

Staying Competitive – Job Search Tips

by david@teflist.com (TEFList Blog)

Submitted at 9/1/2010 9:07:40 PM

The present ELT job market is really “dog eat dog” and hyper competitive. With the economy slow in western countries, many more teachers are vying for teaching positions abroad. Still don’t fret! There are many things you can do to improve your chances of landing a great English language teaching job. Here at TEFList, we are here to help you.

These are my top 5 replies when teachers ask me, “What can I do to better my chances of getting an interview?”

1. Read the job ad carefully!

Employers have specific conditions which applicants must follow. These can range from how to contact them to the number and kinds of documentation. Read the ads carefully and follow the employers / recruiters instructions to the letter. Believe it or not – 30% of all applications are thrown out without even being looked at! Why? The teacher didn’t follow the procedures for applying.

2. Polish your resume!

Employers and recruiters typically spend 30 seconds or less looking at each resume. Make yours professional and impeccable. Style it and make it stand out. Use a professional service if you must but follow [these guidelines from MIT](#) (they know what they are doing!). Further, keep it short and direct. Have multiple resumes depending on the position applied also.

3. Widen your search

There are a lot of gems out there and typically, teachers don’t use all the resources and contacts available to them. Use recruiters to help you – they are experts! However, be specific in communicating your requirements to them. Contact schools directly. This can pay off big time – many ELT jobs just aren’t advertised and you could be Johnny or Joanna on the spot.

4. Social Network

Nowadays, jobs are across the web. Make contacts online and use your facebook and linkedIn to maximum effect. Join online communities like EFL Classroom 2.0, make friends and



ask around. This really gives you an edge and in many cases if a job does come open, you’ll be first to apply.

5. Make a video resume

Here at TEFList, we give you the opportunity to show who you are through video. Keep your video short and direct and let them see the person you are. This can be a deal breaker and if you make your video introduction short, to the point, professional – you’ll be sure to get employers and recruiters contacting you. Watch some of our videos for tips on making a video introduction.

The “Art” of the video resume

by david@teflist.com (TEFList Blog)

Submitted at 8/24/2010 11:40:58 AM

TEFList will be expanding and promoting the use of the video resume. See examples in our main play player and on [our Youtube channel](#). For both teachers AND employers. It is a win-win situation and gives each party more information from which to make life

turning decisions.

Yet, there are pitfalls! The video resume got a bad start with [Aleksey Vayner](#) who applied to UBS with clips of his inflated athletic prowess. Here’s another video resume – my question, would you hire this guy?

A video resume, especially for a teaching job, offers you a great opportunity to show who you are. Many might think Alex is over the top, however, he really does get his

point across and shows his creativity and initiative. Most importantly, he does it in a tactful way. So show off but just a little. Stick to the fundamentals employers want to see — eye contact, sincerity, language skills, your experiences and why you are the person for the job. But a little flair like Alex, tastefully done will work too.

Now get making your resume today! Possibility awaits.

Video Resumes produced easily!

by david@teflist.com (TEFList Blog)

Submitted at 9/6/2010 12:56:36 AM

Here at TEFList we will be REALLY promoting the use of video – by both teachers and employers. It just makes sense. There are thousands of miles of distance between the parties and they both want more information so they can make the right career choice.

However, it might at first seem daunting for a teacher to make a video recording. I’ll be explaining how easy it is in the weeks to come but for a start, why not just make an audio recording? It will still personalize your introduction and give you a much better chance at a great job.

How do you do it? It’s easy. Basically, you just get a nice photo of yourself, record the photo on your computer screen, using the screencasting site [SCREENR](#) and then take the embed code and put it on your TEFList profile/resume page. Then tell employers about it. Even download it from Screenr. Here’s a power point explaining the steps and then watch [my own Screenr made introduction!](#)

The 10 Commandments of A Job Search

by david@teflist.com (TEFList Blog)

Submitted at 8/9/2010 12:48:46 AM

Online recruitment sites such as TEFList make life a whole lot easier for those job hunting. Every day we are trying to make it even easier.

However, there are still many basic things that apply. The fundamentals never change and it is a good idea to review them before starting your search. Nothing more fundamental than “The 10 Commandments”. Here’s a nice presentation outlining them for those searching for a job. My fav. is last....says it all!

[The 10 Commandments Of Job Search](#) View more [presentations](#) from [applicantblog](#).

How to ACE your online job interview

by *david@teflist.com* (TEFList
Blog)

Submitted at 8/23/2010 4:50:18 AM

Job interviews aren't easy! They require their own set of skills and preparation. Teachers need to practice with the conferencing equipment (be it skype or tinychat, oovoo, tokbox or something else). There are also many other things to do. This presentation from TIME, offers a wealth of tips to those doing an online interview!