



# FINDING A TEFL JOB GUIDE

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How to get the job of your dreams  
(online or abroad)!

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# 7 Step Guide

## TO FINDING A TEFL JOB



**STEP 1:**  
Get qualified



**STEP 2:**  
Decide where to work



**STEP 3:**  
Search for jobs



**STEP 4:**  
Send in your application



**STEP 7:**  
Pack your bags  
(or set up your home office)



**STEP 5:**  
Attend an interview



**STEP 6:**  
Agree a contract

# STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

## STEP 1:

### GET QUALIFIED

There was a time when the only qualification you needed to teach English was to be a native English speaker. Nowadays, both schools and students expect more. Whilst you may be able to pick up some ad hoc or volunteer work without formal TEFL training, your options will be limited.

#### TEFL TRAINING

A TEFL qualification opens doors to jobs and locations across the world. A good course will also give you the confidence to teach on your first day in the classroom. You will cover topics such as planning lessons and classroom management – not to mention refreshing your knowledge of those crucial points of English grammar.

Most employers will expect you to have completed an accredited TEFL course with a minimum of 120 hours. However, if you are only planning to teach online – or if you're thinking of TEFL as a long term career – you may want to consider other options.

#### WHICH COURSE IS RIGHT FOR YOU:

I WANT TO TEACH ...	I SHOULD THINK ABOUT ...
Occasionally / as a volunteer only	Level 3 120 Hour Online Course
Overseas, in low-paid or volunteer positions	Level 3 Course or Level 5 180 Hour Course
Overseas, in highly competitive, high paid positions	Level 5 Advanced TEFL Diploma
Online, from anywhere in the world	Level 5 Advanced TEFL Diploma

## CHOOSING A COURSE

There are 3 main ways in which courses are delivered:

- Online: accessing material independently through your computer
- Classroom: face-to-face group learning
- Combined online and classroom: just what it says – a bit of both!

### TO DECIDE WHAT APPROACH IS BEST FOR YOU, THINK ABOUT:

- **When can you study?**  
A classroom course will take place at a fixed time. However, online courses are generally much more flexible, and allow you to learn at your own pace.
- **Where can you study?**  
A classroom course will take place at a fixed location. You can generally access an online course from wherever you want – as long as you have a computer and Internet connection available.
- **Do you have a computer and Internet access?**  
To do an online course, you will need ongoing access to a computer and the Internet. Classroom courses may make materials available online, but you won't usually need access to a computer / the Internet in order to attend the course.
- **Do you prefer learning with other people or by yourself?**  
Classroom courses involve learning with other students. This means that you can share experiences, and get real experience of standing up in front of other people. On the down side, there is less flexibility to study at your own pace. Online courses give you the flexibility, but are generally less sociable. Having said that, online learning does not necessarily mean studying in isolation. Nowadays technology permits fully interactive courses, which can include forums with other students and input from tutors.
- **How much do you want to pay?**  
Combined courses can be a great way of getting the advantages of both online and classroom teaching. However, you will usually pay extra for the privilege.

Once you have decided the type of course you need, and your preferred approach to training, it is simply a matter of choosing a course. Make sure your course is accredited and with a reputable provider. Look at [www.reviews.co.uk](http://www.reviews.co.uk) to read feedback on courses from past students.

## STEP 2:

## DECIDE WHERE TO WORK

Before starting your job search, it is useful to have an idea of where you would like to work. The demand for English teachers is huge, with an enormous number of teaching opportunities worldwide. Narrowing down your options can help you to focus your time on looking for jobs in key target areas.

### CHOOSING A LOCATION (If you've opted to teach English online you can skip this step!)

The majority of jobs are in countries and cities where the demand for English is high. This might sound obvious but you'd be surprised how many people do not take this into account when looking for a job.

In practice this means that, whilst there are TEFL jobs in English speaking countries, you are unlikely to get one unless you are a highly qualified local teacher. For a first time teacher, this generally rules out the UK, Australia, New Zealand, USA and Canada, as competition is so fierce and visa rules are strict.

However, this still leaves many opportunities in fantastic locations. Here is a summary to get you started. We have also included an overview of key destinations at the back of this guide.



### SOUTH EAST ASIA - Job search rating **High**

- South East Asia is one of the most popular parts of the world in which to teach English. It combines a high demand for English, with a friendly, beautiful and fascinating location in which to work.
- The main demand for teachers is in the major cities – those in scenic locations are highly prized! Bangkok (Thailand), Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi (Vietnam) and Phnom Penh (Cambodia) offer great opportunities.
- You often need a degree to work legally.
- This is a great place to start your teaching experience. You won't get rich, but the lifestyle is fantastic, and the countries are amazing.

**FAR EAST** - Job search rating **High**

- The Far East is another hub for teaching jobs, with a huge demand for teachers.
- Both pay and the cost of living are relatively high in Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Pay (and cost of living) is usually lower in China.
- This region offers the opportunity to explore somewhere with a completely different culture.
- Be prepared to teach children, often as young as 4 or 5, in private English language schools.

**SOUTH ASIA** - Job search rating **Low**

- Widespread spoken English in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal, means lower demand for foreign English teachers; most paid teaching roles are filled by local English speakers.
- There are lots of volunteer teaching positions, which can be a great way to develop experience.
- Teaching can be hugely rewarding; combining a strong drive to learn from students plus a fascinating culture.
- English is widely spoken throughout the area making it relatively easy to enter into community life.

