

Materials and Techniques for Pronunciation Teaching

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Some questions



Dr. Linh Phung's office

- What challenges do you have with pronunciation?
- What challenges do your students have with pronunciation?
- What would you wish to do more with your students?



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Why is pronunciation important?

- English is used as a lingua franca (a common language among speakers of different language backgrounds)
- Pronunciation is important for intelligibility (i.e., how easy it is for people to understand the speaker).
- Pronunciation is often neglected in the curriculum.
- Students have a strong desire to have better pronunciation.



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Suprasegmental features

- Stress in words (syllable stress or word stress)
- Stress in phrases or sentence (sentence stress)
- Pausing
- Rhythm



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Teach stress patterns

1. Nouns with stress on the first syllable

TEA-cher, STU-dent, BEAU-ty, COFF-ee, CO-lor, WA-ter, MU-sic, HAPP-y, FUNN-y

2. Many verbs with stress on the second syllable

pre-SENT, de-SIGN, re-SIDE, de-CIDE, ex-PLAIN, com-PLAIN, for-GET, de-CLARE, dis-CUSS

3. Stress shift

PRE-sent vs. pre-SENT; EX-port vs. ex-PORT; RE-cord vs. re-CORD; OB-ject vs. ob-JECT

4. Words with -tion or -sion with stress on the preceding syllable

NA-tion, in-ter-NA-tion-al, MEN-tion, AC-tion, SEC-tion, e-du-CA-tion, oc-CA-sion, VI-sion, MIS-sion

5. Words with -ity with stress on the preceding syllable

a-BI-li-ty, QUA-li-ty, pro-ba-BI-li-ty, u-ni-VER-si-ty, se-CU-ri-ty, e-lec-TRIC-i-ty



These are explained in detail in lessons about stress in the Eduling Speak app

Stress shifts in word families

PHO-to-graph

pho-TO-graph-er

Pho-to-GRAPH-ic

e-CO-no-my

e-co-NO-mic



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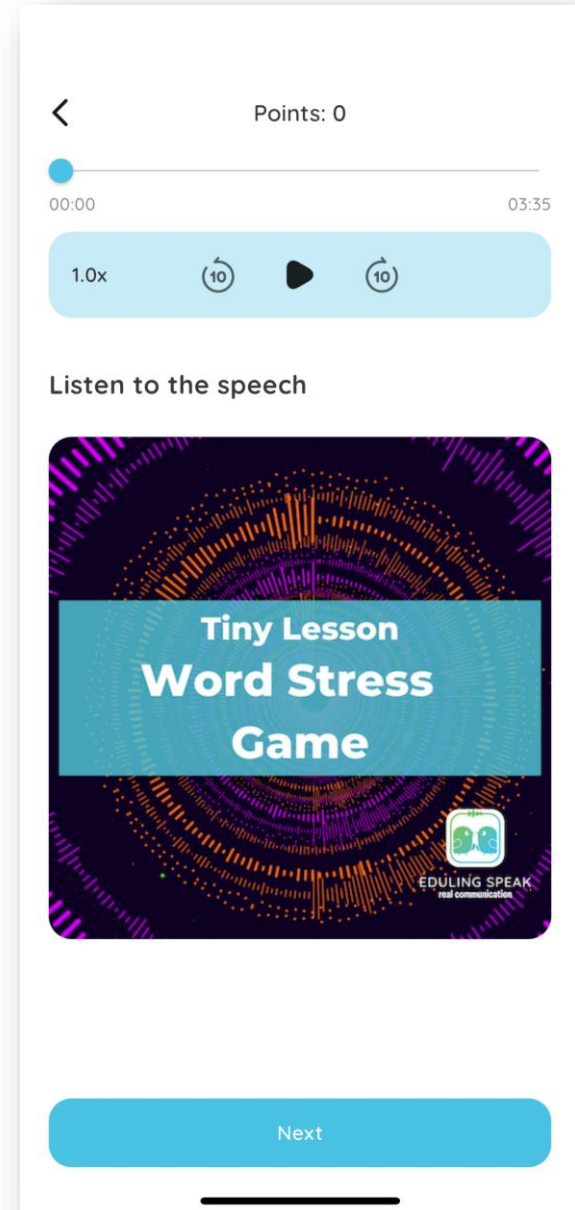
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Word stress game

I say: I work in the library

You say: You are a librarian.

