Learning Tagalog for classroom use

Learning Tagalog: Fluency Made Fast and Easy is a course for beginners that includes 60 lively lessons with dialogues and drills, audio recordings, workbook exercises and a comprehensive grammar reference.

The materials have been designed for self-study. However, as a teacher, you can use the Learning Tagalog course in your Tagalog class.

Below is a suggestion on how you could use the course in a classroom setting.

Sample lesson plan

Session 1: Start a new lesson

1. Group activity
   • Go through each phrase, play the audio 2–3 times, then read the translations and explanations (skip the grammar overviews in Essential Tagalog Grammar for now).
   • Play the lesson overview.

2. Individual activity
   • Let students repeat the phrases out loud for themselves and review the meanings of the words.

3. Group activity
   • Let students read the phrases in pairs (story and drills).

Session 2: Lesson review

We recommend reviewing lessons at least once before doing the workbook exercises.

1. Group activity
   • Go through each phrase again, playing the audio once.
   • Play the lesson overview.
   • Read the grammar topics in Essential Tagalog Grammar that were pointed to in the lesson.
2. In pairs
   • Let students adapt the dialogues with some of their own words (they will become better at this as the course progresses). Help them with vocabulary. If they run out of time, they can finish it at home.

3. Group activity
   • Let them act out the dialogues they wrote (role-playing) and correct any mistakes.

**Session 3: Workbook**

If not all student pairs were able to present their dialogues, let them do this first. Then, let students do the workbook exercises. After that, correct any mistakes with the whole class (let students find and correct their own mistakes so they remember the correct answers).

The workbooks are a good way to gauge whether the students are ready to move on to the next lesson, or whether they need to review the current lesson one more time. You may want to add more exercises if you feel the need for it.

**Session 4: Start a new lesson, and so on**

After every 5 lessons, we suggest you have a quick review of the previous 5 lessons by playing the lesson overviews. For example, before moving on to Lesson 11, you might want to review Lessons 1–5. This would take 10–15 minutes.

The plan above assumes a class duration of about one hour. At this pace, the course would take about 180 hours of classroom instruction to complete.

If you have time left in your lesson plan, you might want to cover topics in Essential Tagalog Grammar that aren’t included in the course.

**Adapting the lessons to the group**

You may have to adapt the lesson plan and activities above to the size and age of the group.

More mature students could be asked to review and prepare their own dialogues at home (activities in Session 2). This would reduce the number of class hours to approximately 120.
Learning Tagalog

At university level, it would be possible to use this course for self-study, and use classroom time for questions and discussions. 60 or even 30 hours of classroom time would suffice. University students are certainly capable of studying the material on their own. In fact, this is more efficient time-wise because students can advance at their own pace.

If some of the dialogues or stories are not suited for the age group, you may have to adapt them and read them aloud yourself instead of using the recordings.

In any case, you can save a lot of time by using the dialogues and grammar in the course. The order in which the lesson phrases and grammar topics are presented has been carefully thought through to be optimal for beginners. You’ll surely find it easy to add short stories or dialogues similar to the ones in the course if you feel there is a need for them.

Contact

For questions, comments or suggestions, you can reach us at team (at) learningtagalog.com.

We wish you success and a lot of fun in class!

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