Online Resources

A ESL: Grammar and Rhetorical Skills

Dave's ESL Café
http://eslcafe.com/students/
This site includes grammar lessons, a pronunciation guide, handouts about idioms and phrasal verbs, and a great deal of quizzes in writing and reading comprehension.

English as a Second Language
http://esl.about.com/
This resource includes a list of “common mistakes,” each with examples and an explanation of the mistake. There are also quizzes to test understanding.

English Spelling Rules
http://www.englishclub.com/writing/spelling.htm
This site contains a guide to English spelling.

Grammar Exercises for AESL Students
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises/2/
This is a long list of exercises designed to help students practice English grammar.

Grammar Exercises for Learners of English as a Second Language
http://esl.fis.edu/grammar/index.htm
The most useful part of this site is its grammar exercises, which are plentiful and helpful. The site also contains assistance with language.

Resources for English as a Second Language
http://www.usingenglish.com
This is an extremely in-depth site that includes an extensive list of handouts organized into two groups: beginner and intermediate. There is also a section full of lesson plans, designed to build upon one another and also broken into beginner, intermediate, and difficult levels.

Self-Study Grammar Quizzes
http://a4esl.org/q/h/grammar.html
These are ESL-centered online quizzes including easy, medium, and difficult quizzes. Topics range from pronouns and sentence structure to exercises in word choice and verb help. Some of the quizzes are on interesting topics like history and pop culture.

Spelling Differences Between American and British English
http://www.studyenglishtoday.net/british-american-spelling.html
This is a useful tool for people who are accustomed to British English. The site explains spelling differences between American and British English.
AESL: Pronunciation (with sound)

Phonetics—The Sounds of American English—from the University of Iowa
http://www.uiowa.edu/~acadtech/phonetics/english/frameset.html
This is a great site for showing how the mouth forms various sounds in English. A moving diagram demonstrates the position of the mouth, tongue and lips. In addition, you can hear and see a real person saying that sound.

English Club
http://www.englishclub.com/index.htm
This web site is a good source of information for listening and speaking skills. It provides rules, examples, and quizzes. There are links for supplemental sites for pronunciation at http://www.englishclub.com/pronunciation/index.htm. Note: Using a plug-in for this site makes it easier to navigate, but you can still hear the sounds without loading the plug-in. In addition, there is a link for listening skills at http://www.englishclub.com/listening/index.htm. At this site you can listen to authentic news articles, but one of the sections uses British broadcasts.

American English Pronunciation Practice
http://www.manythings.org/pp/
Minimal parts (pairs of words that have the same pronunciation except for one sound) are featured on this site. You can hear the words and complete the quiz. There are also some songs, poems, and tongue twisters.

Learn English with Teacher Joe
http://www.teacherjoe.us/index.html
This site was written by an English teacher for students in China. It provides jokes, proverbs, and famous American sayings. In addition, there are interesting audio exercises that require you to listen and respond to rapid English. Also, you can practice conversation skills with questions and answers (without audio). The speech is clear, but a bit exaggerated.

National Public Radio
http://www.npr.org/
This is the website for the National Public Radio. An announcer reads authentic news reports. However, the speech is fast, which may be difficult for beginning listeners. This site requires a plug-in.

Citation

APA Formatting and Style Guide
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/
This includes an explanation of how to use the APA style. It explains the basic APA format, as well as how to cite using APA style.

Cornell University Citation Management Guide - APA
http://www.library.cornell.edu/resrch/citmanage/apa
This is another good resource for APA style and formatting. This site includes plenty of examples and is an excellent source to consult when working in APA.

MLA Formatting and Style Guide
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/
This is a useful resource for understanding the updated MLA style of citation. The site explains the changes that were made to the MLA style, and contains examples of how to cite in MLA.

Williams College Library Citation Guide
http://library.williams.edu/citing/
This site contains a guide to help students understand what must be cited and how. There is also a specific guide to MLA, APA, and ACS citation styles.
Grammar Resources/Exercises

Common Errors in English
http://public.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/errors.html
This site includes an extensive list of common errors in the English language. Students can scroll through these errors alphabetically and click on them to learn more. There is a list of additional references at the bottom of the page.

Grammar Bytes
http://www.chompchomp.com/menu.htm
This site contains detailed definitions of grammar terms. There are interactive grammar exercises to assist students with usage, handouts and Powerpoint presentations containing tutorials, and tips and rules regarding grammar. Requires Quicktime plugin.

Grammar and Punctuation
This site contains rules about grammar, capitalization, and punctuation. Also included are commonly confused words, interactive quizzes, and grammar videos.

Grammar Exercises
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises/2/
This is a long list of exercises designed to help students practice English grammar.

Literary Resources

Guide to Grammar and Writing
http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/
This site contains an extensive list of resources pertaining to each of the following subjects: words and sentences, paragraphs, essays and research papers, grammar, and quizzes.

Purdue Online Writing Lab
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/
Clicking on “Non-Purdue College Instructors and Students,” gives students access to a myriad of different writing aids, including pages about the writing process (prewriting, outlining, quoting, etc.), rhetorical modes, style and language, and citations.

The Writing Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
http://www.ccp.rpi.edu/resources/
This site contains handouts regarding citations, writing styles and types, and has a special article usage section for AESL students.
Online Writing Labs (OWLs)

Purdue Online Writing Lab
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/
Clicking on “Non-Purdue College Instructors and Students,” gives students access to a myriad of different writing aids, including pages about the writing process (prewriting, outlining, quoting, etc.), rhetorical modes, style and language, and citations.

Excelsior Online Writing Lab
http://owl.excelsior.edu/
This interactive OWL provides student with a wealth of material allowing hands on practice with concise explanations and guidance for writing. There are many tools to assist with every stage of the writing process, including grammar and citation.

Research Methods

Duke University Research Guide
http://library.duke.edu/course-support/training-workshops
This site includes how to choose a topic, refine it, search for information, and write the paper. There is also a guide to help students determine the credibility of sources.

Study Skills/Test Prep/Time Management

How to Study
http://www.how-to-study.com/
This contains helpful information about how to study, manage time, establish good study habits, and avoid procrastination.

Study Guides and Strategies
http://www.studygs.net/
This site contains useful guides to time management (including prioritizing, making lists, and avoiding procrastination), problem-solving, thinking, studying, conducting research, preparing for tests, taking tests, and many other subjects. The website is available in 34 languages.

Virginia Tech Study Skills/Self-Help Information
http://www.ucc.vt.edu/academic_support_students/study_skills_information/
This site is not limited to study skills—it contains information about preparing for tests, time management, note-taking, editing, and your study environment.