**MIDDLE EAST** - Job search rating **Medium**

- There are some well-paid jobs in Saudi Arabia. However competition is strong, and you are likely to need higher-level qualifications plus experience to be successful.
- Other parts of the Middle East vary widely both in terms of money on offer and the lifestyle you can lead. However, even given the region's instability, there can be incredible opportunities for serious teachers.
- Employers will sometimes provide schooling for children as well as flights for a spouse.
- The culture can be challenging, particularly for women.

**WESTERN EUROPE** - Job search rating **High**

- An EU passport permits you to work legally in most countries.
- Spain, Greece, Italy and France are top destinations – but have fierce competition for jobs. Consider destinations such as Portugal, where it can be easier to find a job.
- Employers often want to interview candidates before offering a job.
- If you put in some hard work, research and a good application, you can find work across the region

**EASTERN EUROPE** - Job search rating **High**

- There is usually less competition for jobs than in western Europe.
- Lesser-visited countries such as Romania, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia and the Czech Republic can be really interesting destinations.
- The cost of living is comparatively low, allowing you to have a relatively good standard of living on your teacher's salary.
- Students often want very detailed grammar lessons – think carefully about whether this is something you can offer.

# THE AMERICAS



## SOUTH AMERICA - Job search rating **High**

- There are job opportunities all over the region, but most are focused on the main cities.
- Brazil and Argentina are teaching hubs. However destinations such as Quito, Lima, Santiago and even Colombia can make fascinating alternatives.
- South America often attracts longer term language teachers. However, there are still opportunities for shorter term contracts if you are willing to invest time in your search.

## CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO - Job search rating **Medium**

- There is a lot of competition for jobs, particularly from North Americans. However, do consider destinations such as Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua. These can offer more opportunities and are fascinating places to live and work.
- Jobs are focused around the main cities, with Mexico City as a major hub.
- Salaries tend to be low. However the cost of living is equally low, and so you should be able to afford a reasonable standard of living.
- Speaking Spanish is a big advantage.

# WHO TO WORK FOR

## Online

If you've opted to teach English online, you'll need to decide who you're going to work for. Your main options include:

- **Online company**  
Working for an online company is a great way to start out as an online TEFL teacher, online teaching companies are great as they find students for you so you don't have to do the hard work
- **Online platform**  
Online teaching platforms differ slightly from online teaching companies as they offer TEFL teachers to advertise their services and find students themselves.
- **Freelance**  
If you want to truly be your own boss, you should try your hand at freelancing. Choose who you teach, when you teach and how much you get paid!

## Overseas

Once you've decided which country you want to work in, it's worth considering what sort of school you'd like to work for. Here is an overview of your main options.

- **International Chain**  
A number of schools in several countries around the world. Some chains are truly global whilst others focus on a region, such as the Far East.
- **National Chain**  
Several schools / locations based across 1 country
- **Stand-alone Language School**  
A single language school, often owner-operated.
- **Government Schools**  
Primary (elementary) and / or secondary (high school) schools run by the government. These often require English teachers, in a similar way to state schools in the UK.
- **Private Schools**  
Privately owned, fee-paying primary and / or secondary schools..
- **International Schools**  
Private schools aimed largely at expat children and affluent local families seeking a UK / US standard of education / syllabus.
- **Universities**  
Many universities and colleges, particularly in Asia, have excellent English language departments to support students.

**STEP 3:**

# SEARCH FOR JOBS

*overseas positions...*

Once you have a rough idea of where you would like to work, there are four main approaches you can take to finding a job.

## RESPONDING TO JOB ADVERTS

There are a number of job search websites that can help you identify opportunities. Here is a selection of key sites for TEFL jobs:



Find your dream TEFL job with our sister company LoveTEFL

[www.lovetefljobs.com](http://www.lovetefljobs.com)

[www.eslcafe.com/jobs](http://www.eslcafe.com/jobs)

[www.tefl.com](http://www.tefl.com)

[www.esemployment.com](http://www.esemployment.com)

[www.tefl.net/esl-jobs](http://www.tefl.net/esl-jobs)

It's also worth looking in professional journals and broader papers, such as the Times Educational Supplement as these often carry some information on jobs.

One word of warning however: make sure you do some background research on the school and job before you pack your bags. Most adverts are for completely legitimate jobs. However, there are a few that need to be approached with caution. As a rule of thumb, if a job sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

## APPROACHING SCHOOLS / ORGANISATIONS DIRECTLY

Approaching schools directly can be a really effective way of securing a job. The larger companies often arrange interviews fairly quickly (sometimes via Skype), and help you get your visa.

Here are listings for a number of the larger international chains of schools. However, you can also research individual schools online and make direct applications.

<b>Berlitz</b> <a href="http://www.berlitz.com">www.berlitz.com</a>	<b>Inlingua</b> <a href="http://www.inlingua.com">www.inlingua.com</a>	<b>Wall Street Institute</b> <a href="http://www.wallstreetenglish.com">www.wallstreetenglish.com</a>
<b>English First (EF)</b> <a href="http://www.englishfirst.com">www.englishfirst.com</a>	<b>International House</b> <a href="http://www.ihworld.com">www.ihworld.com</a>	<b>Saxoncourt</b> <a href="http://www.saxoncourt.com">www.saxoncourt.com</a>

The British Council can also offer great opportunities. However, there is often a lot of competition for these jobs. Whilst it can still be worth including these in your job search, you may find it easier to build up experience elsewhere first.

