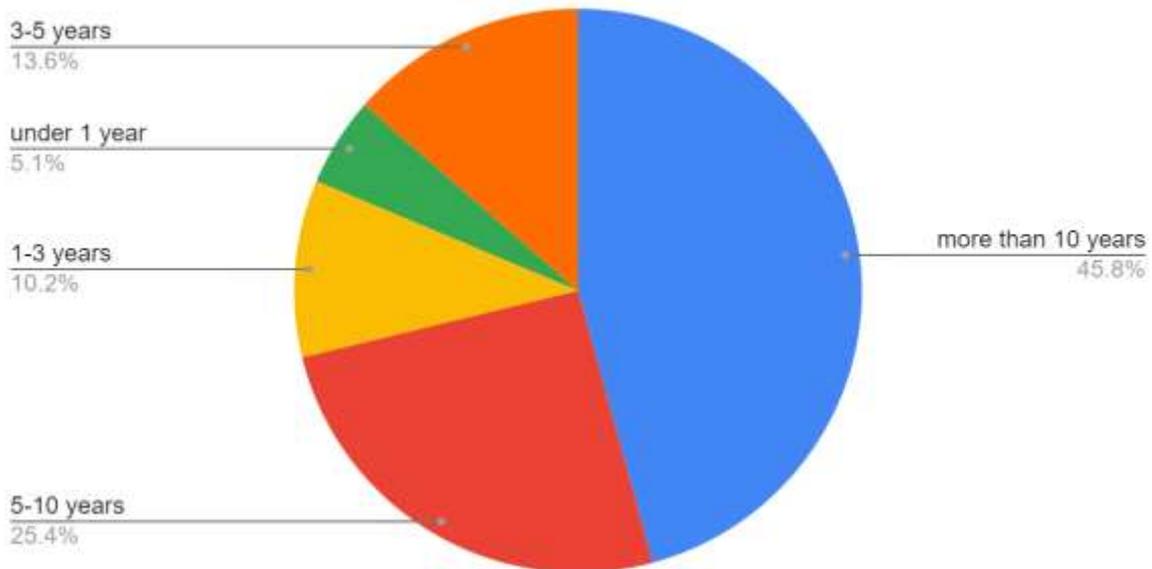


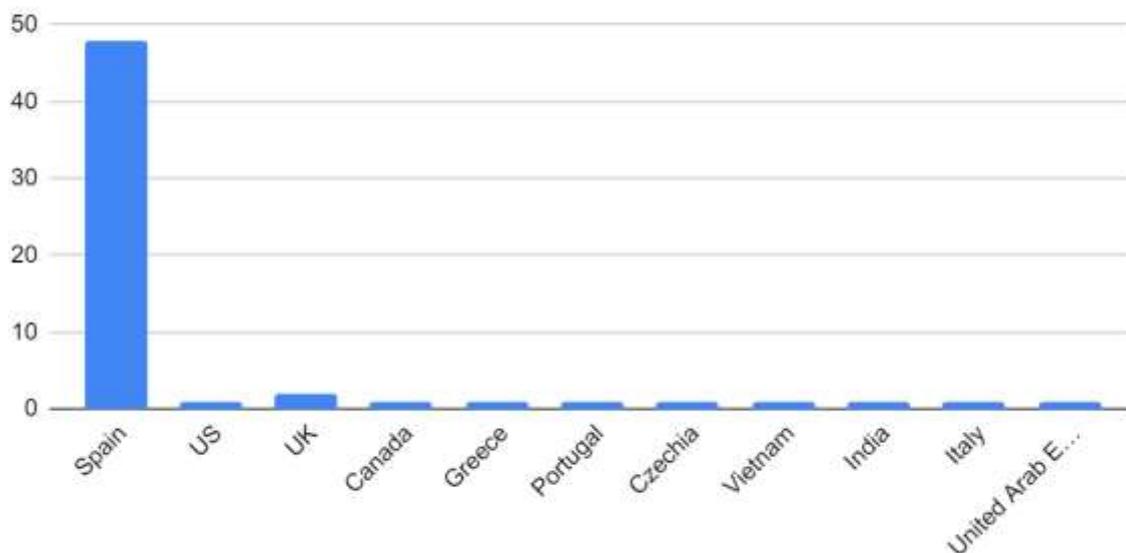


Teaching English in Times of Pandemic

Count of 1. How long have you been teaching English as a Foreign Language?



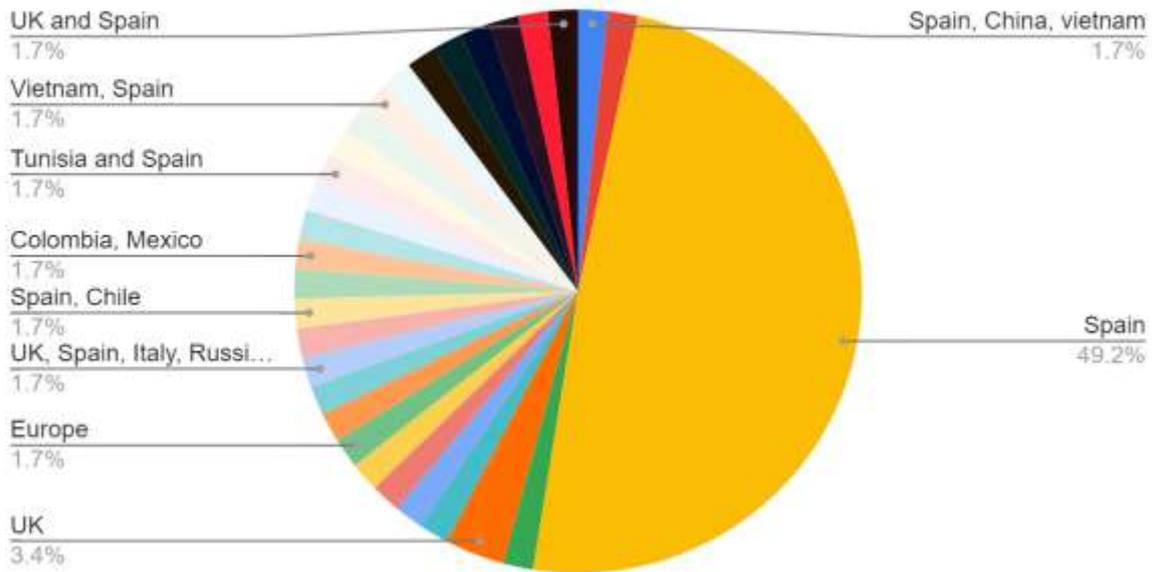
Count of 2. Where are you based? (country or continent)



