THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO
TEACHING ENGLISH
ONLINE WITHOUT
A DEGREE
Discover how to teach English online without a degree...

...or any teaching experience!

Teaching English online...

...teaching English online is one of the easiest ways to earn a full-time income from anywhere in the world with just your laptop. Heard the rumour you need a degree to land an online teaching job? Well, we’re here to show you they’re not true!

This guide will not only walk you through the best way to get TEFL qualified and prepared for teaching English online, it will also give you information on the top companies that don’t require a degree, how to market yourself as a freelancer without a degree and how to boost your online applications as a non-degree holder.

So, if you’re thinking of starting a brand-new and exciting career teaching English online, but don’t have a degree, this guide is perfect for you!
Hi, there! And welcome to your one-stop guide to teaching English online without a degree.

As you may already know, the world of TEFL can be a difficult one to navigate. So, we’ve created this go-to guide to give you the best advice and support to help you find your way through the TEFL maze.

Read on for details on eligibility, TEFL courses, teaching online jobs, requirements, and how to get started...

Happy TEFLing!
TEACHING ENGLISH ONLINE:

The requirements

Here’s what you’ll need:

- TO BE FLUENT IN ENGLISH
- A GLOBALLY RECOGNISED TEFL/ TESOL/CELTA QUALIFICATION
- PC/LAPTOP, PLUS HEADSET WITH A MICROPHONE
- A QUIET, WELL-LIT SPACE
- A HIGH-SPEED, STABLE INTERNET CONNECTION
- VIDEO CONFERENCING SOFTWARE

What you don’t need:
- A degree
- Teaching experience
When it comes to teaching English abroad, the main reason a degree is required by employers usually comes down to visa requirements. A number of countries require teachers seeking a work visa to have a degree. But visas aren’t required for online work, so why do some companies require one?

Changes in early 2019

Due to changes brought in at the start of 2019, some online teaching platforms legally had to ensure their teachers have at least a 120-hour TEFL qualification from a suitably accredited provider (like us) as well as a degree. This meant that the online teaching opportunities available to non-degree holders shrunk by quite a lot!

Don’t despair, though, there are still opportunities to teach online out there for those who don’t have a degree! You just need to know where to look and how to give yourself and your application a boost to secure work.

Get qualified today »
GIVE YOURSELF AN EDGE!

The best way to ensure you bag an online teaching job, is to set yourself apart from other TEFL job candidates.

How you ask? That’s easy!

Perfect your skills and knowledge by taking an additional specialist TEFL Course such as an online teaching practice session or a specialised course in how to teach English online.

Online Teaching Practice

Boost your skills, knowledge and confidence in the online TEFL classroom with our Online Teaching Practice Session. In this live 2-hour webinar, you’ll be able to put your teaching skills to the test, get expert teaching advice and detailed feedback that can be used as a reference for your future employer.

See Online Teaching Practice Session »

Become an Online Tutor add-on

Show that you’re an expert in online teaching with a specialist course in becoming an online English tutor. You’ll gain all of the skills and preparation you need to smash a career as an online English tutor.

See Become an Online Tutor add-on »

Or make sure your main TEFL qualification contains specialist training in teaching English online – like our Level 5 TEFL Diplomas.
To apply for online teaching jobs, you’ll often be required to set up an online profile. In fact, it’s not uncommon to be required to upload a video where you introduce yourself, talk about your experiences and share some of your teaching methods.

It’s super important that you think about how you want to market yourself and your services. No marketing training? Don’t worry, the Level 5 Advanced TEFL Diploma has you covered! It contains specialist training in how to market yourself as a TEFL teacher, so you can get the most out of your online TEFL career.

If you have any accreditations that can help boost your profile such as your TEFL qualification and any specialist courses you’ve taken you can list these as specialist training. Definitely incorporate these into your profile, as they’ll help build your “brand.” There are plenty of different courses you can take that will boost your application.

See all Specialist Courses »

Application keywords

Focus on keywords such as:
- Kind
- Patient
- Focused and success-driven
- Accommodating
- Friendly
- Dedicated

www.i-to-i.com

» Remember - present yourself clearly and engagingly both in writing and in your introductory video.
# Online Companies That Don’t Require a Degree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Rates of pay</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PalFish</td>
<td>Set own rates</td>
<td>Mainly children</td>
<td>4h/week</td>
<td>Any</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preply</td>
<td>Set own rates</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>5h/week</td>
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<td>Cambly</td>
<td>$10/£8/R180</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Any</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open English</td>
<td>$15/£12/R272</td>
<td>Teens and adults</td>
<td>10h/week</td>
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<td>SkimaTalk</td>
<td>Set own rates</td>
<td>Teens and adults</td>
<td>15h/week</td>
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<td>Set own rates</td>
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<td>$11/£9/R20</td>
<td>All ages</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Native English speaking</td>
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If none of the online teaching companies take your fancy, why not try freelancing? Who says that you have to teach through an online platform anyway?

If you’re motivated, active on social media and well-organised, it’s entirely possible to build a teaching business from scratch. No business or marketing experience? Well, you can now get specific training on how to run a successful TEFL business and how to market yourself as a TEFL freelancer, while also completing your TEFL training, with the Level 5 Advanced TEFL Diploma.

And it really is worth it! Many TEFL graduates find that freelancing as an online English tutor gives them more freedom, flexibility and a higher earning potential.

» Pro-tip: join as many freelancing platforms and social media groups as possible to get your name out there!
FREELANCING TIPS:

1. Consider a niche: if you have a background in a particular business, industry, or field, this may be a great starting point and will give your services the edge they need. Think about your own background and work experience, and how that could translate into an online teaching business.