## RECRUITMENT AGENCIES

Recruitment agencies can be the simplest way of getting your first job. They're fairly common in the TEFL industry as potential teachers will often be based in a different country to the school.

Agencies will generally screen applications and carry out interviews, before placing successful applicants with a school. Many agencies have a range of different jobs, and can get involved in negotiating contracts. A number of agencies also provide some form of support network and / or in-country support.

## TRAVELLING "ON SPEC" TO THE COUNTRY IN WHICH YOU WANT TO TEACH

This is quite a high risk approach. You will need enough money to cover your costs whilst you are looking for work, and need to be aware of the visa regulations for the country in which you are based (eg some countries will not let you get a work visa in-country). On the plus side, you are on the spot for interviews and any immediate vacancies that arise – plus will have a chance to look at a school before accepting a job.

### If you choose this route:

- Do your research before you go – especially around work permits
- Use the local English language press to look for work
- Find out where the schools are and pop in with a copy of your CV
- Interview for a range of posts so you can (hopefully) choose the right one for you
- Make sure you have enough money to cover you if you are not able to find work.



## SEARCH FOR JOBS

*online positions...*

### RESPONDING TO JOB ADVERTS

Much like applying for overseas teaching positions, when applying for online TEFL jobs, you can find lots positions available on TEFL jobs board. Check out of full list of the best online TEFL jobs boards [here](#).



Find your dream TEFL job with our sister company LoveTEFL

[www.lovetefljobs.com](http://www.lovetefljobs.com)

### APPLYING WITH A COMPANY DIRECTLY

Applying with companies directly on their website is often the easiest and quickest way of finding an online TEFL job. There are lots of different online teaching companies and platforms out there for you to choose from, check out our full list of all the online teaching companies [here](#).

### FREELANCING

Freelancing is another great option for online TEFL teachers, freelancing gives you the opportunity to truly be your own boss. Although getting started as a freelancer is harder than working for an online company, the rewards are often much higher too!

#### Freelancing tips:

- Join freelancing websites such as Fiverr to offer your services
- Join as many Facebook groups as possible to offer your services and market yourself to potential students
- Create a social presence where you can showcase your work, skills and knowledge
- Create a website that people can visit to find out more about you and your services
- Respond to queries quickly - you might miss out on students if you're too slow to reply
- Take a course that provides training in setting up your own TEFL business and how to market yourself as a TEFL freelancer – like the **500-hour Advanced TEFL Diploma**

### STEP 4:

## APPLY FOR A JOB

Looking for a teaching job, like most other employment searches, is about selling yourself. The best way to do this is to identify what your potential employer is looking for, and then structure your application to demonstrate how your skills and experience meet their requirements.

Remember that each school is unique. It can be useful to have a set of key points about your professional experience that you can copy into a job application. However, do not simply send out a standard CV to all schools. Rather, ensure that your application is customised to the specific role, school and country to which you are applying.



### COVER LETTER

Make sure you include a cover letter with your application. It is your introduction to an employer – and first impressions count. A good cover letter will introduce you and briefly highlight why you are suited to the job. It is your opportunity to show how effectively you can communicate, as well as highlight your accomplishments.

If possible, address the person responsible for recruiting by name (you can usually find this out by phoning the school / recruiter). This shows that you have put some effort into finding out about the organisation.

Make your opening paragraph engaging and personal, to help encourage the recruiter to give your application a closer look. Briefly (your letter should be a maximum of one page!) highlight your qualities and accomplishments that meet the key requirements from the job advert.

Most of all, let your passion for the role shine through.

## CURRICULUM VITAE (CV)

You will usually need to send in a CV in order to apply for a job. Your CV is your opportunity to showcase your strengths and experience and demonstrate that these meet your chosen school's requirements.

It is essential that your CV is well-presented, well-structured and no more than 2 pages long. This will help your potential employer to easily absorb the key information, and indicates that you are professional and organised.

Make sure you use a clear font, such as Arial, Verdana or Times New Roman, and print it on A4 paper in white or cream – CVs on coloured paper often go straight in the bin.

Finally (and we will keep saying it!) always remember to tailor your CV to the application: pull out points from your education and experience that are directly relevant to the role.

## WHAT TO INCLUDE ON YOUR CV

Presentation and the sequence of items on your CV are very important. Set out your strengths first and then provide your personal and career history details to back these up.

One possible approach is set out below.

### Heading & Contact Details

Your name followed by "CV" or "Curriculum Vitae", plus brief contact details.

### Personal Profile

Up to five high impact statements that highlight your strengths and experience. These should relate directly to the skills and characteristics sought by the school to which you are applying. If you have a TEFL (or other relevant) qualification, include it as the final point.

### Experience

A brief description / bullet points setting out your relevant experience and capabilities.

If you are at the beginning of your teaching career, include relevant experience from other areas of your life, such as university, your hobbies, social roles and sports achievements. For example, you might include experience you have of planning, presenting, mentoring or working with children / adults.

If you are already employed, show achievements and qualities that are relevant to the teaching role and where you want it to lead. This might include leadership, creativity or self-motivation.

