**Didactics LMD 3 Prof. Semmoud.A**

The TEFL profession uses a whole range of acronyms, terms and abbreviations. Here’s a guide to some of the more common ones you’re likely to encounter.

**TEFL and ESL Definitions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EFL** | English as a Foreign Language |
| **ESL** | English as a Second Language |
| **TEFL** | Teaching English as a Foreign Language |
| **TESL** | Teaching English as a Second Language |
| **TESOL** | Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages |

**TEFL** stands for Teaching English as a Foreign Language, and traditionally refers to teaching in non-English speaking countries. **TESL** stands for Teaching English as a Second Language and refers to teaching in English speaking countries, to non-native speakers living or working there.

In practice, the acronyms TEFL and TESL are often used interchangeably, and both are covered by the all-encompassing **TESOL**, which stands for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

**ESL and EFL teaching terminology**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CALL** | Computer Assisted Language Learning |
| **EAP** | English for Academic PurposesEAP involves teaching students who are studying, or who intend to study, in higher education in an English speaking country. This could include teaching study skills or preparing students for an exam such as the [TOEFL](https://www.eslbase.com/tefl/acronyms-and-terms#toefl). |
| **ELL** | English Language Learner |
| **ELT** | English Language Teaching or Training |
|  | **English for Specific Purposes****ESP** refers to teaching English to a learners with specific needs and objectives, and usually refers to teaching professionals in a specific field. For example, doctors may require medical English, bankers may require financial English, company directors may require language for negotiating or making presentations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Kindergarten to 12th GradeK-12 is not specific to English language teaching, but you may see job advertisements asking for K-12 ESL teachers. The term is common in the USA and refers to teaching children from kindergarten through to 12th grade. |
| **L1** | A student’s first language |
| **L2** | A student’s second languageIf someone asks you if you use L1 in the classroom, they are asking if you use your students’ native language, or if you only use L2, i.e. English. |
| **STT / LTT** | Student Talking Time / Learner Talking TimeThe amount of time that students (learners) spend talking during a class (ideally as much as possible). |

 |
| **L1** | A student’s first language |
| **L2** | A student’s second languageIf someone asks you if you use L1 in the classroom, they are asking if you use your students’ native language, or if you only use L2, i.e. English. |
| **STT / LTT** | Student Talking Time / Learner Talking TimeThe amount of time that students (learners) spend talking during a class (ideally as much as possible). |