2. Make social media work for you: leverage social media to establish yourself as a trusted source of useful information for language learners and, in turn, attract new clients. Some examples of how to engage with students include posting English tips, organising live events, and creating polls or surveys.

3. Put together an introductory video: create an informative and eye-catching intro video to introduce yourself to prospective students. Big yourself up by taking your amazing qualifications, excellent teaching experience and show how your lessons work.

4. Respond quickly: freelancing as an online English teacher is a competitive world! You can’t afford to provide slow replies to prospective students’ enquiries. Make sure to answer any enquiries within at least 24 hours of being contacted.
TOP TEACHING ONLINE RESOURCES

Virtual Classrooms

Google Classroom
www.classroom.google.com

Ready to dive into the world of online teaching? Google Classroom is a super handy platform that allows you to easily create, distribute and grade assignments.

Edmodo
www.new.edmodo.com

Need help with classroom management? Look no further than Edmodo. Their system allows you to share content, give real-time feedback, communicate with students and set assignments all in easy-to-use app.

WizIQ
www.wiziq.com

Interested in boosting your freelance skills and creating your own online courses? WizIQ is the one for you! As well as offering a virtual classroom, WizIQ also gives you the ability to create your own professional looking online courses.
Video Conferencing

Zoom
www.zoom.us

When it comes to teaching English online, one thing you’re really going to need is video conferencing software. Zoom offers a completely free version to absolutely anyone and has heaps of super useful features you can use to enhance your online English classes such as screen sharing, whiteboards, break-out rooms and zoom effects.

Skype
www.skype.com

An oldie, but a goodie! Skype is easily one of the biggest names when it comes to video conferencing software. Their easy to use platform has helped 100’s of online teachers kick-start their online teaching careers.

Google Hangouts
hangouts.google.com/

A new one on the market to check out! Google Hangouts offers tons of free features and all you need to sign up is a Gmail account - easy! Think features such as chat boxes, screen sharing, embedded YouTube videos, virtual whiteboards and lesson recordings!
Document sharing

Google Drive
www.google.co.uk/drive/

Google drive is a great free tool that allows you to upload and share documents with your students. Their free version offers a huge 15GB storage allowance with the option to buy more. Bonus: you can create Google Docs within your drive that are great for homeworks or group workbooks as multiple people can edit at once.

Dropbox
www.dropbox.com

Much like Google Drive, Dropbox is one of the biggest names in document sharing so we’re sure you already have an account set up and your students will already know how to use it.
Busy Teacher

www.busyteacher.org

An absolute classic - Busy Teacher has been around for a while. Their website boasts over 17,300 completely free, easy-to-use, printable or virtual worksheets for TEFL teachers. Whatever the level, topic, or age, you’ll definitely find what you need here.

My ESL Corner

www.myeslcorner.blogspot.com

My ESL Corner offers worksheets, lesson plans and games galore. They’ve got heaps of ideas that will get your students excited about learning and make your lessons planning a doddle!

The Internet TESL Journal

www.iteslj.org

At first glance you might be put off The Internet TESL Journal, but what it lacks in fancy designs, it makes up for in amazing content! They’ve got lesson plans for all different levels, ages, topics and types of English from conversational English to business English and exam prep. They’ve separated their lesson plans into different sections to make it easy to find exactly what you’re looking for.

British Council

www.britishcouncil.org

An absolute must for every TEFL teacher! British Council has been around as long as we can remember. Although they might not have as many free lessons plans as other websites, what they do offer is off the highest quality. Their lesson plans are a great place to start if you’re new to teaching English online as they’ve got all of the basics for beginners through to advanced learners.
Level 5 500 hour
Advanced TEFL Diploma

What’s on offer?

• 180 hours of comprehensive Level 5 TEFL training
• PLUS Specialist training in Teaching One-to-One and Online
• AND 5 additional specialist modules: Teaching Business English, Teaching Other Subjects in English, Coaching IELTS, How to set up a TEFL business, and How to market yourself as a TEFL freelancer
• UK Government-regulated and US Government-approved qualification
• Support and feedback from DELTA-qualified tutors
• Respected and recognised by employers from all over the world
• Boost your earnings and employment potential
• Learn how to freelance and build your own TEFL business

See Level 5 Advanced Diploma »

Q: Level 3 or Level 5?

A: Level 5 Courses are CELTA-level equivalent so they’ll give you more comprehensive training & they’ll make your CV look great!

Level 3 120 hour
TEFL Course

Why Level 3?

• 120 hours of basic TEFL training
• Completed in 2-4 weeks
• UK Government-regulated qualification
• Support and feedback from qualified tutors
• Recognised by employers internationally
• Qualify to teach abroad and online
• Option to include Become an Online Tutor Add-On Course

See Level 3 Course »

READY TO GET STARTED?

Take your pick from any of our Level 5 qualifications, or our Level 3 option, to start your online teaching journey. All of our TEFL Courses will give you the skills and knowledge you need become an online English teacher and start earning from anywhere in the world!

Happy TEFLing!

Level 3 120 hour TEFL Course

Why Level 3?

• 120 hours of basic TEFL training
• Completed in 2-4 weeks
• UK Government-regulated qualification
• Support and feedback from qualified tutors
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See Level 3 Course »

Q: Level 3 or Level 5?

A: Level 5 Courses are CELTA-level equivalent so they’ll give you more comprehensive training & they’ll make your CV look great!
Say Hello!

Request a call back »  Visit us online »  Read our blog »