### Achievements

Brief, positive statements highlighting your major achievements. Ensure you refer to specific events, figures and timescales - prospective employers look for hard facts, not vague claims. These achievements should back up your personal profile claims as they are the evidence that you can do what you say. Again they must be relevant to the teaching role you are seeking.

### Career History

Start with your most recent or present job and end with your first. Include:

- The company name and broad location (not necessarily the full address)
- Your job title. Use a generally recognised job title if the actual job title is misleading or unclear
- The period you were in the role
- A brief summary of your key responsibilities and / or achievements.

### Education & Qualifications

Your education (school, college, university) with dates and qualifications, plus any professional qualifications or training you have done. Make sure that you can provide proof of all your academic qualifications, as most schools will want to review these before considering you for a teaching position.

The level of detail in this section will change as your career progresses. For example your university subject and grade is likely to be highly relevant when you are seeking your first job. However, this may have less relevance after you have worked for five to ten years, especially if you've achieved further qualifications.

### References

Either give details of your referees or state clearly that references are available on request.

**STEP 5:**

## ATTEND AN INTERVIEW

Once you have successfully navigated the application process, you are likely to be invited for an interview. Don't be surprised if this takes place by Skype. This is becoming increasingly common, as it allows an employer to see a potential teacher face-to-face, even if you are in different countries.

### INTERVIEWS

Your CV / application form will already have shown that you have suitable qualifications for the job. An interview is an opportunity for you to demonstrate that you also have the right attitude and personality to do the job.

Research the school before your interview, and spend time thinking about how your particular skills and experience are suited to the role. This will give you a solid foundation for responding to questions and make it clear that you are interested in the specific job.

It also can be useful to prepare some questions in advance. This can provide further evidence to your potential employer that you have really thought about the role.

Finally, make sure you follow the usual rules for an interview: dress smartly (even if you don't expect to have to do so in the job itself), arrive in plenty of time, and remember to smile.

### DEMONSTRATION LESSONS

For some roles, you may need to give a demonstration lesson as part of the interview process. You may be given a topic to teach, or be allowed to choose your own.

Make sure you review the topic in advance, create a clear lesson plan, and bring along all the materials that you will need. As far as possible, shape the lesson to showcase your strengths, and tailor it to the job role (eg if you are applying for a kindergarten position, develop a lesson suitable for this age group, rather than adults!).

A fun warm-up is a good way to get the class off to a positive start – and include a cooler at the end to wrap the lesson up well.

**STEP 6:**

## ACCEPT A JOB

So, after all that time and effort that you've put into the job application process, you have been offered a job with a reputable and well-known language centre. Congratulations!

Before you start, you should be given a contract to sign, outlining your professional duties. Don't be too desperate to sign the contract. First, make sure you read the document carefully and ensure that you agree with the information.

**In particular, before you start your job make sure you are clear about:**

- Your working hours
- Other duties you will need to do, in addition to teaching. For example, will you be expected to offer counselling to your students, invigilate exams and / or carry out administrative duties?
- Time off and absences. Check how much time off / holiday you will get, and whether this is paid. It is also useful to find out what would happen if you needed time off unexpectedly, for example if you are ill
- When / how you will be paid
- Who is responsible for getting you the correct work permit

If possible, also find out if you will have any form of orientation. This could be a manual, time spent with the school's Director, or a more formal schedule to help you settle in. At the very least, it will be important that you are given information about the school's systems and procedures, so that you can follow them.



**STEP 7:**

## PACK YOUR BAGS (OR SET UP YOUR ONLINE OFFICE)

The day has finally arrived: you are ready to pack your bags and start your new life as a TEFL teacher.

As well as your clothes, grammar guide, plane ticket and work permit, it can be useful to take some materials to help with your lessons.

In particular, realia (objects from everyday life) can make your classes more interesting and provide the basis of many easily planned lessons. English realia may be hard to get abroad, so it's worth packing a few items to take with you.

**Here are some suggestions:**

- Menus from cafes and pubs
- Public transport maps and timetables
- Maps of English cities
- English brochures
- Coins, banknotes and stamps
- Catalogues from supermarkets and department stores
- DVDs
- A home video of your local area.

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If you've managed to secure a job teaching English online - firstly, well done, secondly, you'll need to make sure you have the perfect setup to allow you to succeed in your online lessons.

**What you'll need:**

- Laptop/PC or tablet (depending on your company)
- Webcam
- Headset
- Stable internet connection
- Props
- Background



# TOP DESTINATIONS

## TOP DESTINATIONS: AT A GLANCE

With millions of people wanting to learn English, TEFL is THE perfect travelling job. It is a job where the world really is your oyster.

There is no specific country that is best for teaching English abroad. It really depends on you, as an individual. A country that is an absolute blast for one teacher may not have the same effect on another.

This “at a glance” supplement to our TEFL Job Hunting Guide aims to give you some initial information about the most popular countries for TEFL teachers. We have listed them alphabetically, to make locations easy to find.

We hope this information will help you to narrow down your choices. Once you’ve shortlisted two or three destinations, we recommend that you do some in-depth research to explore the countries in more detail.

It is important to stress that the information given is a general guideline. Details can change quickly in some countries - and each and every job is different. Do remember to discuss things like salary, accommodation, qualifications, culture and so on with your potential employer before agreeing to any job.

