

Your Monthly EMI Newsletter

Issue 1 | February 2018

EMI English Medium Instruction

Dear Reader,

We are the EMI-team situated at the Language Teaching Centre of the University of Freiburg. We offer a range of support services, including individual and small group training measures, to teachers who communicate their expertise in English to a multilingual, multicultural student body.

We are proud to present the EMI newsletter, in which we will offer monthly tips on language, language use for teaching, intercultural learning and more.

We hope you enjoy it! – Gregg, Louise and Susanne



EMI Language Tip of the Month

In a multicultural class, **false friends** won't be understood by all. Be aware of them to ensure that everyone understands.

Mist ≠ mist

Even though confusing, false friends can be rather entertaining at times. Overhearing a conversation in the Peak District, a local Derbyshire Farmer was baffled by the disgruntled looks his German visitors gave him after he expressed that he loves seeing the beautiful "mist" (Nebel) over the fields.

Henning When, a German comedian, talks about false friends in one of the sketches he did for the BBC. Click [here](#) to watch

The EMI team has designed e-modules that look at a range of communicative strategies and explicit language use for English-taught classes with the multilingual, multicultural classroom. One also focuses on the use of false friends. Click [here](#) for our e-module on false friends

International Classroom Tip

EMI research¹ shows that pronunciation is not the most important factor in an EMI classroom if even a factor at all. You don't have to be a native speaker or have native speaker pronunciation to successfully teach in an EMI classroom. Students want a teacher who is an **expert in their field, can elaborate and answer student questions**.

B.A. student, female, 23:

"For me, what doesn't matter necessarily is pronunciation. I don't really mind if someone says stuff wrong, but I need them to have the vocabulary you need in this area and I assume that they can explain the stuff."

¹We are currently doing qualitative research with students from English Taught Programs at the University of Freiburg.

Digital Tool Tip: Try Audio Feedback

Ever thought about giving audio feedback in English? It can help students get used to your English accent, improve their listening skills and in turn help their comprehension in class. There are loads of tools to help you give your students feedback in the digital world.

For example, **Audacity** is a free open-source programme which gives you the ability to create audio files and easily edit them.

For more information visit [this](#) website

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