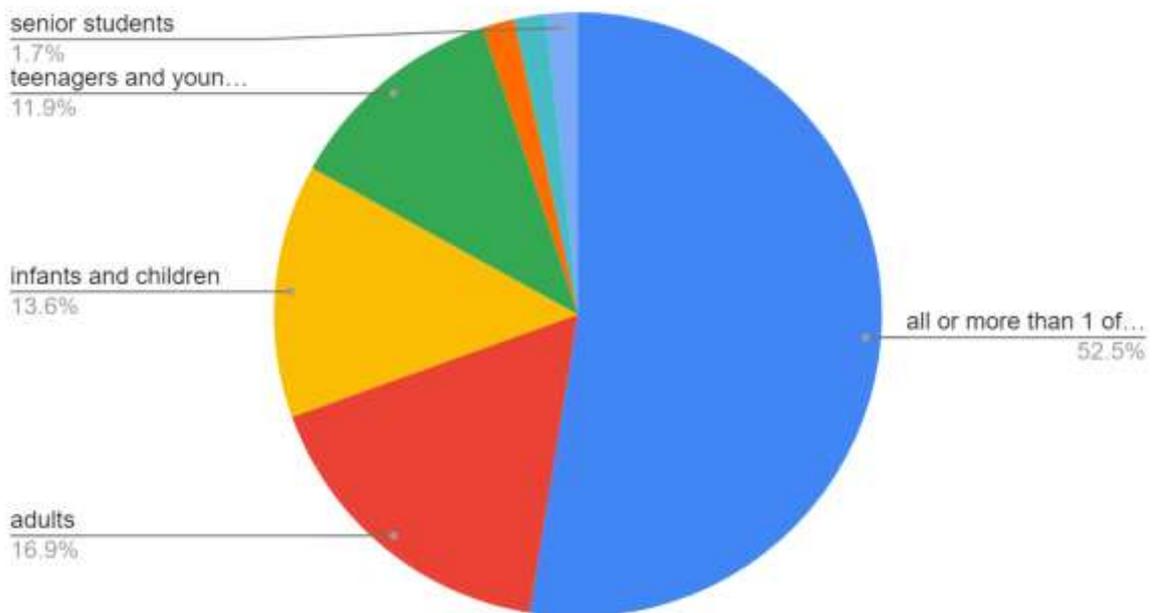
Count of 2. Where are you based? (country or continent)



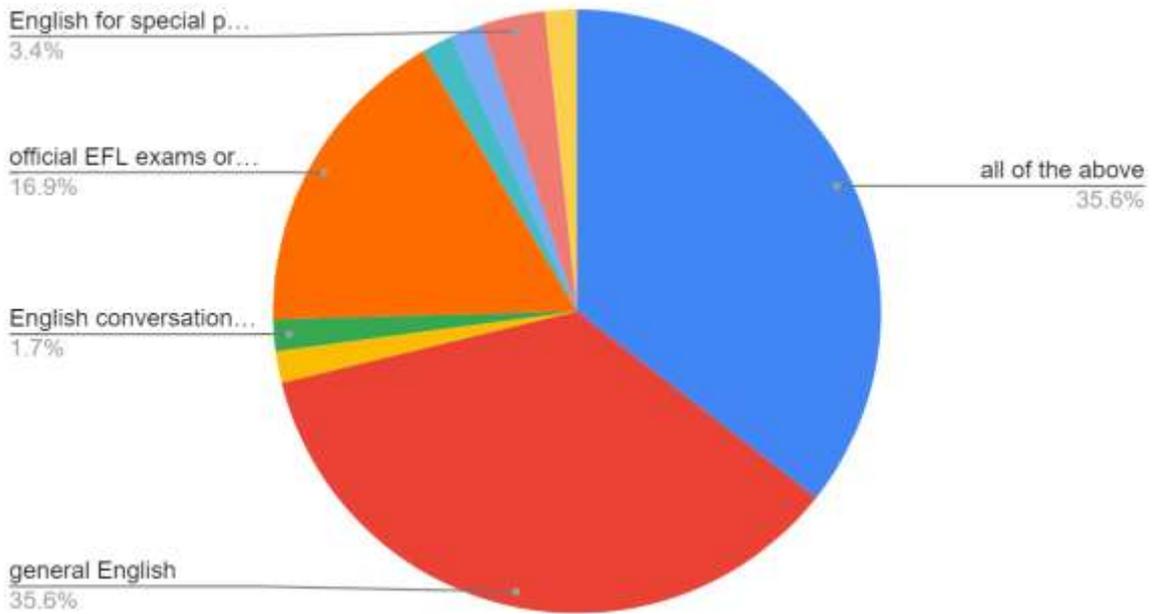
Count of 3. Where have you taught English so far? (country or continent)



