

# RESOURCES FOR ESL STUDENTS

This document is intended to provide an overview of some possible resources that ESL students may utilize to help in their progress towards English language proficiency as well as in their experience in the English-speaking college classroom. If you click the links, you should be able to access each source easily and quickly.

As an ESL student who is working to fine-tune your English language literacy, you may discover that your needs regarding the type of resource(s) will change over time. What is most important to remember as one who is learning to understand and articulate ideas in a new language, your immersion in the language is crucial. Therefore, you should try to find as many opportunities as possible to engage English—listen to music and watch media in English; read books or magazines about your favorite topic in English; have regular conversations with other English speakers. Your dedication to refining your English is just as important outside of the classroom as within the classroom.

## On-Campus Resources

### College of Staten Island Writing Center

All students are encouraged to access the services of our excellent Writing Center (located 2S-216) which offers one-to-one tutoring, workshops, and Conversation Groups designed to give ESL students the opportunity to practice speaking English in a relaxed atmosphere.

Contact the Writing Center: [WritingCenter@csi.cuny.edu](mailto:WritingCenter@csi.cuny.edu)

### Other Tutoring at the College of Staten Island

Students enrolled in programs such as ASAP and SEEK are also afforded the chance for extra tutoring through their program. Check with your program to get more details.

## Online Resources

### Study Groups and Forums (Click the links to access the source)

ESL students are encouraged to explore resources such as [UniLang Forums](#) or [ESL Reddit Forum](#) that will give students the opportunity to learn about other ESL students' experiences, study tips, and learning resources regarding good reading/writing skills and English pronunciation. A favorite online resource is [Dave's ESL Cafe](#) which is a site for both ESL students and teachers where there are over 3,000 links that have been categorized into areas of interest such as literacy, writing, poetry, phonics, lesson plans, linguistics, grammar, and public speaking.

### Podcasts and Videos

[Culips ESL Podcast](#) aims to help ESL learners improve by learning about English idioms, pronunciation, and study tips. [Luke's English Podcast](#) has hundreds of entertaining episodes that offer ESL tips and instruction. Both of these podcasts provide transcripts for the episodes so that you may follow along and practice other English literacy skills. Another podcast for ESL students is [FluentU Podcast List](#) which gives ESL learners the opportunity to participate with exercises. There is also a transcript that allows you to follow along.

### Websites and Apps

[Memrise](#) is a free language learning app to help with English vocabulary. [Busuu](#) is a smartphone app with many English literacy exercises at various skill levels. [English as a Second Language](#) (created by Rong-Chang Li) provides hundreds of exercises in English literacy.

## **Regarding Writing in Particular...**

ESL students who need help with their writing assignments should really consider one-to-one tutoring in the CSI Writing Center. Some other online resources with instruction (some with interactive tools) to help ESL students who need help with their writing include:

**[Advice on Academic Writing](#)** (created by Dr. Margaret Procter, coordinator, writing support, University of Toronto): This resource “presents writing and grammar information on the college level in many categories including reading, book review and article critique; writing an annotated bibliography; the lab report; writing about history, physics, poetry, art history; style and editing; grammar and punctuation for TESOL (teachers of English as a second language) students; and specific types of writing” ([ELL/ESL Resources | Writing Support | SUNY Empire State College \(esc.edu\)](#)).

**[Purdue Online Writing Lab \(OWL\)](#)** (published by the Online Writing Lab at Purdue University and Purdue University): This resource is “[a]n extensive site dedicated to assisting users with numerous aspects of writing. Online help is offered in handouts and materials; downloadable PowerPoint workshops and presentations; an excellent search engine associated with Purdue; and current and back issues of a student newsletter about writing” ([ELL/ESL Resources | Writing Support | SUNY Empire State College \(esc.edu\)](#)).

**[Writer's Web](#)** (published by the University of Richmond): “This site is organized to reflect the stages in the writing process and links to topics such as getting started; writing first drafts; focusing and connecting ideas, analysis and argument; peer-editing strategies; sentence structure and mechanics; editing for clarity and style; and documentation and punctuation” ([ELL/ESL Resources | Writing Support | SUNY Empire State College \(esc.edu\)](#)).

### Sources

[Resources & Support for ESL & ELL College Students | EduMed.org](#)

[ELL/ESL Resources | Writing Support | SUNY Empire State College \(esc.edu\)](#)