*Happy travelling!*



## ARGENTINA

TEFL opportunities abound in Argentina – a massive country famous for its varied beauty. Home to the Andes, the Patagonian steppe, stunning waterfalls and even glaciers, Argentina feels like paradise to anybody who loves the outdoors.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 1,200 – 4,000 ARD

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Sometimes paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 30

**Contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Cheap

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate.

Note: some schools will hire teachers without a degree however this will be on a tourist visa and working conditions may be poor.



## CAMBODIA

A remote kingdom of wild jungle, charismatic cities, and a dramatic past, Cambodia is a destination for the adventurous EFL teacher. You will find natural beauty and exotic cuisine, without heavy tourist traffic.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 400 - 1,000 USD

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Never included

**Holidays:** Unpaid

**Teaching hours per week:** 10 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; no degree required

## BRAZIL

TEFL positions are available everywhere in Brazil – from small schools in remote villages to large corporations in big cities such as Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. When not teaching many spend their time exploring the Amazon rainforest, swimming the dolphin-filled waters of Praia da Pipa, or taking part in the world's biggest party – Carnival.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 800 - 3,000 BRL

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Unusually paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 40

**Contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** High

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate.

Note: some schools will hire teachers without a degree however this will be on a tourist visa and working conditions may be poor.



## CHILE

Sandwiched between the Andes mountains to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west, Chile has much to offer. It includes the world's driest desert (the Atacama) in the north and glacial fields in the east and south east, as well as volcanoes, lush forests, and grazing lands in the southern region – all of which are accessible in the many national parks.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 350,000 - 1 million CLP

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Sometimes paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate.

Note: some schools will hire teachers without a degree however this will be on a tourist visa and working conditions may be poor.



## CHINA

This massive country has a great deal to be famous for: its five millennia of history, the Forbidden City, landscapes like the Three Gorges of the Yangtze River or the volcanic dishes of Sichuan, and dazzling cities like Beijing and Shanghai.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 4,500 - 16,000 CNY

**Accommodation:** Can be included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Reimbursement sometimes given  
**Holidays:** Usually paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 15 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** High

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate. A degree is not usually necessary, although some employers may state a degree as a requirement on their adverts.



## INDONESIA

Most TEFL positions are in Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, which offers a truly multicultural experience and a buzzing nightlife. However, the country's best feature is its 17,000 islands that offer everything from thick, untamed jungles to the volcanic lakes of Sumatra.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 6 - 15 million IDR

**Accommodation:** Sometimes included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Reimbursement sometimes given

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 18 - 25

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** Moderate

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; no degree required - Indonesia is said to be the most organised country to teach in for those without a degree!

## FRANCE

The rugged coasts of Normandy, the castles and villages of the Loire Valley, and the picturesque French Riviera all make France a popular destination. The TEFL market is not as large as in some other countries but if you do land a job here you will have plenty of things to see and do.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 1,400 - 2,000 EUR

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Unusually paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 10 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** High

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** 120-hour TEFL certificate; EU national preferred. Note: you can legally work across the EU without a degree. However, competition for jobs in many western European countries can be pretty high, so teachers who have a degree may take preference.



## ITALY

If your ideal week consists of diving off the cliffs of the Golden Coast at the weekend and spending your weekday lunch breaks sipping coffee outside Rome's Colosseum then you will want to teach English in Italy.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 800 - 1500 EUR

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Usually paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** High

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** 120-hour TEFL certificate; EU national preferred. Note: you can legally work across the EU without a degree. However, competition for jobs in many western European countries can be pretty high, so teachers who have a degree may take preference.



## JAPAN

Japan's mix of ancient temples, futuristic cities, mist-shrouded mountains and flashy skyscrapers combined with a competitive TEFL market make this country one of the most popular destinations for teaching English.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 190,000 - 300,000 JPY

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** High

**Minimum requirements:** 120-hour TEFL certificate; degree necessary. European countries can be pretty high, so teachers who have a degree may take preference.



## MEXICO

Teaching English in Mexico is perfect for those who want world-famous beaches and snorkelling. Or for those who are interested in the rich culture and history of Mexico, which can be seen in the ruins of the Mayan civilisation, and the continuing Spanish influence throughout the country.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 3,000 - 18,000 MXN

**Accommodation:** Sometimes included or an allowance may be given

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Sometimes paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 15 - 35

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate. Note: some schools will hire teachers without a degree however this will be on a tourist visa and working conditions may be poor.

## KOREA

The TEFL market in Korea is one of the largest in the world, meaning that great positions are easy to find, and salaries and benefits are lucrative. The country also boasts some of the most beautiful temples plus gorgeous landscapes that sit alongside ultramodern cities.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 1.8 - 2.5 million KRW

**Accommodation:** Sometimes included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Sometimes reimbursed

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 22 - 35

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** High

**Minimum requirements:** 120-hour TEFL certificate; degree necessary. Note: Private tutoring is forbidden under most contracts in Korea.

## POLAND

One of Poland's best features is its countryside, where horse-drawn carts still bring in the harvest to small villages. But there is no lack of culture in Poland either, whose historically-rich cities have produced such notables as Copernicus, Marie Curie and Chopin.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 1500 - 4,500 PLN

**Accommodation:** Usually included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Usually paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 35

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; EU national preferred; no degree necessary. Minimum requirements: 120-hour TEFL certificate; degree necessary. Note: Private tutoring is forbidden under most contracts in Korea.





