

Three common challenges in teaching English

Challenge 1

Giving instructions in an online lesson.

You may not be able to see your students' reactions as clearly as in a face-to-face classroom to see if they can understand what you're saying.

Problems with connectivity might mean students miss parts of the instruction too.



Challenge 2

Activities take longer to prepare and longer to teach.

Activities tend to take longer.



Challenge 3

Teachers talk too much or students don't talk enough



Solutions

Solution to challenge *

Alternatively, students can still be put in open pairs to talk to each other while the rest of the students are listening. For students to feel confident enough to do this, give them some thinking and planning time first.

Solution to challenge *

Use time-efficient feedback methods. Plan how you will give feedback and check answers during the lesson.

Solution to challenge *

Use activities that your students are already familiar with and have done before.

Solution to challenge *

Pair students or send them to breakout rooms, these are a good way of giving students time away from the whole class to do speaking activities with one another.

Solution to challenge *

Don't try to fit too much into each lesson. Have one clear aim and keep your lesson simple! Think about short activities that vary in pace to help you reach that aim.

Solution to challenge *

Ask questions to check that your students have understood what they have to do, and always do an example of an activity before starting it.

Solution to challenge *

Pair work and group work is possible and you just need to think more carefully about how it can work.

Solution to challenge *

Rather than nominating individual students to give their answers which can be time consuming and also make students anxious, show the answers on the screen for students to check themselves.

Solution to challenge *

You can write the instructions on your presentation so students can read what they have to do as well as listen to you.

Solution to challenge 1

Solution to challenge 2

Solution to challenge 3

Solution to challenge 1

Solution to challenge 2

Solution to challenge 3

Solution to challenge 1

Solution to challenge 2

Solution to challenge 3