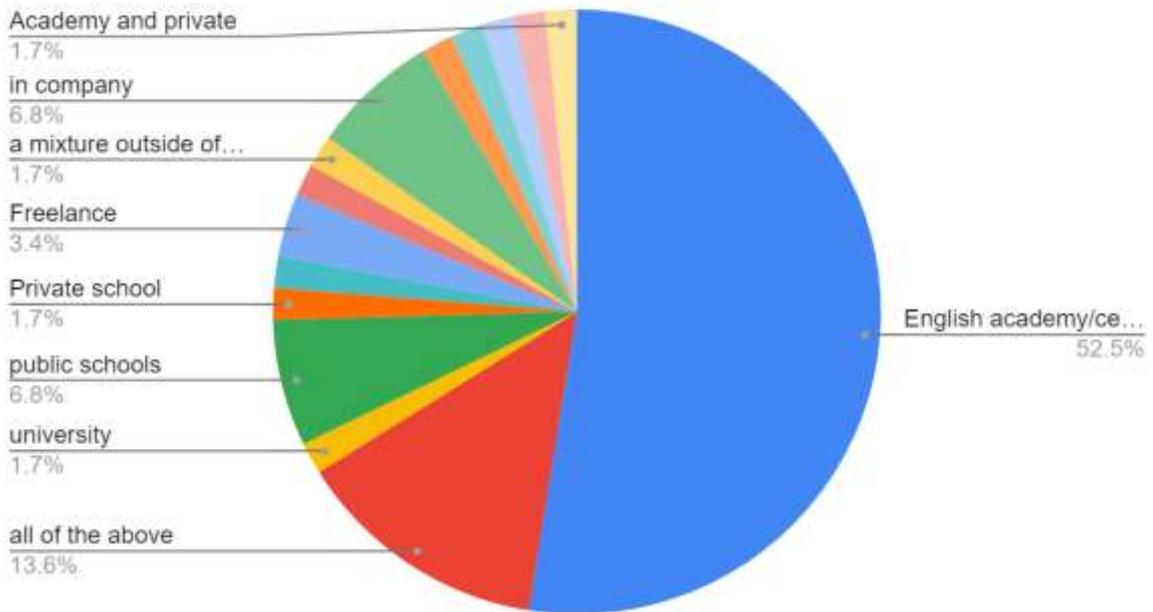
Count of 4. Who do you mostly teach?



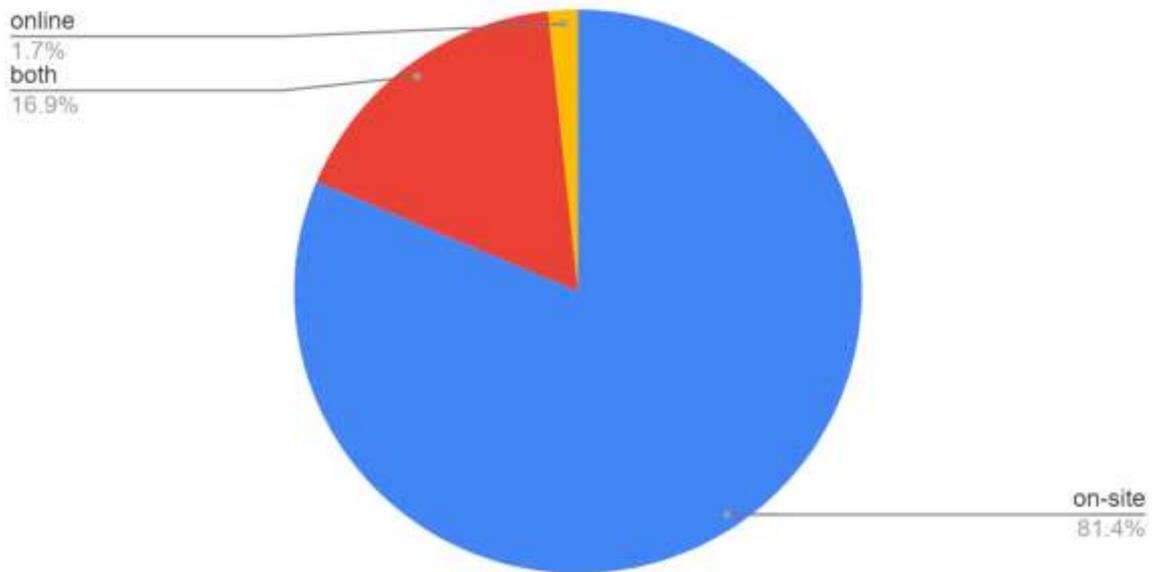
Count of 5. What do you mostly teach?



