

Watching the English with a touch of humour



GENERAL INFORMATION

Trainer: Beatrix Price

Number of participants: 5-25 people
Language: English



Highlights:

Embrace the summer breeze as we delve into the intersection of English culture and humour, based on the international bestseller, *Watching the English* by Kate Fox. Reflect on our existing knowledge of common aspects of English people's behaviour and the hidden rules to get to know more about their national character, rejuvenate our spirits, and map out our aspirations. Let's cultivate our linguistic repertoire, weaving together culture and humour. Join us in savouring the season with some light exploration and a touch of laughter!

COURSE CONTENT

Description:

Participants can take a glimpse at English people's lives, in detail which will surprise even the most initiated EFL teachers. With her book, Kate Fox provides a mesmerizing and delicate picture of English people, where things are often more meaningful than they first seem, and people from different nationalities and cultures can also connect to them. In this way the most fundamental human areas are covered, thus, our own beliefs and traditions are also placed under a magnifying glass. By looking into the culture of the English, illustrated with excerpts from videos, films and memes, all full of humour, the course provides a rich and entertaining cultural endeavour.

Aims and objectives:

The course aims to delve into the intricacies of English social behaviour and cultural norms. We will begin by analysing the English tendency to employ humour as a coping mechanism in uncomfortable situations. We will then delve into the significance of moderation, hypocrisy, and fair play as integral aspects of English life. Furthermore, the course highlights the significance of courtesy and modesty in navigating social interactions, emphasising the role of irony and understatement in English communication while addressing potential challenges arising from cultural differences.

Learning outcomes:

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to comprehensively analyse the nuances of English social conduct and cultural customs. They will gain an in-depth understanding of the role of humour as a coping strategy in discomfiting scenarios and the significance of moderation, hypocrisy, and fair play in English societal dynamics. Additionally, they will acquire the ability to navigate social interactions with courtesy and modesty, while adeptly utilizing irony and understatement. Participants will develop a heightened awareness of cultural differences and their impact on communication, thus fostering a more nuanced understanding of intercultural dynamics.

Target group:

Teachers of any subject / any age

Required language level of the participants: English, B2

Duration: 35 lessons, 7 days

Schedule*



SUNDAY	• Get to know each other with trainers and the other participants and location of the course, warm up
MONDAY	• Conversation codes
TUESDAY	• Linguistic class codes
WEDNESDAY	• Rules of home, work and play
THURSDAY	• Rules of food, dress and sex
FRIDAY	• Rites of passage
SATURDAY	• Defining Englishness • Compulsory relationship building program, evaluation, handing over diplomas, • Closing of the course

* Notes:

- the schedule describes likely activities but may be modified in accordance with the requests and needs of the participants;
- presentations of the participants' schools may be divided up and take place after the breaks on each day of the course.

Readings, materials, learning resources and useful links:



- Recommended (but not compulsory) reading: Kate Fox (2004). Watching the English: The hidden rules of English behaviour.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Certificates awarded:

Certificate of Attendance, Europass certificate and/or Learning agreement complement

Price: EUR including course, Erasmus+ documentation and a cultural activity

Location:

Date:



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