

Teaching beginners - learner profiles

Ahmed

Ahmed has just arrived in the UK from Sudan. He speaks very little English. He cannot read or write English but is literate in Arabic.

Lin

Lin is from China. She has lived in the UK for three years, but has very little contact with English speakers and can understand very little spoken English. She can say and write her name in English.

Inese

Inese is from Latvia. She is bilingual in Latvian and Russian. She never attended school in Latvia and cannot read and write in either language. She speaks no English.

Piotr

Piotr has just arrived in the UK from Poland. He learnt English at school for two years but finds it very difficult to communicate with English speakers.

Panya

Panya is originally from Bangladesh but has lived in the UK for 12 years. She can make herself understood, for example, when shopping in the market or making an appointment with a doctor. She attended ESOL classes a few years ago but gave up because she found reading and writing too difficult.

Aleks

Aleks is from Russia. He has lived in the UK for two years. He has never attended English classes but has been trying to teach himself English through the internet and TV. He can read and understand a little, but finds writing and speaking difficult. He struggles to form sentences and spells words phonetically.

