

# How to Speak ESL

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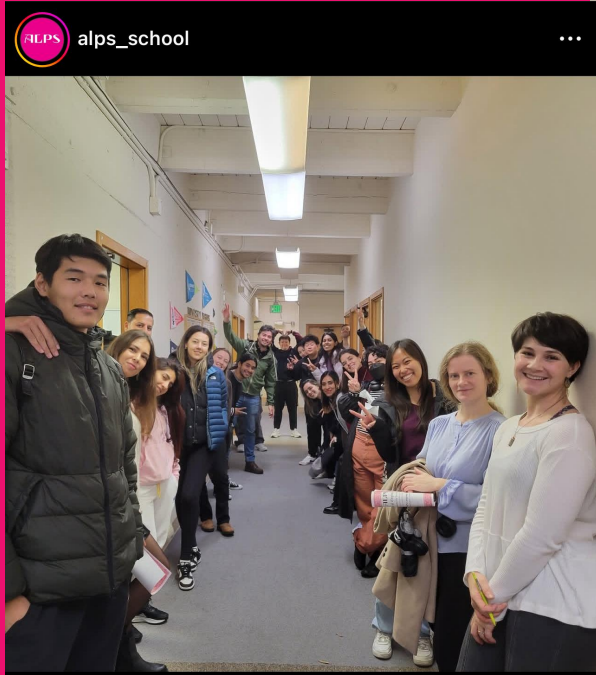


# Roadmap

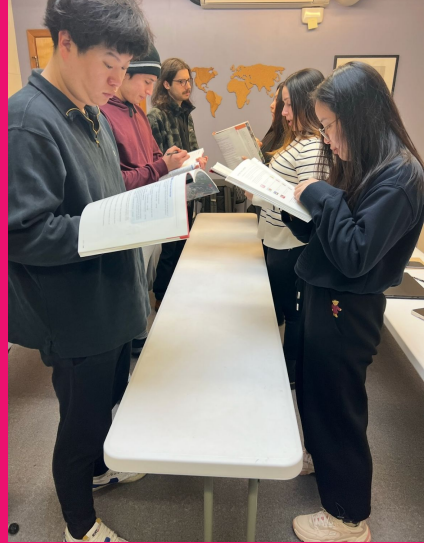
- ❑ Why speak ESL?
- ❑ Old habits to avoid
- ❑ New strategies to try
- ❑ Practice



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# Why Speak ESL?

- ❑ Effective communication and support
- ❑ Increased accessibility
- ❑ Building rapport and trust
- ❑ Accurate understanding of student needs
- ❑ Promoting student retention and success



# Avoid Over-Communicating

- ❑ Information overload
- ❑ Confusing and overwhelming
- ❑ The more you say, the less they take in



# Try Providing Only Essential Information

- ❑ Explain in tangible chunks
- ❑ Do some mental gymnastics for them
- ❑ Save the technicalities and if-then conditions



# Avoid Assuming They Understand Everything

- ❑ Advanced non-native English speakers understand only about 80%
- ❑ Too anxious to ask for clarification
- ❑ If they stare, they're not aware





# Try Asking for Comprehension Checks

- ❑ ~~"Do you understand?"~~ or ~~"Do you have any questions?"~~
- ❑ Ask them to repeat back information
- ❑ "What are you going to do next?"
- ❑ "Are you going to...?"



# Avoid Using Advanced Language

- ❑ Fast-paced
- ❑ Long, complex and wordy sentences
- ❑ Esoteric and non-basic vocabulary
- ❑ Idioms



# Try Using Direct and Simple Language

- ❑ Slow down and enunciate
- ❑ Active statements in the present
- ❑ Speak deliberately with basic words
- ❑ Repeat key points
- ❑ Speak at their level



# Avoid Solely Relying on Spoken Language

- ❑ Negligible to assume they understand 100%
- ❑ Leaves too much room for misinterpretation
- ❑ Less likely to retain information from listening



# Try Incorporating Non-Spoken Communication

- ❑ Visual aids—maps, calendars, whiteboards
- ❑ Gestures
- ❑ Exaggerated facial expressions
- ❑ Follow-up emails
- ❑ When in doubt, translator



# How to Speak ESL Recap

## DON'T

- ❑ Over communicate
- ❑ Assume intelligibility
- ❑ Use higher language
- ❑ Rely on speech

## DO

- ❑ Give the essentials
- ❑ Check comprehension
- ❑ Use simple language
- ❑ Communicate visually

**How can you use these in your student interactions?**

## Make these sentences ESL friendly

*Having studied here myself, I'd like to think I'm somewhat of an expert of this school and city. So feel free to drop by if you're looking for some ideas of things to do or, of course, if you're confused about anything, or anything else like that. If the door's closed, that means I'm in the middle of something, so try coming back later or wait for me to wrap things up. K? Great! See ya around!*



## Make these sentences ESL friendly

*I know this is a sucky situation. If I were you, I'd've reached out to the gal up in the business office 'bout 3 weeks ago to try and figure out what all is needed to lift the hold on your account so you can transfer before the start of next quarter.*

*I suppose you might as well come back around quarter-to-two today when I'm free so I can work to get you outta the weeds and on to wherever you wanna be. Sound good?*





# Role Play These Scenarios

1. In ESL friendly language, explain the general process of searching, applying, and acquiring new housing either on campus or off campus.
2. In ESL friendly language, explain to an international student the difference between in-person, online, and hybrid courses and what they are allowed to take.
3. In ESL friendly language, explain something that you regularly explain at your institution.



# Thanks!

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