## SAUDI ARABIA

Positions teaching English in Saudi Arabia are among the most lucrative in the world. A nation who once closed its doors to outsiders is now letting foreigners in to explore.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 5,600 - 15,000 SAR

**Accommodation:** Usually included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Usually reimbursed

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 15 - 25

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** Very High

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; degree necessary



## SPAIN

Famous for the sun-drenched beaches, the unique architecture of Barcelona and Madrid, and a penchant for having a good time, Spain is a perfect choice for teachers who like excitement, history and the beach.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 1,000 - 1,500 EUR

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Never included

**Holidays:** Sometimes paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 18 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** 120-hour TEFL certificate; EU national preferred. Note: you can legally work across the EU without a degree. However, competition for jobs in many western European countries can be pretty high, so teachers who have a degree may take preference.



## TAIWAN

Taiwan boasts a major TEFL market, and is a great choice for those who want to teach with friends or secure a contract quickly. Its bullet train allows you to easily enjoy most of Taiwan's major cities, and its beaches rival the beauty of any in Thailand or Mexico, but are truly unique for their pristine seclusion and lack of tourists.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 50,000 - 80,000 TWD

**Accommodation:** Sometimes included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Sometimes a reimbursement is given

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 20 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** High

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; degree necessary



## THAILAND

Most TEFL positions here are in Bangkok, a beautiful and busy metropolis famous for its floating markets, spectacular sights and delicious food. On days off teachers can explore Thailand's world-renowned landscapes like the evergreen limestone islands and the white sand beaches.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 20,000 - 40,000 THB

**Accommodation:** Rarely included

**Airfare:** Rarely included

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 15 - 35

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Low

**Ability to save:** Low

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; degree necessary



## VIETNAM

EFL teachers who come to Vietnam may never want to leave. From the watery green rice fields and sleepy villages of Mekong Delta, to the floating markets and French colonial architecture of busy Hanoi, this country is a unique and varied paradise.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 16 - 54 million VND

**Accommodation:** Sometimes included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Sometimes reimbursed

**Holidays:** Paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 15 - 30

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** Moderate

**Minimum requirements:** TEFL certificate; no degree necessary

## TURKEY

Turkish baths, shish kebabs, and delicious raki are part of everyday life in Turkey. TEFL teachers can spend their days visiting the sites that hosted Alexander the Great, the Roman Empire and the Ottoman Empire, or relax on the white sands of the Mediterranean.

**Estimated monthly salary:** 1,300 - 3,500 TRY

**Accommodation:** Usually included or an allowance given

**Airfare:** Sometimes reimbursed

**Holidays:** Sometimes paid

**Teaching hours per week:** 25 - 35

**Typical contract length:** One year (sometimes less)

**Cost of living:** Moderate

**Ability to save:** Moderate

**Minimum requirements:** 120-hour TEFL certificate.

Note: you can work legally without a degree.

However, competition for jobs can be pretty high, so teachers who have a degree may take preference.



## AND FINALLY...

Ultimately, the biggest factor that influences the need for EFL teachers is supply and demand.

If your chosen destination is renowned around the world as a holiday island in the tropics, then chances are that the supply of teachers will long outweigh the demand. But in a location where the demand for English is high and the teachers aren't there, then it's easier to become employed.

If you find that you are not easily able to find a job, reconsider your destination or set your sights on some part time work to see you through, until that dream role appears.

Most of all, have a fantastic time and enjoy the experience!

# TOP ONLINE COMPANIES

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## TOP ONLINE COMPANIES: AT A GLANCE

