



# EMA Support Service



Home Learning for EAL Learners



Guidance for Schools with EAL Learners  
Who Are New to English





Pupils who are at the earlier stages of learning English as an Additional Language, will have a number of different factors that impact on them in this time of school closures:

1. They are likely to have much reduced access to speakers of English.
2. They will have additional difficulties accessing the curriculum and may struggle to understand what is expected of them.
3. They may be disproportionately affected by lack of ICT access.

In this document, we will outline ways that these can be addressed.

## **Providing Access to English Language Models**

It may be that your EAL pupils have access to a good model of English Language through older siblings or parents. However, in many families, this may not be the case. Here audio-visual resources can be a great idea and you are likely to be using these for the pupils in your class anyway; however, it is important to consider the required proficiency level of language in these resources. Can the EAL pupil access the language in the resources you are sharing or do they need a differentiated resource?

The resource could be differentiated by:

- Using simpler language – for example, finding a simpler version of the same story for them to access;
- Using more visuals – for example, providing some key word cards with a visual next to them prior to their engagement with the text;
- Using first language (bilingual or translated) – here you could use a video of the story in first language which they could watch first or they could be provided with a list of key words that they could translate using Google Translate and discuss with their family.

Resources for providing English language practice:

Storynory – audio story versions in English

- <https://www.storynory.com/>

British Council Learn English Kids – lots of stories, games, songs and activities to help pupils learn English

- [https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/?\\_ga=2.223310558.47567462.1584372974-551686325.1584372974](https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/?_ga=2.223310558.47567462.1584372974-551686325.1584372974)

Kitabu Dual Language Ebook Library – Visual books with audio in Home Language and English. Email [info@mantralingua.com](mailto:info@mantralingua.com) and ask to access Covid-19 Home-Reading FREE Offer

BBC Bitesize have many video clips linked to the curriculum and YouTube is also very useful for finding appropriate videos to support learning.

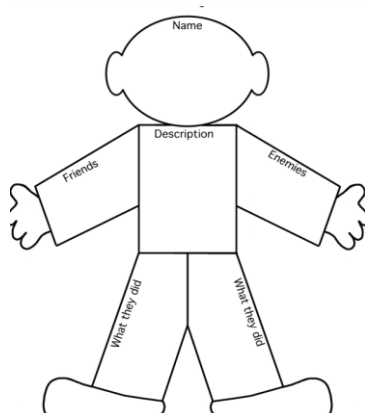


## Providing additional visual support

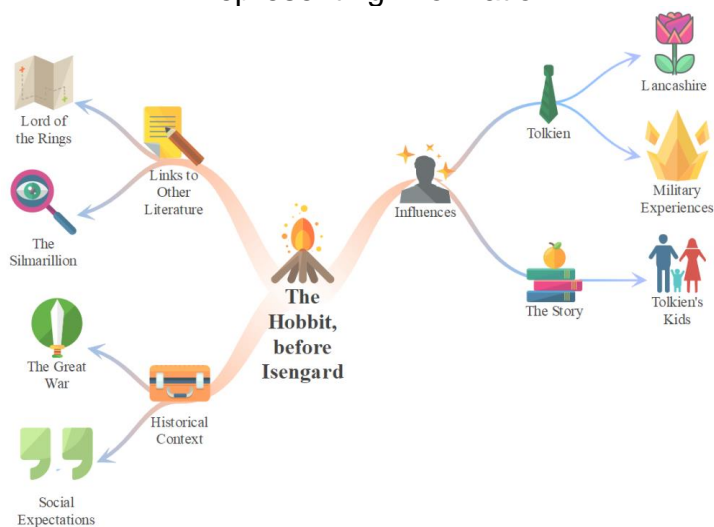
Visual support is key to supporting and enhancing understanding. This can of course be useful for introducing new concepts and is useful for aiding understanding of texts, which can include stories or non-fiction texts. One of the particular difficulties for EAL children at home will be understanding what you want them to do. Finding images of key words on Google Images and adding these to your instructions will make them much clearer.

Another visual way of aiding understanding is using graphic organisers (also called key visuals). Please below for examples:

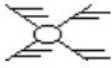

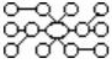
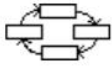
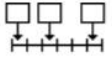

Describing a character



Representing information



## Six Common Key Visuals:

design	function	example activities
 spider	adding more details to a single topic	organising a party
 fishbone	cause-and-effect factors associated with a complex topic	effects of banning smoking from public paces
 cluster or cluster	a network of ideas based on a stimulus	brainstorming
 cycle	recurring cycle of events, with no beginning and no end,	life cycle of a butterfly
 continuum	topic with a definite beginning and end and a sequence in between.	important events in a person's life
 venn diagram	similarities and differences	comparing a book and the film of the book

(with thanks to the British Council - <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/graphic-organisers>)



## Using First Language

Although first language has already been mentioned, it is worth outlining other ways in which first language can be used to support learning.

Pupils can:

- Watch videos on topics in their first language – here sites such as khacademy.org are useful. They have curriculum videos in many languages and if they do not have home

language audio, they may well have subtitles in other languages. The quality of the videos is more reliable in terms of content than on Youtube (as in this case, you may not be able to check the content due to it being in another language).

- Research a new topic in first language prior to starting learning about it in English.
- Read bilingual or translated versions of texts.
- Translate key words and use these to create their own glossary.



## Remember...

- EAL pupils may have less or no access to appropriate ICT resources. They may need to be supported by providing equipment or access to the Internet; alternatively provide students with hard copies.