- I work with magic.
- I work in politics.
- I write music.



This lesson is available in Eduling Speak

The sound system: Vowels

American English Vowels



Manner of Articulation	Place of Articulation		
	Front	Central	Back
Close	iy heat I hit	ər sir	u pull pool uw
Open-mid	ey say e bed	ʌ cup	show ow
Open	æ bad	hot ɑ	taught o

*Vowel classification according to their tongue height and their frontness or backness.

Diphthongs that require tongue and mouth movement
aw (cow), oy (boy), ay (my)



Other vowel resources

- IPA:
<https://www.cambridge.org/features/IPAchart/>
- The Color Vowel Chart
- [Handout on minimal pairs](#)
- Minimal pairs with Hallie:
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1624113221619574>



Other lessons in the Eduling Speak app




The sound system: Consonants

English Consonants

	Place of Articulation						
Manner of Articulation	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b			t d		k g	
Fricative		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ		h
Affricate					tʃ dʒ		
Nasal	m			n		ŋ	
Approximant	w			l	r y		

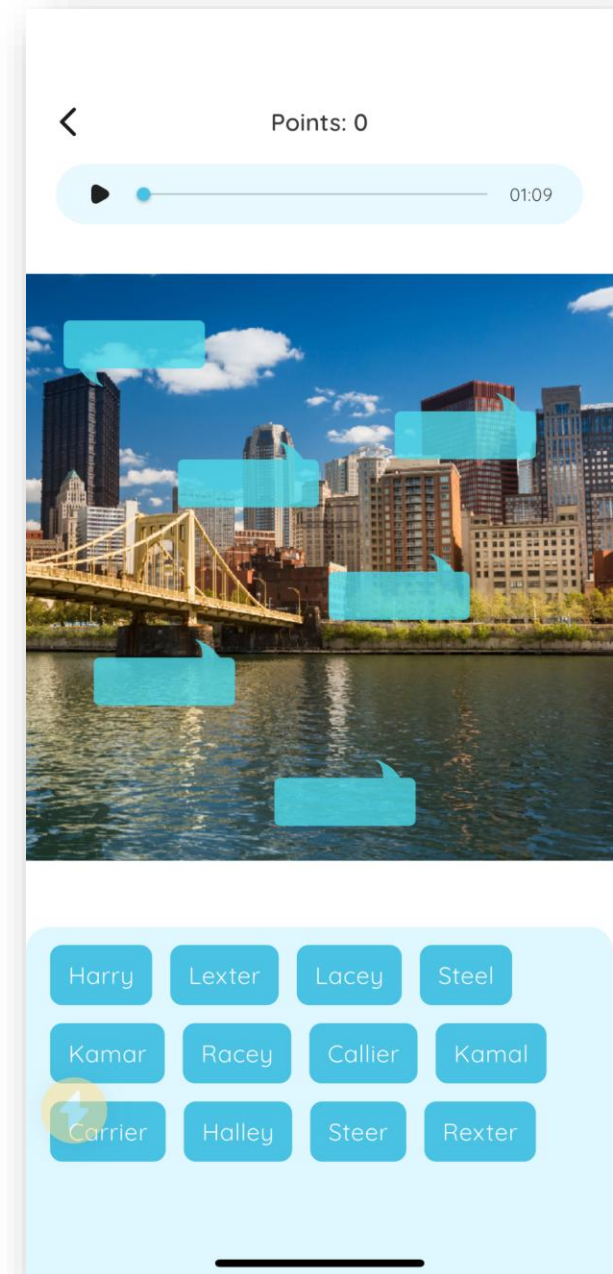
voiceless sound

voiced sound



The l and r sounds

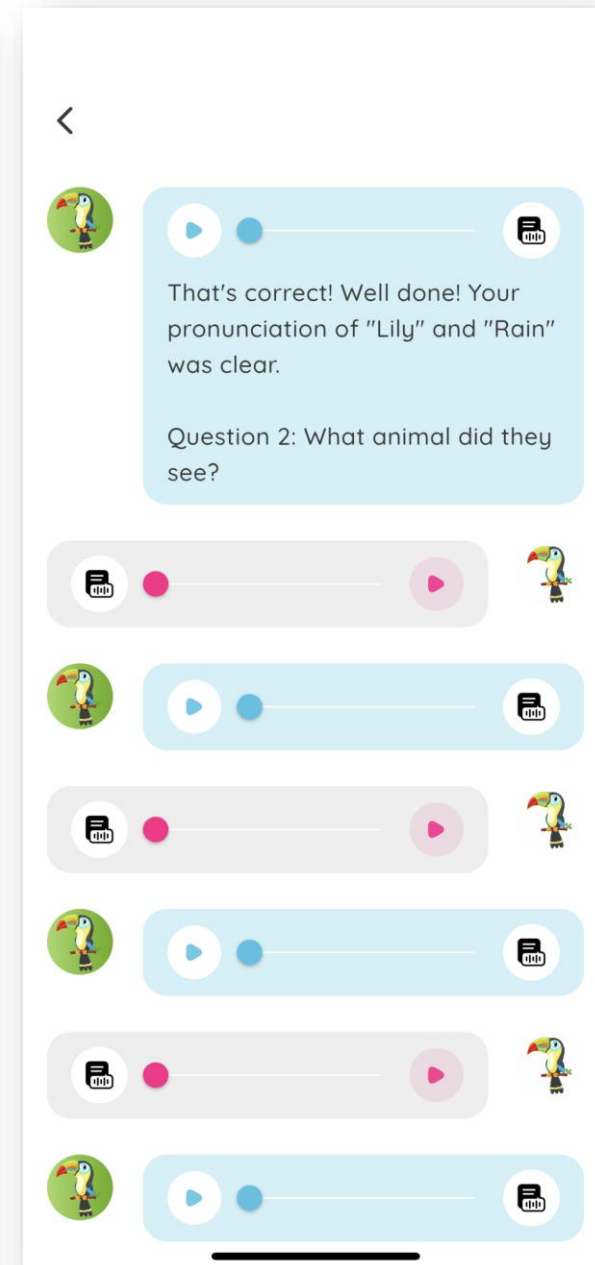
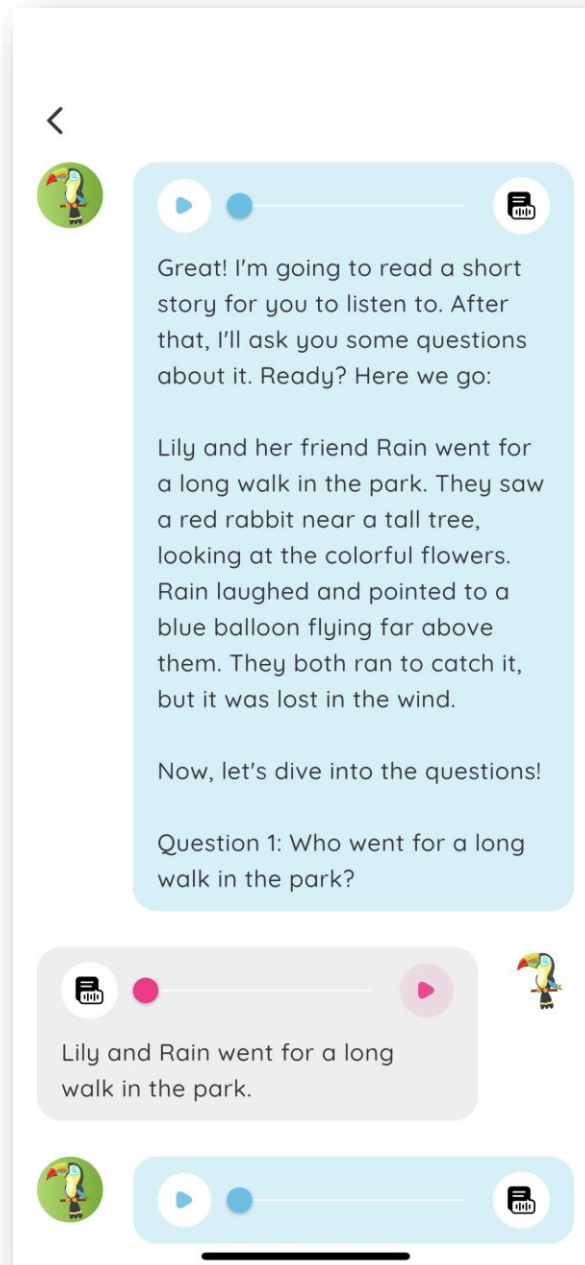
- Use a perception-based task
 - Describe a picture
 - Students listen and move the correct labels onto a picture