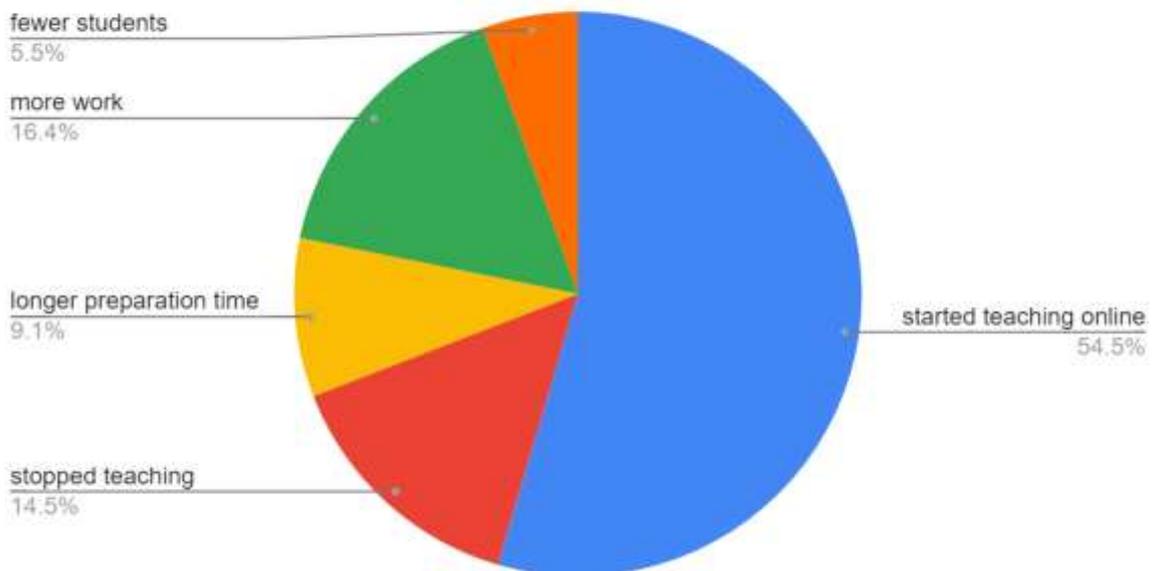
Count of 6. Where do you mostly teach?



Count of 7. Before the pandemic, what kind of classes did you usually teach?

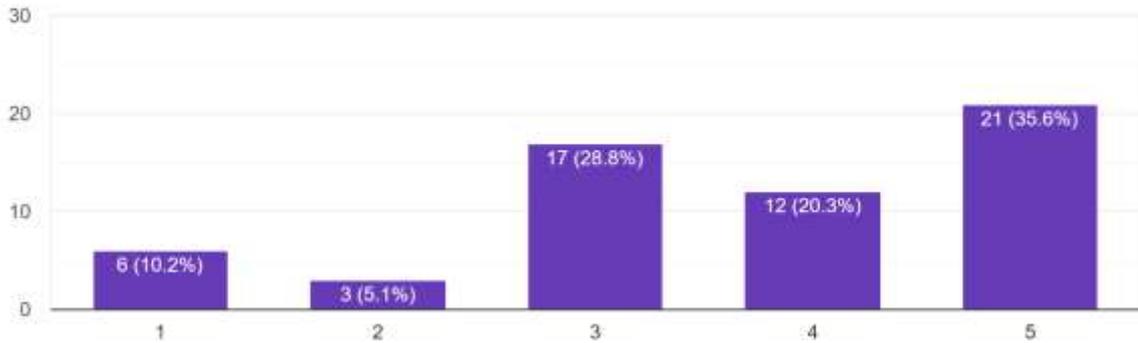


Count of 8. What has changed in your teaching habits because of the pandemic and the instilled restrictions?

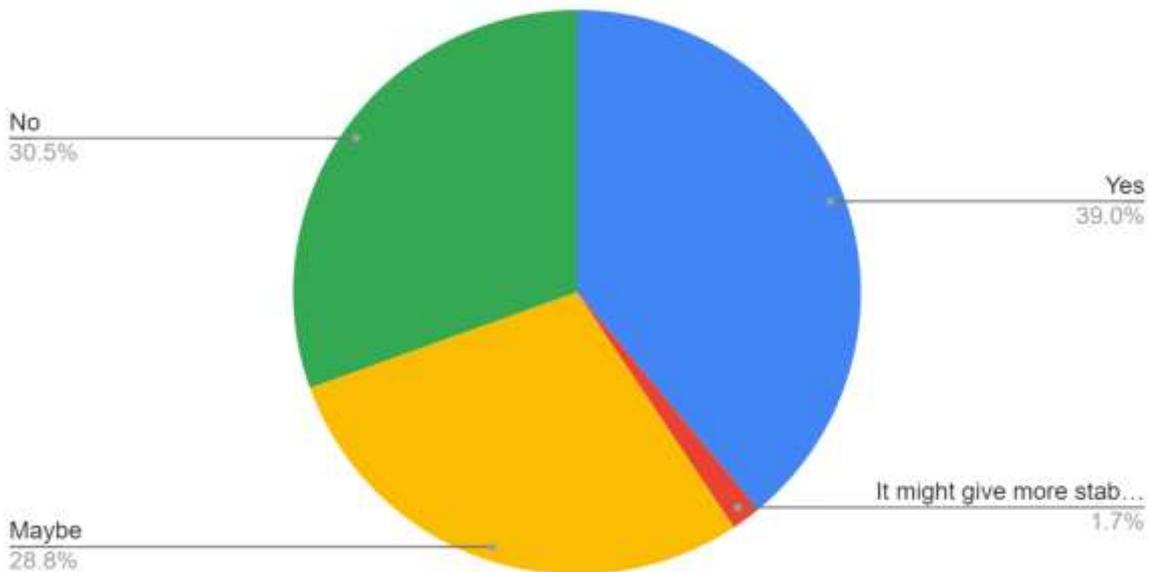


9. How would you characterize the negative effects of the pandemic on your work and income?

59 responses



Count of 10. Do you believe the pandemic and its restrictions have also had positive effects on teaching EFL?



