

## **ESL: Accent Improvement Training**

### **Course Summary**

#### **Description**

Are you having trouble being understood because of your accent? Do you worry about your English pronunciation? Are you being left out of professional opportunities or advancement in the workplace? If you think this might be you, this workshop is an opportunity to take your speaking skills to the next level.

This hands-on course is specifically designed for New Canadians and Immigrant professionals who have a good command of the English language. By participating in this interactive workshop, you will learn how to overcome your specific language challenges, and gain confidence in communicating more effectively.

This course can be taken as a stand-alone workshop or as a complement to English as a Second Language training.

#### **Objectives**

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Increase your awareness about how you sound to others
- Be better understood
- Gain greater mastery over your speech
- Develop more confidence in day-to-day interactions including: actively participating as a team member; giving presentations; providing verbal reports or assessments; assisting others over the phone; providing customer service; attending meetings and conferences
- Enhance your career path

#### **Topics**

- Gaining Awareness
- Application
- Building Confidence

#### **Audience**

This course is designed for:

- Anyone who feels their accent needs improvement
- Managers, leaders, politicians, executives
- Engineers
- Technical support
- Education and health specialists

#### **Prerequisites**

There are no prerequisites for this course.

#### **Duration**

One day

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### **Course Outline**

#### **I. Gaining Awareness**

- A. Identifying unique personal challenges
- B. Understanding the difficulties of English pronunciation with relevance to each native language
- C. Phonetics review

#### **II. Application**

- A. The 3 keys to being understood: slowing down, articulating and speaking up
- B. Deconstructing English: hidden sounds that make all the difference
- C. Difficult sounds: assessment, adjustment and accurate repetition
- D. The linking of syllables and words to create more fluency
- E. The English language soundscape: stretching the vowels and using correct intonation to create a more English-sounding melody

#### **III. Building Confidence**

- A. Voice projection
- B. Relaxation and breathing
- C. Working with the accent and removing barriers to effective communication