just learn the theory; you'll get on your feet, design a 5-minute micro-lesson, and practice delivering it in a supportive, collaborative environment. Discover how to boost student engagement, improve knowledge retention, and make your teaching more efficient and impactful, one small step at a time.



Type of course	Length	Requirements
• Workshop • Available online and onsite	• 2 to 2.5 hours	• Onsite mode. A proper space for moving around, a classroom could be ideal. Internet connection. • Online mode. Empreser ELT will provide the Zoom link for the session.



Ana Laura Martínez Vázquez, M.A.

Curious Minds, Intelligent Tools: Integrating Inquiry-Based Learning and AI in the English Classroom.

How can we harness student curiosity and artificial intelligence to create deeper, more meaningful learning experiences? This hands-on workshop explores the powerful synergy between inquiry-based learning (IBL) and AI in the English language classroom.

Participants will examine how to design lessons that begin with compelling questions—sparking exploration, critical thinking, and authentic language use—rather than simply delivering information. We will then explore how AI tools can support every stage of the inquiry cycle: generating provocative questions, facilitating research, providing personalized feedback, differentiating instruction, and helping students investigate real-world issues in English. Through guided practice and collaborative activities, you will design an inquiry-driven lesson with AI integrated meaningfully into the learning process. Leave with practical strategies, a curated list of AI tools, and the confidence to foster curious, self-directed learners in your classroom.



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Level Up Your Lessons: Practical Gamification and Game-Based Learning With and Without AI



Ana Pineda Mancilla, B.A.

In today's dynamic educational landscape, sustaining student engagement requires more than just handing out points and badges—it demands purposeful pedagogical planning. This interactive workshop explores the core mechanics of Gamification and Game-Based Learning (GBL), providing educators with practical strategies to seamlessly integrate play into their curriculum design.



First, we will explore the foundations of low-tech and no-tech gamification. Participants will learn how to map game mechanics directly to learning objectives and educational taxonomies, ensuring that classroom games drive genuine skill development rather than acting as mere distractions.

Then, we will "level up" by introducing Artificial Intelligence as a collaborative teaching tool. We will explore how AI can act as a co-orchestrator in GBL—dynamically adapting activities, personalizing learning paths, and generating responsive feedback. Whether you are designing a traditional, paper-based classroom quest or utilizing AI to build an adaptive digital game, you will leave this session with a concrete toolkit. Expect to walk away with actionable tips, structural templates, and the confidence to design immersive, objective-driven learning experiences that captivate your students.

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Ana Pineda Mancilla, B.A.

The Engagement Toolkit: Transforming Short Attention Spans into Active Learning for the Modern Learner

In today's fast-paced educational landscape, capturing and maintaining student attention is one of the most common hurdles teachers face. When short attention spans are coupled with a lack of intrinsic motivation, lessons can quickly turn into a struggle for classroom management rather than a space for meaningful learning.

This interactive workshop shifts the paradigm from simply managing distractions to actively designing for engagement. We will unpack the cognitive and affective drivers behind student apathy and provide a practical, evidence-based toolkit to address them head-on.



Teachers will learn how to implement dynamic lesson chunking, high-participation routines, and autonomy-building strategies that naturally stretch student focus. Participants will leave with actionable tips and ready-to-use frameworks to transform disengaged learners into active participants, ultimately creating a more responsive, energized classroom environment.

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Alpha Talk: Practical Tips to Develop Communicative Skills in Teenagers.



Lucero Aguilar, B.A.

Today's teenage classroom is shaped by a generation unlike any before it. These students are digital natives with shorter attention spans, who crave authentic, low-pressure interaction far more than formal accuracy drills. Yet many EFL classrooms still rely on methods that fail to engage them. This workshop equips teachers with a clear, research-informed profile of the modern teen learner and a practical toolkit for building genuine communicative competence.

Participants will explore why traditional accuracy-focused approaches often fall flat with this generation and discover what works instead: meaningful tasks, authentic communication, and a classroom culture that lowers anxiety and encourages risk-taking. Through hands-on activities, we will examine strategies for harnessing teens' digital fluency, channeling their need for social connection, and designing lessons that prioritize real communication over rote practice. Leave with a ready-to-use toolkit of activities, routines, and tech-integrated tasks that speak directly to the students sitting in your classroom today.



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Lucero Aguilar, B.A.

Thinking About Thinking: Metacognition as the Key to Reading Comprehension.

Why do some students decode words effortlessly yet struggle to understand what they read? The answer often lies not in phonics or vocabulary, but in **metacognition**—the ability to monitor, regulate, and reflect on one's own thinking. This workshop explores the essential role of metacognition in reading comprehension and offers practical strategies for developing it in the English language classroom.



Participants will examine the difference between skilled and struggling readers, focusing on how proficient readers actively plan, monitor, and evaluate their understanding before, during, and after reading. We will explore research-based metacognitive strategies—such as think-alouds, self-questioning, predicting, summarizing, and fix-up strategies—and discuss how to make these invisible processes visible for students. Through hands-on activities, participants will design lessons that explicitly teach comprehension monitoring and reflection, empowering learners to become independent, self-aware readers. Leave with a toolkit of practical techniques to strengthen reading proficiency at any level.

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The Student as Owner: How Projects and Reflection Transform Learning



Roger Espadas, B.A.

Who owns the learning in your classroom? If the answer is “the teacher,” it's time for a change. This interactive workshop explores how **projects** and **reflection** can hand the keys of learning over to students—and why that makes all the difference.

We'll begin by unpacking what student ownership really means: not just choosing a topic, but owning the process, the product, and the thinking behind it. Participants will discover how project-based learning creates authentic, meaningful contexts where students invest, create, and take risks in English. Then, we'll explore the quiet but powerful role of reflection—helping students pause, think, and connect their experiences to real growth. Through collaborative design activities, you'll build a project framework with reflection woven throughout. Leave with practical tools, fresh ideas, and the confidence to create a classroom where students don't just complete tasks—they own them.



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Roger Espadas, B.A.

The spelling bee champion´s playbook! proven strategies for success.

As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly capable of generating fluent, natural-sounding language, English teachers face a pressing question: What makes human communication uniquely valuable—and how do we protect it in our classrooms? This workshop explores the vital role of dialogue, connection, and authentic speaking in an age where AI can write, translate, and even converse.

Participants will examine what AI can and cannot replicate: the spontaneity of real conversation, the nuance of emotional expression, the vulnerability of speaking without a script, and the deep learning that happens when two people genuinely connect. We will explore practical strategies for designing speaking activities that prioritize authenticity, risk-taking, and meaningful interaction over mechanical accuracy. Through hands-on activities and reflective discussion, teachers will consider how to use AI as a tool while keeping the human voice—and the human connection—at the center of language learning. Leave with a renewed sense of purpose and practical ideas for fostering authentic speaking in your classroom.



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