

# EAP, ESP, and EWP

Alberta Routes  
Tip Sheet 14

<b>EAP</b>	<b>English for Academic Purposes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does the learner need to progress academically?</li></ul>
<b>ESP</b>	<b>English for Specific Purposes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does the learner need for a specific context?</li></ul>
<b>EWP</b>	<b>English in the Workplace</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What does the learner need in their workplace?</li></ul>

## English for Academic Purposes (EAP)

Academically English language learners often want to:

- **Speak** accurately (grammar) and clearly (pronunciation) and communicate ideas fluently.
- **Write** using grammar correctly, linking sentences smoothly, and using the appropriate style. (An interview-based longitudinal study of undergraduates at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Retrieved from: <https://www.cambridge.org/elt/blog/2017/12/14/eap-language-learners-want/>)

In addition, like all learners, EAP learners want to study in authentic, engaging ways. Try the following when teaching grammar:

- Card games and quizzes
- Authentic language
- Examples that are contextualized in articles and academic texts.

# English for Specific Purposes (ESP) and English in the Workplace (EWP)

It is helpful to have some strategies for working with ESP and EWP learners:

- Search the **Essential Skills Profiles** to identify workplace tasks related to the occupation of your learner.  
<https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/essentialskills>
- Collect printed materials from the workplace (site plans, brochures, safety manuals, payroll slips, forms, procedures, instructions, emails, etc.)
- Use job-specific vocabulary and communication tasks in your lesson plans.

## Resources

### NorQuest College

- [Common Ground: English in the Workplace](#)
- [Online Workplace Integration Language Resources](#)

### External

- [Benedictine University - Free EAP Resources](#)
- [file:///Users/hilary.mchale/Desktop/Templates/norquest.ca/tesl - Language for Work](file:///Users/hilary.mchale/Desktop/Templates/norquest.ca/tesl_language_for_work)

## Alberta Routes Workshops

<https://albertaroutes.norquest.ca/events.aspx>

## Next Review Date

January 2026

## Revision History

April 2014: Sara Gnida (creator)

June 2020: Martha Urquhart

January 2024: Karen Cook-Newbury