[Learn more from Eduling Speak](#)

AI tasks

Give student a prompt
and ask them to talk with
AI or practice in Eduling
Speak



Learn more from the course in Eduling Speak

Other techniques

- Use gestures
- Use a rubber band for stressed sounds, a tissue for sounds with aspiration (p/t), a lollipop (for th sounds)
- Use color rods
- Use communicative pronunciation tasks
- Use Eduling Speak for more ideas



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List of techniques (Murcia et al., 1996)

1. Listen and imitate
2. Phonetic training: Using diagrams
3. Minimal pair drills
4. Contextualized minimal pairs: Put minimal pairs into sentences
5. Visual aids: charts, rods, mirrors, props

List of techniques (Murcia et al., 1996)

6. Tongue twisters

7. Developmental approximation drills: w → r; y → l

8. Vowel shifts and stress shifts: mime → mimic; PHOtograph → phoTOgraphy

I can tell these *photographs* that you are very good at *photography*.

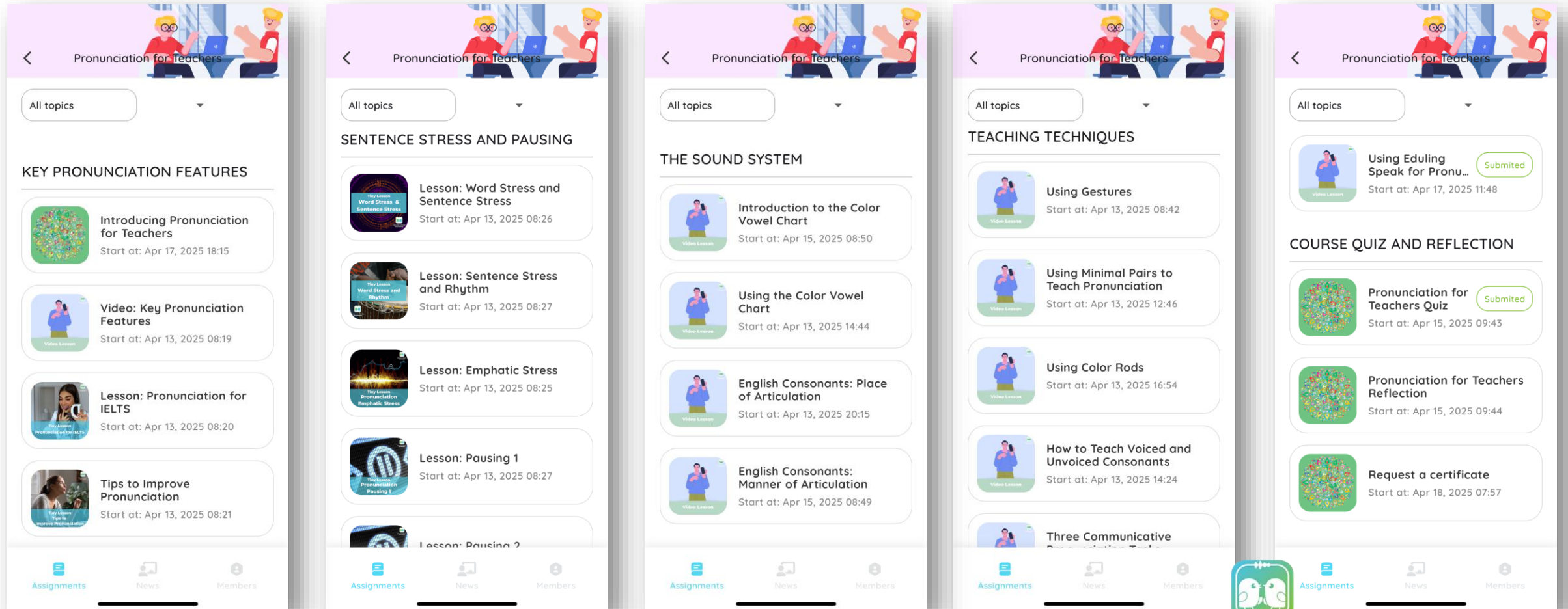
9. Reading aloud: speeches, poems, plays, dialogues

