

LITBITS



Highlights from the Tutor Workshop

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The HLC held a tutor workshop at the Seminole Heights Branch Library on October 24, 2015. The guest presenter was Eric Hughes, an English Program Instructor from INTO USF. He shared tips for teaching English language learners by utilizing small group discussion. Eric recommends a group of three to four learners to ensure varying levels. The more knowledgeable students practice their English by helping and teaching others, which boosts their confidence further. The beginner level students listen and interact with their more experienced peers, knowing that they too will progress as speakers. Language acquisition is best fostered utilizing the learner's personal background knowledge, or what Eric refers to as their "schema". Questions can focus on what participants already know about a topic, or the tutor can set up a role play, providing language use scenarios. One recommended activity is a discussion that produces an outcome, such as calling to make an appointment with a doctor. Students can also practice an upcoming language encounter that they are dreading or a time when they did not achieve a goal over a language obstacle.



Afterwards, reinforcement activities can be helpful to solidify this new knowledge. Students are encouraged to discuss how this new information can help them or compare what they knew before the discussion to what they know now. Students can use social media to continue using their newly acquired language skills, by posting to facebook or another online discussion group.

For more tutor tips, go to hillsboroughliteracy.org and click on resources.

Please "like" the new HLC Facebook page.



Shout-Outs to our Student All-Stars

Lark's student Melba O. has passed her citizenship test and is now a U.S. citizen.

Claire's student Everett A. has completed Laubach book 1.

Theresa's student Ruth G. has completed Laubach book 2.

Helping our students reach their goals is what the HLC is all about. If your students have achieved something special, please share it with us so we can give them a "shout-out" (be sure to get their permission first). You can email us at:

AdultLiteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org

Meetup.com

Exciting news! The HLC is now on meetup!

www.meetup.com/Hillsborough-Literacy-Council-Tutors

A meetup group is a local community of people with the same interest. The meetup webpage will allow tutors and volunteers the ability to easily communicate and arrange meetings with each other.

We have organized the first meetup, but our hope is that proactive HLC tutors schedule meetup events in the future.

Our First Meetup

When: January 6 at 6 p.m.

Where: Columbia Café, 801 Old Water St., Tampa, in the building with the Tampa Bay History Center.

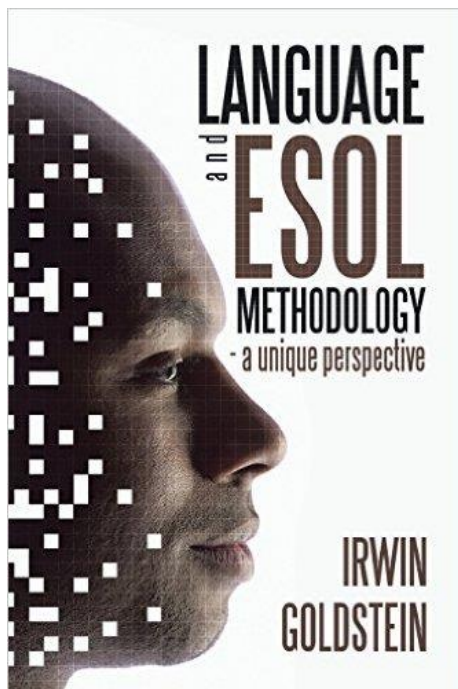
<http://tampabayhistorycenter.org/columbia-cafe/>

Who: You and all of your friends. Everyone is invited!

*This is not an HLC sponsored event.



New Book: Language and ESOL Methodology by Irwin Goldstein



It is unfortunate but true that many misconceptions exist regarding teaching English to non-English speakers. Just as one who can read is not by that criterion alone capable of teaching reading, knowing a particular language does not ensure that one can effectively teach it. It is an error to assume that "common sense" can guide one in this regard. True "common sense" is simply not as common as many may believe. What may appear a sensible thing to do in teaching ESOL, may in fact (as one who reads the book will see) prove counter-productive and in turn detrimental to the learning process.

This book focuses on subject matter which includes the question of what language actually is (it's components, skills, and traits), the mystery of the origin of language, the history of the English language, past and current ESOL teaching techniques, and culture as a factor in language learning.

Excerpt from back cover page.

Contact us to check it out today!

AdultLiteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org

LEARNER'S PAGES

Tutors, please share the following pages with your students

Conversation Corner Groups

Conversation Corner is a drop-in English practice group that meets in a library one hour each week. There were ten conversation practice groups in eight libraries last Fall.

Most Conversation Corners meet for eight to ten weeks and then some have a celebration at their last

session. At the Jimmie B. Keel conversation group, they had a potluck and each person brought a dish to share. When the Town 'N Country conversation group ended, the students received a certificate of completion.

We are proud of all the learners!



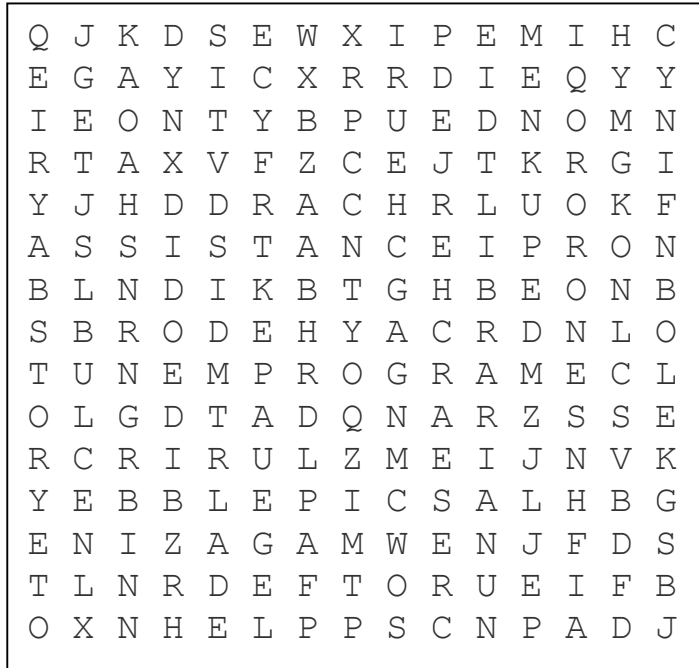
Belinda's Town 'N Country conversation corner



Janet's Jimmie B. Keel conversation corner



Word Search – library terms



ASSISTANCE
BOOK
CARD
CLUB
COMPUTER
DESK
EDUCATION
EXPERIENCE
HELP
LEARN
LIBRARIAN
LIBRARY
MAGAZINE
PROGRAM
READ
RESEARCH
RETURN
STORY

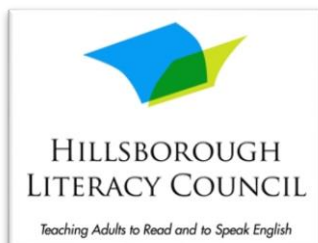
Proverbs around the world

America: Give him an inch, and he'll take a mile.

Portugal: You lend a hand, and they want the whole arm.

Russia: Offer him a finger, and he will bite a hand off up to the elbow.

HILLSBOROUGH LITERACY COUNCIL



P.O. Box 4499
Tampa, FL 33677

Phone: (813) 273-3650

Fax: (813) 273-3634

adulthoodliteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org
www.hillsboroughliteracy.org