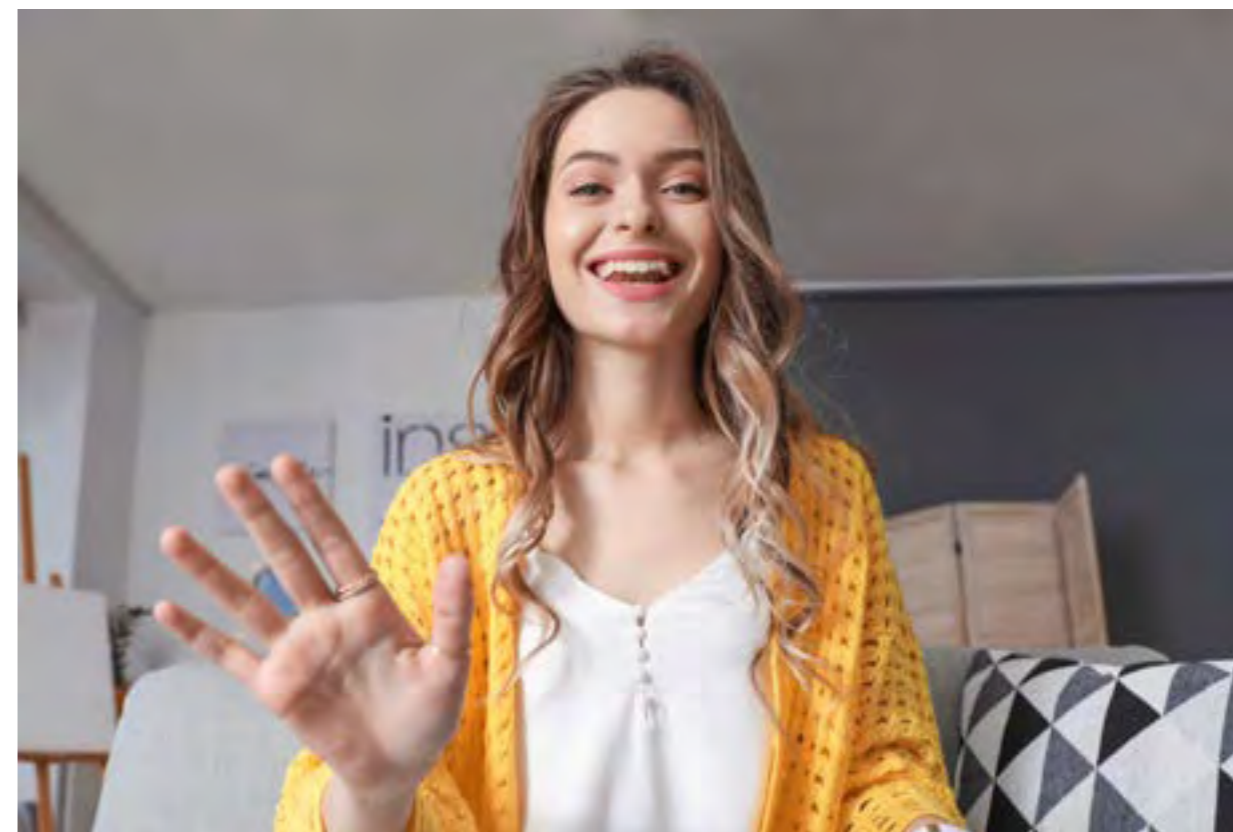
With more and more students moving to online learning, the demand for online TEFL teachers has seen a huge boom over the last couple of years.

There are now so many online teaching companies and platforms for TEFL teachers like you to choose from, but where do you start?

This “top online companies: at a glance” supplement in our Finding a TEFL Job Guide will give you some more information, job requirements and salary expectations for the most popular online teaching companies out there.

It is important to stress that the information given is a general guideline. Details can change for different online teaching companies and platforms - and each and every job is different. Do remember to check on their website before applying.

Happy TEFLing!



# NON-DEGREE HOLDERS...



## PALFISH

PalFish are one of the biggest names in online TEFL teaching. Their platform allows online tutors to teach from their phones or laptops via a their own app.

**Salary:** Set your own rates

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** Mainly children

**Working hours:** Min 4 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** US/UK/Ireland/  
Australia/New Zealand/Canada

**Experience required:** None



## CAMBLY

Another huge name when it comes to teaching English online. Cambly have low entry requirements for online teachers, but this is reflected in their salaries.

**Salary:** \$10/£8/R180 per lesson

**Lessons provided:** No

**Students:** All aged

**Working hours:** No minimum required

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None

## PREPLY

Preply are very open when it comes to the type of teachers they accept. You don't have to be a native English speaker and you aren't required to have any sort of qualifications or a degree.

**Salary:** Set your own rates

**Lessons provided:** No

**Students:** All ages

**Working hours:** Min 5 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None



## OPEN ENGLISH

Open English is one of the most renowned online English language schools in Latin America, since launching in 2007 they have reached over 500,000 students.

**Salary:** \$13-\$15 per hour

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** Teenagers and adults

**Working hours:** Min 10 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None



### SKIMATALK

SkimaTalk offer English language lessons to Korean, Japanese and Chinese students aged between 13-45.

**Salary:** Set your own rates

**Lessons provided:** No

**Students:** Teenagers and adults

**Working hours:** Min 10 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None



### ITALKI

italki is a global language learning community that connects students and teachers for one-to-one online language lessons in 100s of different languages across Skype, Google Hangouts, Facetime, and QQ.

**Salary:** Set your own rates

**Lessons provided:** No

**Students:** All ages

**Working hours:** No minimum required

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None

### LINGODA

Lingoda offer English, German, French and Spanish lessons online, in live video groups and private one-to-one online lessons via Zoom.

**Salary:** Set your own rates

**Lessons provided:** No

**Students:** All ages

**Working hours:** No minimum required

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** 2+ years



### TUTLO

Tutlo offer English language lessons to students all over the world. They have their own curriculum and provide all tutors with easy to follow lesson plans prior to each lesson.