10. Recording and feedback

Steps in a pronunciation lesson

- Describe and analyze pronunciation features
- Listening discrimination
- Controlled practice and feedback
- Guided practice and feedback: information gap or cued dialogue
- Communicative practice: less structured practice

The Pronunciation for Teachers course



How to join

Or you can purchase the course here for a 50% discount with the promo code: **August50**

<https://www.eduling.org/product-page/course-guide-pronunciation-for-teachers>

The code expires on **August 17, 2025**



Pronunciation for Teachers

- A comprehensive course with 6 modules
- Videos, tasks, handouts, and quizzes
- Self-paced
- Certificate upon completion

 **DOWNLOAD**

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Another way to enroll

- Download Eduling Speak from the App Store or Play Store
- Search Pronunciation
- Click Enroll



Pronunciation for Teachers

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App Store

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Course description

This self-paced course is designed to introduce teachers to essential features of English pronunciation and effective techniques for teaching them. Through six carefully structured modules, participants will explore key elements such as the sound system, word and sentence stress, rhythm, and pausing.

Teachers will also learn how to apply a variety of practical techniques including the use of minimal pairs, controlled pronunciation practice, and communicative tasks that promote authentic language use. The course includes model activities, online resources, downloadable handouts, and interactive quizzes.

Participants who complete all course tasks and pass the final quiz with a score of at least 80% will receive a certificate, provided their identity and course completion can be verified.

Estimated number of hours: 10

Support email: info@eduling.org



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Learning outcomes

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Identify key features of English pronunciation and why they matter in communication
- Recognize and model stress, rhythm, and pausing in spoken English
- Distinguish between common problem sounds and help learners improve their production
- Apply a range of pronunciation teaching techniques effectively
- Design communicative pronunciation tasks that engage learners in meaningful speaking
- Use a variety of online tools and resources to support pronunciation instruction





Course modules

1. Key Pronunciation Features

Understand the role of pronunciation in communication and proficiency exams such as IELTS and gain an overview of pronunciation features

2. Stress

Explore stress in words their impact on intelligibility

3. Sentence Stress and Pausing

Learn how sentence-level stress, prominence, and pausing shape meaning and listener comprehension





Course modules

4. The Sound System

Review the vowel chart and consonant chart and important differences among vowels and consonants

5. Difficult Sounds

Focus on common problem areas for learners (e.g., /l/, /r/, /s/, /z/, vowel contrasts) and ways to support improvement

6. Teaching Techniques

Practice using minimal pairs, controlled practice, and communicative pronunciation tasks. Access model lessons and adaptable handouts.





Learning methods

This course is delivered through the **Eduling Speak app** and includes:

- **Video lessons** for concept explanations and demonstrations
- **Interactive tasks** to experience and apply in teaching
- **Model activities** to inspire your own teaching
- **Handouts and downloadable resources** (please save this document)
- **A course quiz and reflection** to check your understanding
- You can learn at your own pace and revisit content anytime.



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How to pass the course

To successfully complete the course and earn your certificate:

1. Complete all six modules
 2. Finish all required tasks
 3. Pass the final quiz with a score of 80% or higher
 4. Verify your identity and completion through a form in the class
- **Once all criteria are met, a digital certificate will be issued.**



Request a certificate

Request a certificate after successfully completing the course.



NOTE: This is only a template. Your certificate will be sent to you after your successful completion of the course is verified.

More info



info@eduling.org



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