11. Please briefly explain the choice of answer to the previous question

Teachers have realized the accessibility to it through sites like verbling.

Teachers are learning how to teach online and therefore avoiding the daily commute

I think it could create more stability for some teachers as the "if" or things that were a little off in their contract will need to be readjusted to keep everything clean, above board, and more manageable. I think really sketchy academies will close and it won't be as open for people looking for a holiday vocation.

1. Putting students in pairs or groups can be done in less than 5 second on ZOOM. Love, love, love BREAKOUT ROOMS in ZOOM.

2. Teachers have to REALLY think about what we will cover in LESS time. Students lose interest in a screen.



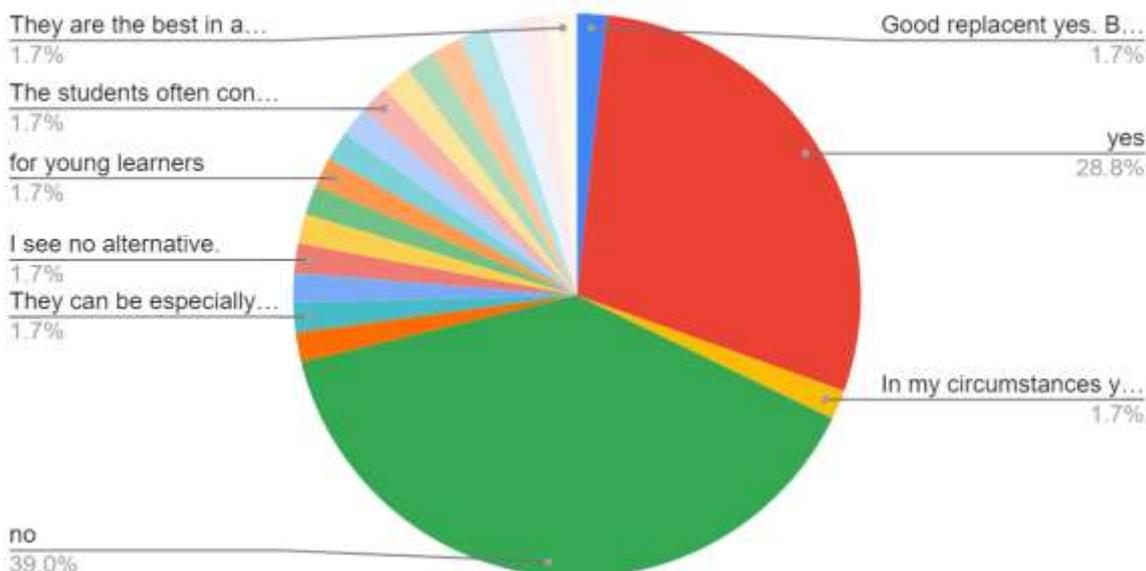
3. I like ZOOM. With ZOOM, I can put the students in breakout rooms and they can chat. I can pop in and see what they're doing and listen to their English.
I've learnt how to use different tools: google forms, meet, google classroom, kahoots, liveworshets, created a site...
I think that online English can expand for children around the world who otherwise wouldn't have the exposure to it in school or at home
Target market has widened, students do not need to travel
It has brought out creativity in me and also has taught me that we are limitless
Nothing is ever absolutely negative. I guess the pandemic forced teachers to learn how to manage online classes and exposed how despite technological advancement in this century, online education widens the gap between communities even more
Young students cannot effectively learn a language online. Some don't have access to a computer.
I've learning lots of new sites for resources and become more creative.
A lot of schools will close and travel will be more difficult
Teachers have had to adapt and learn new skills
It will force us to teach online and lower class prices
Less travelling
Good time to reflect on practice
Been learning about and putting into practice teaching English online
Perhaps it can open up a new path and lead to further developments in terms of training, materials, methodology.
I'm in blended & online TEFL. More Ss & teachers will be familiar with at least some aspects of learning online (emergency remote teaching). Perhaps the sector will expand a little more quickly as a result?
It has brought the consequential loss of students; I have less available resources to manage varying class abilities; I feel less able to manage the classroom due to the platform (Google meet); I'm unable to focus on individuals in the class who are struggling, for fear of creating boredom in those with greater ability, unlike in the onsite classroom.
shows other options of teaching
I find it easier to teach face to face
Parents have realised that they cannot take their teachers for granted.
Online has made many ss and parents reconsider classes and many dropped out
Some students focus better in online classes (however, others find it more challenging)
I've learned to use so many different websites and apps that have revolutionised my teaching.
It's really difficult to engage small children in a virtual setting. The teacher gets little feedback and is unsure of progress. I also doubt that the small children would be as enthusiastic about the videos without having made previous relations in the classroom (being familiar with the teacher/ materials etc)
Job loss therefore student loss
Students are alone
Teachers Hava had to quickly learn about how to use online platforms and adapt their teaching.
Able to work more hours as a result of no commute, teaching online through italki and able to increase income considerably



