

English Teaching Capabilities

VATE is excited to launch an online series of professional learning focused on exploring essential elements of English teaching practice. The series will link participating teachers with experts who are working in English education to support and develop individual capacity.

This series is open to all English teachers, but is especially designed to support:

- English teachers who may be early in their career
- Educators who are teaching English out-of-field
- English teachers who have recently returned to the classroom and are looking for some extra support
- English teachers who are looking to network and collaborate, learn with, and learn from teachers from other schools around the state

VATE's English Teaching Capabilities include exploration of:

- The identity, disposition and approach of 'good' English teachers in the classroom
- Emerging writers, creativity and using the writers' process
- Developing readers, reading and the process of responding to text
- Effective approaches to teaching English language
- Subject English lesson planning, assessment, moderation and text selection.

Registration for this series of professional learning includes access to an English Teaching Capabilities resource page which will include recordings of workshops and a range of practical resources and activities to use in your English classes.

MEMBER PRICES:

Organisational \$300 Individual \$260 Concession \$220

See next page for program overview.



Program overview

Tuesday 18 February, 2025 (4pm - 5:30pm)

What is subject English and what do English teachers know and do?

This session will be led by VATE Vice-President and Research Officer, academic, and initial-teacher-educator, Amanda McGraw. Teachers will explore imprints and expectations around teaching English. We will reflect on our teaching identities and explore what it is we do in our English classrooms and what qualities we notice of English teachers around us at our schools, and those attributes that supported us when we were at school. We will also reflect and build our understanding around what it is that 'good' readers, writers, speakers and active listeners know and do.

Tuesday 6 May, 2025 (4pm - 5:30pm)

Writers, creativity and the writing process

This session will be led by published author and experienced teacher, Ernest Price. Teachers will explore strategies and approaches to teaching writing. This includes reflecting on the role writing plays in subject English compared to other subjects (learning to write vs writing to learn), how we can utilise the writing process in the classroom to get students writing, and developing strategies for assessing writing and providing feedback.

Thursday 14 August, 2025 (4pm - 5:30pm)

Readers, reading, and the process of reading and responding to text

This session will be led by VATE Vice-President and Research Officer, academic, and initial-teacher-educator, Amanda McGraw. Teachers will explore thinking around reading and responding to text. We will explore some key learnings to emerge in VATEs 'Activating Reading Capabilities' work, explore the concept of writing about and responding to reading and look at how we might approach assessing student reading in secondary English classes.

Thursday 9 October, 2025 (4pm – 5:30pm)

How do I teach language?

This session will be led by experienced middle years and English Language teacher Tracy Doig. Teachers will explore some strategies and approached to teaching language conventions, grammar, punctuation and spelling. We will explore how we can embed language conventions into the language modes and teaching grammar in context.