**Salary:** \$5 – \$11 per hour

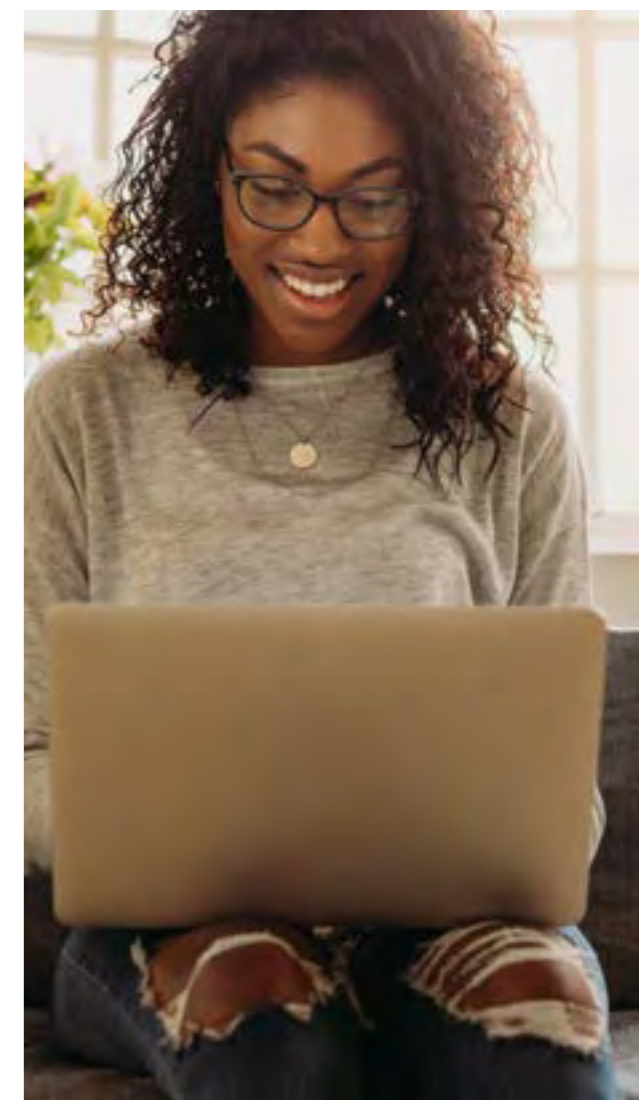
**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** All ages

**Working hours:** No minimum required

**Nationalities accepted:** US/UK/Ireland/  
Australia/New Zealand/Canada/South Africa

**Experience required:** 6+ months



# DEGREE HOLDERS...



## VIPKID GLOBAL

VIPKid Global are a Chinese-owned online teaching company that, due to recent changes in regulations, have expanded their database to include students from all over the world. They offer English lessons to students between 4-12 years old.

**Salary:** \$14 – \$22

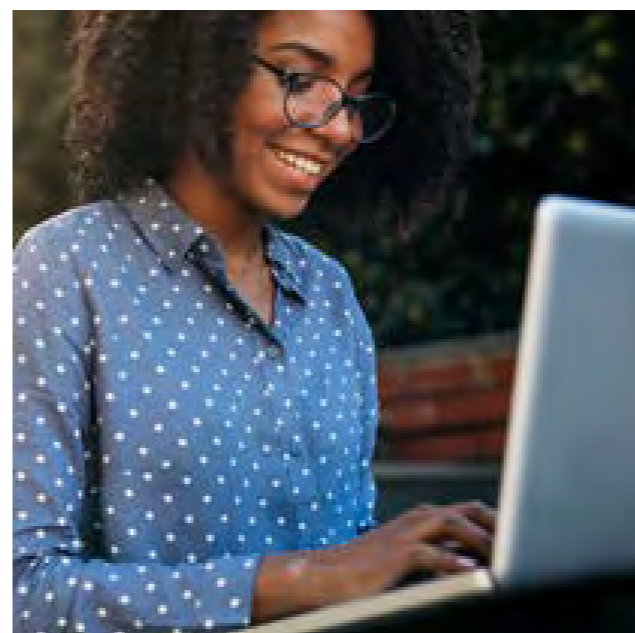
**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** Children and teenagers

**Working hours:** Min 7.5 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** US or Canada

**Experience required:** None



## EF ENGLISH FIRST

EF English First are one of the big names in teaching English abroad, but they also have a great online teaching platform too. They offer English lessons to students of all ages and levels.

**Salary:** \$10 – \$17

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** All ages

**Working hours:** No minimum required

**Nationalities accepted:** UK/US

**Experience required:** None

## LATINHIRE

Helping students to achieve more by offering them lessons in general English, maths and science! They look for really motivated teachers who will inspire their students and help them to achieve their goals.

**Salary:** up to \$20 per hour

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** Children and teenagers

**Working hours:** Min 10 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** 1 year



## ITUTORGROUP

One of the pioneers of online learning, iTutorGroup was the first online education company in the world and they have been growing day by day ever since.

**Salary:** \$5 – \$24

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** All ages

**Working hours:** Min 10 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None



### MAGIC EARS

With a base rate of \$8 to \$10 USD per 30 minutes and accepting any nationality with no teacher experience, Magic Ears is often a go to for new TEFL teachers

**Salary:** Up to \$26 per hour

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** Children and teenagers

**Working hours:** Min 1.5 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** Any

**Experience required:** None

### LANDI

Landi has a great booking rate and good rate of pay. They are ideal for teachers that have a stable schedule and are looking for long-term positions.

**Salary:** \$16 – \$23 per hour

**Lessons provided:** Yes

**Students:** Children and teenagers

**Working hours:** Min 10 hours per week

**Nationalities accepted:** UK/US/Canada

**Experience required:** 2+ years



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- Learn how to freelance and build your own TEFL business

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**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!*

## READY TO GET STARTED?

Take your pick from any of our TEFL qualifications to start your TEFL journey today. All of our TEFL courses will give you the skills and knowledge you need to land the best TEFL jobs, either online or abroad!

Happy TEFLing!



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- UK Government-regulated qualification
- Support and feedback from qualified tutors
- Recognised by employers internationally
- Qualify to teach abroad and online

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