



The ALTE course in Item Writing

ALTE is organising a one day course in **Item Writing** in Salamanca, Spain, in November 2018. The course will be taught by **Annie Broadhead** MA, PGCE, DELTA.

The course is suitable for anyone who is interested in item writing, e.g. teachers, course directors, examination board item writers, etc...

Some course participants may already be item writers and would like to gain wider experience of the subject, while others might be new to item writing but see it as an interesting area to become involved in. The principles of item writing that will underpin the discussions in the workshops are applicable to item writing in all languages.

Date: Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st November 2018

Location: [Cursos Internacionales](#), Hospedería Fonseca, Calle Fonseca 2, Salamanca

Outline of workshops

The workshops will run from 9.00 to 13.00 and from 14.00 – 17.00.

09.00 to 13.00 Reading and Writing

- Analysis of what makes good Reading and Writing tasks and Tips for Item Writers.
- Participants work in groups and write tasks. Reading tasks will be based on texts sourced by participants in advance of the workshop. Writing tasks will be written in groups.
- Exchange of tasks, peer feedback and points to take away

14.00 to 17.00 Listening and Speaking

- Analysis of what makes good Listening and Speaking tasks and Tips for Item Writers.
- Participants work in groups and write tasks. Listening tasks will be based on texts/recordings sourced by participants in advance of the workshop. Speaking tasks will be written in groups.
- Exchange of tasks, peer feedback and points to take away

Course participants' preparation for the workshops

Please bring source texts for the **Reading and Listening** workshops. If you source texts in a language other than English, please be prepared to translate it for other workshop participants. The texts you source should be suitable for the level(s) you test. If you are not directly involved in testing, please choose texts that could be suitable for B1/B2 learners. The texts can be brought on a laptop or a USB stick.

Please prepare ideas or draft tasks for **Speaking and Writing** so that they can be discussed and edited during the workshop.

Equipment

It will be useful, but not essential, if you bring a laptop and USB stick so that we can see and share each other's tasks, and for making your own notes.

Information about the Course Tutor

Annie Broadhead MA, PGCE, DELTA

Annie Broadhead is an item writer trainer, test writer and developer and ELT author based in Cambridge, UK. She has experience of test writing for all age ranges from young learners to adults and at all levels. She is particularly interested in the positive washback effect that good communicative testing can have in the classroom. Her work as Chair for several Cambridge English exams and as a Team Leader for speaking tests means that she has direct and practical experience of item writing and assessment. She has been involved in several test development projects, for example, making tests suitable for younger learners and making business English tests available at lower levels.

Annie has also worked as online tutor for a course in the Principles of Testing and has been involved in several curriculum projects where a curriculum has been mapped against the Common European framework of Reference for Languages. She has been instrumental in the design and running of the ALTE Item Writing Training course.

Tuition fees:

€220: non-members/non-institutional affiliates

€200: ALTE members and institutional affiliates

All prices include only course materials. Participants should arrange for their travel arrangements and accommodation.