We need longer to know it
It has allowed me to build up a catalogue of online resources and show students PowerPoint presentations and videos etc
Many students just stopped their classes as they couldn't be bothered to change to online lessons.
I have a small academy, I lost about 20% of my students, so I started advertising for online students anywhere in Spain and that has been quite successful with quite little work, so in September I will be operating an academy both online and face face.
Because it forces you to use the internet instead of doing teaching the proper way and that is in person
NO, as teachers and wannabees have inundated the already oversupplied market for ESL Teachers internationally. There are still huge numbers who think ESL teaching is easy and a filler job to be done on your gap year or as an extra money-making gig. Many schools both online and off don't treat it as a professional job.
In my experience most people prefer in-person classes and prefer to take a break from learning rather than go online.
Most of my students use English on a daily basis on the telephone or videoconferencing. Therefore having the classes online have given my students further practice the use of speaking English through videoconferencing platforms and increasing their understanding and listening comprehension and paying more attention.
I believe in-person is better, but allows for people who can't do this to have an alternative
Demand for classes increased as more people were home. My current students adapted easily to online learning
It helped people get used to new ways of teaching -> online. Maybe it's a good thing.
less interruptions , more focus , classes can be made dynamic
People need to have live communication everything online is harmful
In my viene, online teaching cannot replace f2f classes
I believe, from a purely monetary standpoint, that having a complete online set up, with trained teachers is cost effective and allows for bigger profits. With the ever growing technological advances it is very easy to create a peer to peer aspect and digital spaces can allow this to happen.
Pushed me to become familiar with the aspects of teaching online
Many people have been left without employment and have resorted to online teaching which is poorly managed and paid.
My private online classes are going fine. I learned new skills, got over my fear of making video calls, make slides, my classes are more structured, students are focused.
It's accelerated our inevitable move online and to more efficient learning and teaching methodology.
Driving academies to modernise and embrace tech
I don't enjoy teaching online, I don't think my students do either, I miss the interaction and also being able to keep my home and work life seperate
The fact that classes are happening online means that it is easier for teachers to find students outside their area of residence and vice versa.



Count of 12. Do you consider online classes to be a good replacement for on-site/in-person classes?



13. Please explain your choice of answer to the previous question

As above

With small groups and especially one-to- one classes

I work with such small children that language development, especially phonetics, will not work properly over an online platform.

So far, we're doing everything we used to do. Teacher explanations. Students talking. Pair work. Small group work. Vocabulary focus.

Not with children though it is useful for teens and adults blending both methods

I think that nothing can compare to being in the classroom. Connections with students motivated them to learn and grow.

It is definitely much more difficult but I am sure that the industry will adapt

Human touch is necessary.

Maybe for other nationalities, Spanish people are too traditional and refuse to believe that you can still learn online...

Because not all students have access to the technology needed to be able to participate, a lot of teachers are not prepared to teach online and so, we must be learn how to do it and I don't think simple workshops would be enough to prepare teachers well

Online can be used in the classroom with guidance and encouragement but young students normally will not do the work.

Some students feel more open to speak from the comfort of their homes.... but being in person allows the opportunity to do so much more.

I like creating good classroom rapport

For some students yes, I think the age and level are important factors and not necessarily suited to everyone

They are a substitute in a pandemic. Interaction and group work between the students is limited, mobility and TBR are also restricted



a mix is best for all
It's more difficult to control student participation
Can achieve the same, just differently
Although it has aided a lot during these times, it cannot replace and/or surpass in-person lessons
It's a different paradigm that's little understood. There's many little known advantages to online learning & teaching as well as the (now) better known disadvantages.
I would probably say yes to the above, with a "but", as I believe classes are much better mentioned onsite due to the nature of the aforementioned problems.
need that social feeling, contact
I have less control over the class
The lesson is not affected that much if you taught 1-1 lessons before in person.
Teachers need to observe and give out work corrections face to face
It's better than not having class but there are limitations on the types of activity that can be done in the online classroom, especially for the lower end of YL teaching.
So far, I haven't encountered anything I can't do online that I can do in a classroom. I've found many new things I can use online to enhance the learning process.
Online you certainly do not have same interaction
They are a means to an end during a crisis but I dont think that they are a substitute.
Better than nothing at all
Some are more focused, others not
For remote places and busy adults it not for young learners
Kids are more motivated as they are not in a traditional classroom setting
Face to face is closer way to teach
See above
Personally, I believe personal face to face teaching is better for teaching, learning and generally for explaining things in detail
Explained above
Sound problems, picture problems, technology problems
I can continue interacting with my students and keep in touch with them.
They are often better, according to students as the students get to learn to speak, listen and think. Many say they don't learn in academies (even here in Spain where I also teach Spanish students online. Also, they like the flexibility, ability to book times, no wasted time travelling to a class, going to strangers home, or having a stranger comes to yours etc. Corporates like it as they don't need all their workers to be from one office or even one country as they learner just logs in from where ever they are.
Online classes take away from face to face communication to an extent.
Internet connections aren't always 100%.interruptions soon down the flow and intensity of classes.
As stated previously
I have found it to be a sufficient replacement
The quality of teaching is lower because of several reasons (including internet connection, not using body language as much, etc.). It has advantages: people who live in remote areas can theoretically learn English as long as they have internet.



less complications
Not all the classes, but some can be online
Human contact is required
We had no choice
I do believe that not every single teacher can teach online. I believe that one must have highly qualified staff that can keep student attention and use technology for the benefit of the class. Online lessons offer great possibilities for greater interaction, limiting a teacher TTT.
much less interactive and not life authentic
The job of a teacher is much larger than just 'teaching' teaching online restricts abilities and the natural relationships you build with your students.
See under 11. Plus it's comfortable, no transport, more free time. The downside is that in my experience it doesn't work so well for groups.
Yes for teaching teens and adults but not children, TPR is necessary
Those who won't adapt will fall behind. On paper the benefits of online outweigh onsite. Travel time, logistics, barriers to communication, now with less middlemen.
Opening up a world of digital resources. Also, in pre-teen classes behaviour is better and students more engaged
The same as above, lack of socialisation and interaction
For 1 to 1 or very small groups it might work well but for large groups or young children it's not a good solution. It's more difficult for them to communicate or interact and it's more difficult to maintain their attention.
They are not perfect, but are not terrible by any means either, and have allowed for English teaching to continue in a time that on site teaching was impossible.

