

## Resources for Higher Levels (CLB 5-8): Websites for Student Self-access



### Introduction

There are countless ESL websites: some offer lessons that teachers can take into the classroom, some are designed for students to access independently, and some can be used for both purposes. It takes time to determine if a particular website would be appropriate to recommend to students.

### Criteria for selection

The websites included here were selected for ELSA students based on the following criteria:

- They are not websites that teachers often rely on for in-class work, such as *CBC Manitoba EAL*.
- It is reasonable to expect that students would actually be able to navigate the site and the activities independently. Some sites, such as *Purdue On-line Writing Lab*, are excellent, but require teacher support for students at CLB 4-8.
- The quality and accuracy of the websites are adequate.
- Students do not need to sign up for an account or pay a fee to use the site.

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Website	Description	URL
The Study Zone (UVic)	The Study Zone has grammar, reading, vocabulary and puzzle exercises for Upper-beginner to Advanced (CLB 4-8)	<a href="http://web2.uvcs.uvic.ca/elc/studyzone/">http://web2.uvcs.uvic.ca/elc/studyzone/</a>
Settlement at Work	This website complements <i>LINC 5-7 Classroom Activities</i> . The e-Resources are different from the print-based activities, but build the same skills and follow the same themes.	<a href="http://settlementatwork.org/lincdocs/linc5-7/">http://settlementatwork.org/lincdocs/linc5-7/</a>
Activities for ESL Students	This website has grammar, vocabulary and crossword puzzle activities.	<a href="http://a4esl.org/">http://a4esl.org/</a>
Randall's Basic Self-Study Guide	This website has listening activities and quizzes!	<a href="http://www.esl-lab.com/guide.htm">http://www.esl-lab.com/guide.htm</a>
Exercises for the Academic Word List (AWL)	This website has an explanation of what the AWL is and why you should study it, as well as exercises for each AWL sublist. These activities should challenge even the strongest student.	<a href="http://www.englishvocabularyexercises.com/AWL/">http://www.englishvocabularyexercises.com/AWL/</a>
Literacy Net Story Archives	This website uses a true-stories-in-the-news format. Students read the story and then complete comprehension, vocabulary, sequencing and inference activities.	<a href="http://www.literacynet.org/cnsf/archives.html#kpix">http://www.literacynet.org/cnsf/archives.html#kpix</a>

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BBC Learning English	This website offers a lot of activities, podcasts, quizzes and more. The only caveat is that the pronunciation activities are based on British English.	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/">http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/</a>
English Club: ESL Quizzes	This is a subscription-based website, but there are lots of quizzes you can take without signing up.	<a href="http://www.englishclub.com/esl-quizzes/">http://www.englishclub.com/esl-quizzes/</a>
Vocabulary Can be Fun	This website has simple, interactive games (e.g. concentration) that develop important vocabulary concepts, such as root words, prefixes/suffixes, and guessing meaning from context.	<a href="http://www.vocabulary.co.il/idioms/">http://www.vocabulary.co.il/idioms/</a>
Learn English Feel Good	This website focusses mainly on grammar and vocabulary, although they have added a few videos with comprehension questions for listening practice.	<a href="http://www.learnenglishfeelgood.com/index.html">http://www.learnenglishfeelgood.com/index.html</a>
Adult Learning Activities: California Distance Learning Project	This website has articles and language learning activities grouped by settlement theme, such as working, family, and housing. Be careful about the content as some of it is specific to California.	<a href="http://www.cdlponline.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=homepage">http://www.cdlponline.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=homepage</a>
Many Things: Interesting Things for ESL Students	This website offers a lot of variety in activity type and even has a section for iPad users.	<a href="http://www.manythings.org/">http://www.manythings.org/</a>