ESL for the Big Bend provides instruction in basic literacy, speaking, reading, writing, and functional literacy to area adults 18 years old or older whose native language is not English. The program relies on volunteers like you who tutor individuals or small groups of English-language learners.

Sponsored by the Alpine Public Library
In partnership with the SRSU Academic Center for Excellence

How can you participate?

Become a tutor.
  • Fill out the Alpine Public Library volunteer application form.
  • Sign the Alpine Public Library Confidentiality Statement.
  • Complete 6 hours of tutor training.
  • Commit to at least 6 months of tutoring.

Work with a learner or learners.
  • Use the books provided to structure lessons for one-on-one sessions with your learner or for group sessions with two or three learners.
  • Meet your learner or learners at least once a week for 1 hour.
  • Complete monthly reports on your learners' progress and your tutoring hours.

Whom do you tutor?
The Alpine area is home to a diverse group of people whose first language is not English. These individuals may be beginning English learners, or they may be seeking to improve their speaking, reading, and writing skills.

Where do you tutor?
Tutoring sessions can take place at the library, on the campus of Sul Ross State University, or in another public space, such as a church or community center.

What materials do you use to tutor?
ESL for the Big Bend uses the *English—No Problem!* series, which includes books for 5 different levels of English-language proficiency: Literacy (beginner), Levels 1-3 (speaking, reading, and writing), and Level 4 (functional literacy). Each level contains a tutor guide, a learner textbook, a workbook, and a book of reproducible masters. You can also create your own materials to meet your learners' needs.

What will you get out of tutoring?
Working with English-language learners can be especially rewarding. You will have the opportunity to meet people from diverse cultural, linguistic, and social backgrounds. And you will be providing another individual with the opportunity to improve his or her language skills and become a lifelong learner.