14. If you see it so, name 3 advantages of online over on-site classes
Price, access to the correct teacher, connection to Internet unlike in class
1. No need to travel 2. No need to print and prepare material 3. No CoVid risks
1. more efficient. No one wants to spend EXTRA time online. 2. I think teachers are focusing on tasks more, which I like.
It might reduce last minute classes being called off, because you can actually get connected from anywhere
Wider market, no smelly students, less cleaning
Not having to move from home. Planning and activities are mostly done online(no printing) parents are more relaxed knowing they don't have to be driving everywhere
1. You can silence the kids who never stop talking.
Less paper usage
No paper, up-to-date information, saving your voice, no misbehaving interruptions
No travel/can work from anywhere /easy access for students
More resources, new method, students from everywhere
None
more flexible timing Less travel time thus more for other things Hidden communication training



<p>Less paperwork as everything is digital. Siderooms allow you to put students together who wouldn't usually work together. Children who are distracted in class are more attentive.</p>
No Travelling time, more structured, more personalised
More immediate use of online sources and materials.
Ss can self-study with immediate feedback at their own pace, I.e. more efficient than typical classroom language exercises, which frees up more time for communicative activities. Ss can study at their own convenience & 'little & often' becomes more feasible, especially on mobile devices.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I have reduced travelling time. - I have learnt new skills. - I have improved my patience and have increased empathy.
don't have to travel far, students need to be more attentive
No traveling. You can teach any time.
Save time and money as you do not have to use your car, you can include another person for a 3-way discussion more easily.
Mute button, no commuting, less expenses if I didn't have the centre
<p>Range of additional resources Many students are more at ease because they are in their home environment The mute button!</p>
Obviously safer, and at times convenient
Less distraction from classmates, less paper used, more productive
Reduces time wasting.
more confidence, energy and engagement.. There is something about being in their houses which really changes them as people
You can record them and use videos later
No travel time, wider access to resources,
I don't see any
Saves time not going to work, larger network of potential students, some great activities can be done online that wouldn't work face to face.
No travel costs, no travel time. Ability to work from home
Speaking, listening, thinking, Flexibility of time, Can do it from your home / office, etc
It's easier to used mixed media, less time preparing/commuting,
Comfort at home. No travelling. More flexibility with schedules
Flexibility, convenience, no commuting time
People in remote areas can learn English, teachers can work and travel in the same time and very shy students might feel more relaxed since it's over the internet.
Better activities for the classroom, more possibilities to make a lesson interactive and easier working habits for teachers.
reduces cost of venue/school/classroom rent. Ss and teacher can learn/teach anywhere
Comfort, sharing online games, more motivation from them
Travel time, access to flipped learning, shorter more focused classes.
It's convenient that I can make a coffee whenever I like



Less travelling
Can work with students worldwide
You can mute noisy students!

15. If you see no advantages to online teaching, please briefly explain why:

Nothing is spontaneous as talking face to face. Feedback is tricky you don't really know if the student has got the information properly. Tendency to go over and over grammar instead of real communication.

I prefer on site classes.

Students will not work on their own. Some don't have good internet or computers. They are not motivated by a screen

There is nothing you can do better online. Change my mind!

N/a

Less so since people don't have the culture of online classes

Yes online saves time on traveling and transport cards

Interaction and activity opportunities are very limited. Communication is key to learning languages and a lot of that is lost online.

More time, more unpaid lesson prep and marking, problems with connections and different platforms, students not bothering to attend or do any work set. Students constantly bombarding the teacher with emails or messages! Even at the weekend and at night! No real time to switch off and relax

Problems with technology, lessened ability to help students

You don't lose time or money going there

As stated above, the relationship and communication with your students is different. In addition, it makes classroom management far more challenging

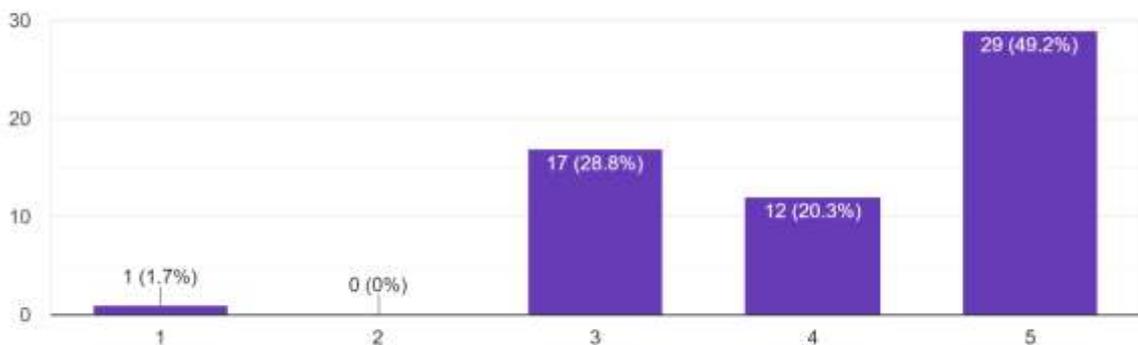
No TPR, no printed handouts

The only disadvantages are the number of students who previously used their class time as a break from work, we'll lose those students.

