

# Pilgrims™

English Language Courses

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Last Monday in August

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Dear Colleagues from North America and UK,

The first purpose of this letter is to welcome you to Pilgrims at UKC and to wish you a warm and useful week together.

My second purpose is to explain the four main elements of the course: a) the methodology of teacher training (input and observation-feedback) (This we normally do over a 10 day course)

b) cutting edge methodology for language teaching

c) new ideas about the new media and their exploitation (Pete Sharma Thursday morning and after tea)

d) your own exchange of ideas from the very different schools across the group.

Chaz and I are very much aware of all the things we will NOT be able to share with you:

- the whole area of oral grammar and how to teach it (Carter and McCarthy)
- Some majorly useful ideas from NLP and TA
- Detailed work on one-on-one teaching (a central concern in some schools)
- Culture and how to teach it

My third purpose is to suggest to you that the LETTER FROM THE TEACHER can be a very useful instructional instrument in the teaching of language, culture or whatever you decide to teach. I use my regular letter to the class to present new grammar, to comment on the news, to revise previously learnt vocabulary etc..... The main thing about such letters are that they are I-ye and not impersonal third person ways of transmitting information. I know that my language students and my trainees will use my letters as a sort of memory sign-posting to their course, as they look back..

My fourth purpose is to express my thrill and anticipation as we launch into this week of unknowns. Herein lies the fun in teaching, for me at least.

Mario

Ps: Chaz and I firmly believe that one-to-one sessions can be really useful if you feel to have issues to discuss that do not fit into what we do in the groups sessions. When you come for your session the agenda is entirely yours....we talk about what you have uppermost on your mind. Of course you can opt away from doing this work if you don't feel good about it.

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Sheelagh Deller

you

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Do more of

Do less of

Carry on  
The same

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Humanizing Language Teaching