

## Start here: an ICT primer for secondary English teachers

### ***A short-list of sites for teachers looking for teaching resources and enrichment materials***

From Shakespeare to podcasting, Gutenberg to Gifted and Talented, we hope you'll find this list useful. All resources are free unless stated.

If you are using this list on a computer connected to the Internet, you should be able to go to a site by clicking on the web address.

#### **Professional support**

##### **NATE**

National Association for the Teaching of English  
[www.nate.org.uk](http://www.nate.org.uk)

##### **The English Association**

[www.le.ac.uk/engassoc/](http://www.le.ac.uk/engassoc/)

##### **ITE**

Website for those training teachers of English but of interest to all professionals. [www.ite.org.uk](http://www.ite.org.uk)

##### **National Literacy Trust**

News of campaigns to improve literacy, competitions, etc: [www.literacytrust.org.uk](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk)

#### **Curriculum support and advice**

##### **BBC Bitesize**

Extensive and well-used site covering KS3 and GCSE. Aimed at revision; since the materials may appear, cut-and-pasted, in student essays, be aware of what's here.  
[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/revision/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/revision/)

##### **Birmingham Grid for Learning**

Click on secondary and then KS3 Campaign for some lively stimuli such as Poetry Slam, KS3 Communicates and KS3 Imagines. [www.bgfl.org](http://www.bgfl.org)

##### **CLEO: Cumbria & Lancashire Education Online**

Useful for inspiration rather than a comprehensive repository of materials. Good First World War and Norman Nicholson resources, for example.  
[www.cleo.net.uk](http://www.cleo.net.uk)

##### **Converse**

Not comprehensive but interesting materials such as the Chaucer and Shakespeare units and interactive resources, eg Flash-based revision and a language change unit on place names. The seminar system attempts to engage students in real teaching/learning experiences online.  
<http://aspirations.english.cam.ac.uk>

##### **Film Education**

Resources on contemporary film and culture to make English studies feel relevant. Good set of media links too. [www.filmeducation.org](http://www.filmeducation.org)

##### **Hertfordshire Grid for Learning**

Extensive materials for all Key Stages in PDF and/or Word format, mainly worksheet based with a few interactive resources. [www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/english](http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/english)

##### **London Gifted and Talented**

The resources, particularly *In Between the Lines*, provide media-rich materials for students of all abilities to stimulate debate, reading and writing. Students can store their own work. Free to schools but teachers need to request access first.  
[www.londongt.org](http://www.londongt.org)

##### **Podcast Revision**

Audio lessons on GCSE English topics. The site also explains how to make your own podcasts using free or cheap resources.  
[www.podcastrevision.co.uk](http://www.podcastrevision.co.uk)

##### **Poetry Archive**

A wonderful collection of recordings, together with a good number of poetry lessons in the teachers' area – and links to other poetry sites.  
[www.poetryarchive.com](http://www.poetryarchive.com)

##### **Poetry Class**

An interesting site which has useful links and materials, including some lesson resources for Years 7 and 8. [www.poetryclass.net](http://www.poetryclass.net)

##### **Practical Support Pack**

A bank of resources for professional development, including comprehensive lesson materials for a range of KS 3 English topics. [www.dcsf.gov.uk/psp](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/psp)

##### **Project Gutenberg**

A comprehensive source of out-of-copyright literature. Files are offered in a variety of formats; plain text is the most useful. [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org)

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### Royal Shakespeare Company

High quality resources, including clips of key speeches, actors explaining how they interpret lines and directors' views as well as students and teachers explaining why reading Shakespeare behind a desk is such a bad idea.

[www.rsc.org.uk/learning](http://www.rsc.org.uk/learning)

### Shakespeare's Globe

Resources include a virtual tour of the theatre and, in the Education section, materials on over thirty of the plays. The Globe's Playing Shakespeare site has attractive Key Stage 3 resources.

[www.playingshakespeare.org](http://www.playingshakespeare.org)

[www.shakespeares-globe.org](http://www.shakespeares-globe.org)

### Stagework

Resources on key productions at the National Theatre and selected regional partners: lesson materials, video clips of actors, workshop ideas and much more. Some materials have a wider application – for example on persuasive writing.

[www.stagework.org.uk](http://www.stagework.org.uk)

### Teacher Resource Exchange

Resources shared by teachers and checked by subject specialists. Materials include whiteboard presentations. Use the search facility to locate English materials. [www.tre.ngfl.gov.uk](http://www.tre.ngfl.gov.uk)

### Teachit

Extensive libraries of teacher-produced resources covering all areas of secondary English, free in PDF format. Editable versions are available for a subscription; a further fee gives access to interactive whiteboard resources. The site has short videos for language study and a lively discussion forum. [www.teachit.co.uk](http://www.teachit.co.uk)

### Times Educational Supplement

Resources shared by teachers, from weblinks and one-page worksheets to more extensive materials, mostly adaptable. Easy to search and accompanied by users' comments. [www.tes.co.uk](http://www.tes.co.uk)

### Sites to enrich your teaching

*These sites provide enrichment materials for teachers and students rather than teaching resources*

#### BBC Voices

An enriching website for anyone interested in language. Maps showing the distribution of word-use across the UK and superb voice recordings.

[www.bbc.co.uk/voices](http://www.bbc.co.uk/voices)

#### British Library

Access to some of the unrivalled resources of one of the world's great libraries. See especially Turning the Pages and the Learning section for resources such as Texts in Context and Changing Language.

[www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)

#### Cool Reads

Over 2,500 book reviews written by and for 10 to 15 year olds. Now archived but still a valuable resource and inspiration for students. [www.cool-reads.co.uk](http://www.cool-reads.co.uk)

#### Teachers TV

Short films introduce key speakers and resources in an accessible way. Locate relevant material and see it on screen in a matter of seconds. Some resources can be used in class. [www.teachers.tv](http://www.teachers.tv)

*You can find latest version of this list in the ICT section of the NATE website, along with our list of sites for students to use at home or in school:*

[www.nate.org.uk/ict](http://www.nate.org.uk/ict)

*Help us improve this list by sending your suggestions for additional sites to [info@nate.org.uk](mailto:info@nate.org.uk)*



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