I don't think the students concentrate enough, there are many distractions in their homes, and along with the technical issues, I feel that so much time is wasted

16. How important do you consider teaching English in the aftermath of the pandemic?

59 responses



17. Please briefly explain your choice of answer to the previous question
Same as before
It's my job
English in Spain hasn't always been number one. The high level of push for kids to really learn English here is relatively new. It tends not to be a child's first choice extra curricular and if parents have less income English classes will likely be on the chopping block. I think English is still incredibly important and people will still pursue. I don't think post-pandemic it'll be top of the list for many individuals and companies in the rest of 2020. It's importance will be in part based on the economic fallout over the next few years. It's really possible that Brexit will have a larger negative impact on English language learning demand than post-pandemic adjustments.
5 before, 5 after. COVID didn't change anything.
People will still be interested in learning the language
I don't think it's the most important
The need for learning English will continue, shame is that many teachers ruin the market by offering lessons at very low prices
It's a universal language and that is something to be grateful about.
Shshsj
In many cases, learning English is a privilege. Now that many people have lost their sources of income, people will probably focus more on "the essentials" instead of learning something extra. But it's still the lingua franca so it's still gonna be pretty important to some
People need to learn English especially in times of crisis. It helps them to focus on the future
Things will open again and people will start traveling again... people will also conduct international business so they will continue to need English.
I don't know how important it is.
English will Always be important
No difference. People will still need it.
English is a global language
At least for young learners we need to bring as much normality back to their lives as possible and be true role models in times of adversity.
Maintenance of previous learning preparation for future
People (students and teachers included) need to feel that they will be able to return to a normal state. Also, apart from providing students with a skill that will definitely be necessary for their future, English language courses offer them a chance to interact and socialize, as well as get acquainted with another culture
It's still as important as ever as the world language of, education, science, diplomacy, business, & travel/tourism.
The future could become very much more focused on the virtual world, and the internationally spoken language is likely to become an even greater pre-requisite to success.
it is still needed
Parents want their children to learn English
Important
There's and will be a high demand of English speakers in any future job
I'm not sure that there is or will be a change to the importance



I can't see that it will change significantly
English teachers are treated very bsfly
I believe that it is important in as long as people hold it in high regard.
This depends on how the world will be once the crash happens and if people can actually afford to have English lessons due to job cuts and losses.However, English is still the global language therefore still important.
Personal/family choice
When unemployment is high people usually want to improve their English to improve job prospects.
Revolutionary, it's incredibly effective, time saving and works for both sides (teacher and student)
We need a second language to compete worldwide now and in the future
Life goes on and education continues.
It will always be important to continuing teaching English, as with any language
Well I don't think it's any more or less important than before, but it has always been important and nothing has changed
Teaching English is my job and it pays my bills
Very important indeed
English is recognized as the go to language by my adult students. as they were not taught English properly at school they need to learn it now for their job, travel etc.
I believe it will be as necessary for people to learn English as before, but academies may suffer under restrictions
To keep the normality of learning English. Now videoconferencing is the new norm in communication so students can start getting used to this with learning English and opening up new understanding and listening skills which they didn't have to use so much in the past with face to face classes
Not sure of importance is in general or for me specifically.
English language learning will continue to be integral to my students and essential to restarting the economy
I simply think the pandemic didn't not influence the importance of learning English.
We must carry on as normal as possible
Its important
Markets requirement
We need to recoger out lives
I believe it is not incredibly important. Students have maintained their linguistic capabilities due to schools continuing teaching online.
Education and knowledge are essential for survival
In Spain, many people take English classes to improve their employment prospects.
English is vital for study, work and travel. English classes are in high and growing demand. We're digitalizing our societies and lives even more so English is a must.
Lessons need to be taught somehow
With a recession comes a higher bar to employment. English will feature more in job adverts and selection processes.
Not entirely sure what you mean
I think English will be just as important after the pandemic as it was before



People will need skills to get back to work and English is a very important skill.

Learning English is, and always will be, important for some, but it probably won't be one of the first priorities for many whilst adjusting to the new normal.

18. Please make any further comments you see fit:

Language centers have shown their true colours. Both food and bad.

If you are good at teaching online, you are a good teacher! Current teachers will need to learn how to TEACH ONLINE. They need more training with this.

Over all, the pandemic has shown us that we can keep growing and we have no excuse to stop learning or teaching. We are privileged to have online access.

Online classes require more preparation time and limit teachers in methods and activities.

I find it most frustrating that I'm unable to obtain optimum output from individual students in the online class setting. The class situation is great for the comraderie, however, it is a harvesting ground for inherent laziness and allows for less able students to be "carried" under the radar.

na

None

Teaching online has been a positive and rewarding experience for me and my students, however it has been draining because of the time it takes to plan and prepare lessons. It's often taking me one an hour to prepare a one-hour class. Also, I've been doing lots of online training.

Academies just treat teachers so badly and pay is very bad

Young learners may be more difficult online as parents are busy and want o take their children somewhere.

N/A

This whole thing has made me appreciate my job more, and has proved that Dave to face teaching is far more beneficial than online(in my opinion!)

The pandemic made people try new things -> online teaching. I think exploring new ways of doing things is beneficial, generally speaking. I believe in-class teaching gets better results though.

Group lessons are better on site. Private classes for adults online have many advantages online over on site provided that classes are well-prepared.

I'm glad that I'm still able to work during the pandemic, but I don't wish to continue teaching online if I don't have to

