



Tutor Communication

July 24, 2014

Greetings from The Literacy Connection! We hope you're having a great week. Here's the latest news and events.



Summer Hours: Office closed Fridays, July 25 - September 5

Important Dates Coming Up!



August 6, 2014: Tutor In-service to get your learner's year-end test results. There will be a morning session at 10 am and an evening session at 5:30 pm. Please register in advance so that we will have your learner's test results available for review. Contact [Yadira](#) to register or call 847-742-6565.

- **FREE Adult Education Conference** at Elgin Community College on Saturday, September 6, 8 am-noon. Call Literacy Connection to RSVP. 847-742-6565
- The Literacy Connection will be starting a new Citizenship Conversation Group for ESL Learners to practice for the citizenship test. We are looking for tutors to help with this drop-in group that will be held twice a month. Training will be provided. Contact [Tine](#) if interested. The dates are as follows:

September 4 and 18 in Community Room C

October 2 and 16 in the Conference Room

November 6 and 20 in the Conference Room

December 4 and 18 in Community Room C

Calling all Volunteers! We need your help!



The Literacy Connection will be sharing information on becoming an adult literacy tutor and other volunteer opportunities during this season's Harvest Market in downtown Elgin. The Market is held at 200 N. Grove Avenue, in the parking lot directly across from the Gail Borden Public Library.

Watch for us on Thursday, September 25. Please note the market has several new offerings and the hours of the market are from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Visit www.elginharvestmarket.com

We are looking for a few volunteers to staff our table this season. Consider helping **WITH** your learner. What a great way for them to practice English with the public with you beside them for support.

Please email [Carolyn](#) or call 847-742-6565 if you can assist. Thank you.

INSERT # OF TUTORS ON WAITLIST HERE>

Tine's Tip

Tutor Tips - Pronunciation Issues

When I began Teaching English as a Second Language I realized that when one learns their native language he or she internalizes many rules...we can't explain why...it just is that way! Especially, the simple past...-ed endings.

As Easy as -ed, -ed, -ed

Key #1 The [simple past tense](#) ending in English -ed has three possible pronunciations. Sometimes "ed" sounds like a [t] (and is unvoiced). Other times "ed" sounds like a [d] (and is voiced). A third possibility is pronouncing [id] just like it is spelled, with the vowel sound followed by d. In each case, the suffix has the same spelling, which can confuse students who are early in their English studies.

Key #2: Your students should know the three possible pronunciations of the simple past tense suffix -ed.

Key #3: The pronunciation of -ed matches the voicing of the final consonant with the exception of verbs ending in [d] or [t] sounds.

Key #4: For verbs ending with [t] or [d] sounds, pronounce both the vowel and consonant in [d]

How Does Voicing Affect Past Tense?

Now that your students understand the concept of voicing and know the three possible pronunciations of -ed, it is time to put the information together for perfect past tense pronunciation. The correct pronunciation of the past tense suffix -ed depends entirely on the voicing of the final sound in the basic form of the verb. That may sound complicated, but it is really quite simple.

Take any verb in English - wag, for example. ('The dog wagged his tail.'). Have your students ask themselves what the final sound of the simple verb is. In this case, it is [g]. We already know that [g] is a voiced consonant in English. When we add -ed to make the past tense of the verb, we must choose the pronunciation that matches the final sound in the verb. In this case then, when we add -ed to the verb 'wag', we pronounce it in its voiced form - [d]. In effect, it sounds like we are saying [wagd]. The suffix -ed will be pronounced as [d] for any verb that ends with a voiced sound [b, g, z, j, m, n, ng, v and any vowels] with the exception of [d].

When we start with a verb that ends in a voiceless consonant, "ed" sounds different. When we say, "I washed my car," -ed sounds like [t]. This is because the sh at the end of wash is a voiceless sound. Again, the past tense ending matches the voicing of the final sound of the word. In this case, it sounds like we are saying [washt]. The -ed ending will sound like a [t] for any verbs ending with a voiceless sound [p, k, s, ch, f, sh] with the exception of [t]. The exceptions are when -ed sounds like [id]. For any verb that ends with [t] or [d] sounds, the past tense ending is pronounced [id]. This means that when an English speaker says, "He patted his stomach," the verb is pronounced just how it is spelled - [id]. Also, when a speaker says, "The cat padded along the floor," "ed" is also pronounced the same way it is spelled - [id].

Source: www.busyteacher.com

Quick Links

[Amazon Smile](#)

Eligible purchases at smile.amazon.com earn The Literacy Connection 0.5% of the purchase price.

[Visit our website](#)

Have a general question?

[Email The Literacy Connection](#)

Have a question about your learner?

[Contact Tine](#)

Tutor Training will be held September 3rd, 4th, 8th & 11th

6-9 pm

Gail Borden Public Library

270 N. Grove Avenue

Elgin, IL 60120

Can you share our Tutor Training Schedule?

[Email Carolyn](#)

Share a helpful website or tutoring tip with other tutors!

[Email Tutor Tools](#)

[Visit ProLiteracy Website](#)

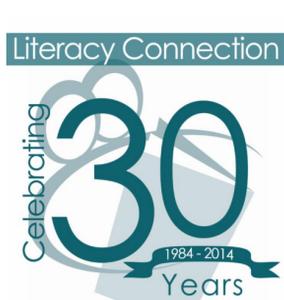


Outside The Literacy Connection

The Elgin Noon Kiwanis Club is hosting their 55th annual *Famous Fay's Pork Chop and Chicken Dinner BBQ* on August 16th at Advocate Sherman Hospital on Randall Road from 4-7 pm. Tickets are \$14.00. Contact [Karen Oswald](#) for tickets. The Kiwanis Club has supported The Literacy Connection's programs for many years.

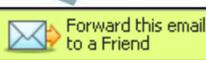
Elgin Community College is seeking host families for international students for the fall and spring semester. See the [brochure](#) for information (attached).

Literacy Connection is celebrating 30 Years!



The Literacy Connection is excited to celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2014. A celebration will take place later this year to commemorate this proud milestone. Help us make this event special for all our literacy friends and community supporters. We are looking for a Committee Chair and Committee Members to plan our 30-year celebration. If you're interested, please email [Karen Oswald](#) or call her at 847-742-6565.

Sincerely,



The Literacy Connection | 847-742-6565 | info@elginliteracy.org | <http://www.elginliteracy.org>

270 North Grove Ave.

Elgin, IL 60120

Copyright © 2014. All Rights Reserved.