## Facilitating EAL Parental Involvement

It is important that any messages around school closures, lockdown and home learning are accessible for EAL parents. We can support with directing you to translated resources or by providing translation or interpretation services in a number of languages. Using visual images for key words or video or audio versions of messages can also support EAL parents, particularly those with low literacy skills.

Useful information for EAL families on Coronavirus (Covid -19) has been provided on the NHS Scotland website in a number of different languages (<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19>) . They have also included an audio version and simplified English version. Further information is available at [doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/coronavirus-information](http://doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/coronavirus-information), where they have the latest NHS advice translated in to 51 languages.

Top Tip - A useful resource for family learning of English is the [bbc.co.uk/learningenglish](http://bbc.co.uk/learningenglish) website. This has separate topics such as 'English for going to the shops' or 'Visiting the doctor'. It is not linked to the curriculum but will help build pupils survival language. It also has an excellent free supporting app (BBC Learning English) which has resources for learning English for all ages.

Other ways in which EAL parents can support their children are:

- Reading books with their children by talking about the books in their home language and, if possible, English too. It is helpful to read to their children in either home language or, if possible, both home language and English too. We have further advice for parents about this in our translated leaflets for EAL parents provide EAL parents with advice on reading with their children. Please find them on this link:

[http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/ema/index.php?category\\_id=198](http://www.lancsngfl.ac.uk/projects/ema/index.php?category_id=198)

- There are a number of children's book explaining and trying to support children coronavirus in different languages:

This is a simple picture book version - <https://www.mindheart.co/descargables>

This is another picture book with harder reading content -

<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-reference-group-mental-health-and-psychosocial-support-emergency-settings/my-hero-you>

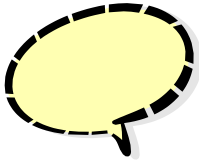
- Selecting good television programmes for a child to watch. When watching television, put on English sub-titles. This will help the child's listening and reading.



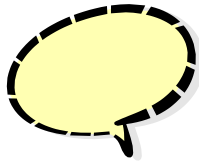
If you have any questions or require further information about working with newly-arrived pupils, including information about other languages, please contact:

**LANCASHIRE ETHNIC MINORITY/ GYPSY, ROMA & TRAVELLER ACHIEVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICE**

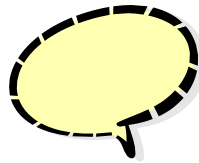
***Email: [ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:ema.support@lancashire.gov.uk)***



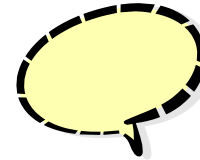
**POLISH**



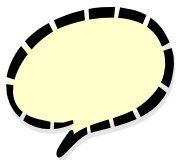
**MALAGASSY**



**MANDARIN**



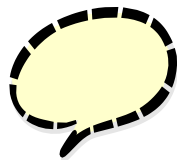
**LATVIAN**



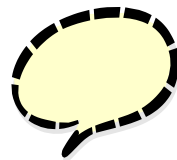
**RUSSIAN**



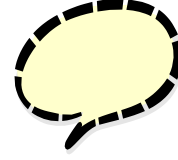
**CANTONESE**



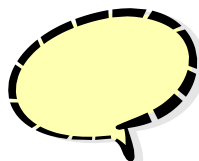
**MALAYALAM**



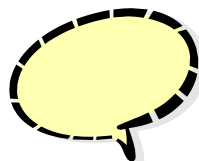
**TAGALOG**



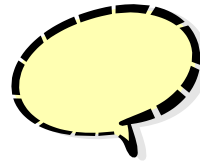
**URDU**



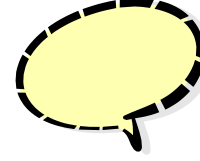
**HUNGARIAN**



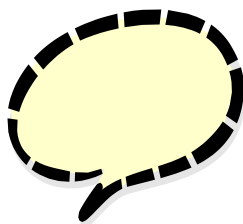
**JAPANESE**



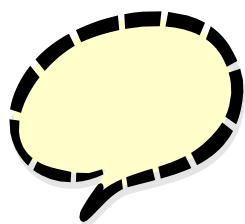
**GREEK**



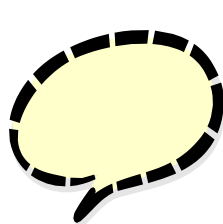
**RUSSIAN**



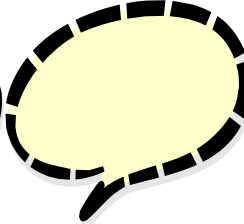
**SWAHILI**



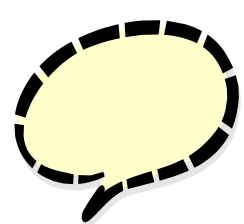
**ARABIC**



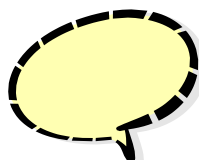
**DUTCH**



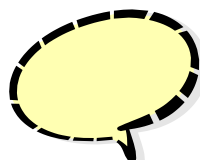
**THAI**



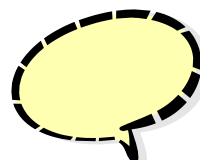
**SWEDISH**



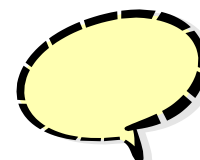
**TAMIL**



**PORTUGUESE**



**CZECH**



**LITHUANIAN**

**LANGUAGES IN LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS**