

Quill

Overview

Resource Type	Subjects	NRS Level(s)
Online	Grammar, Writing, ESL, Reading	ABE 2-6 ESL 3-6

Summary

General Information

Quill is a free online resource that builds grammar, reading, and writing skills for both ABE and ESL students. With unlimited student seats and lessons and activities that focus on isolated grammar forms, Quill content is appropriate for ABE students in NRS levels 2-6 and ESL students in NRS levels 3-6. With limited or absent practice on topics such as question formation, plural nouns, etc., Quill activities are likely too difficult for beginning ABE and ESL learners.

By subscribing to Quill, teachers gain access to a variety of grammar and reading activities that they can assign to students for supplemental distance learning, in addition to complete lessons for use during live instruction. When used for supplemental distance learning, Quill functions most effectively as additional practice for topics that have already been taught within the live classroom. Each Quill activity provides short explanations of the targeted grammar's function or form, but it rarely fully explains both, making it appropriate for additional practice but not for initial instruction. ESL teachers should also note that while Quill can support language instruction, it focuses only on writing and reading skills and does not serve as a complete language-learning curriculum.

Technology Requirements

Quill functions well on Firefox, Microsoft Edge, and Google Chrome.

Mobile Accessibility

Many of Quill's instructional activities require students to type partial or complete sentences, so it's ideal for users to have access to a keyboard; however, Quill can be used with a smaller device if needed. Quill is browser based and functions well on all device types.

Logistics

Students sign up for Quill by using a uniquely generated link for their teacher's class, or the teacher can manually create student accounts. In either case, Quill generates a PDF that can be shared with students with directions on how to log in.

Reports

Under the free version of Quill, teachers can use customizable time frames to view their students' completed assignments, general proficiency scores, and time spent on activities. With a premium subscription, teachers gain access to more detailed reports and the ability to export data, but all required information for reporting supplemental distance learning time is available via the free version of Quill. In addition, Quill provides diagnostic tests for ELLs and basic-to-advanced native speakers. Each diagnostic test is coupled with a growth diagnostic, helping teachers and students to compare results and assess student learning over time.

Instruction

Quill has two lesson types; those that the students complete independently, and those that the teacher presents live. Using the "Assign Activities" portion of Quill, teachers can search for content to assign to the class, selecting individual activities by level and grammar/reading concept, or by selecting activity packs that contain several scaffolded activities on the same topic.

Teachers can choose to select activity packs that are entirely independent, meaning the students will complete all of the activities on their own time, or they can select activity packs that contain a teacher-led lesson, followed by independent practice activities. Within the teacher-led lessons, the teacher gains access to a complete lesson with slides that they can project to their students' devices. If desired, teachers can edit the slides by adding additional explanation or practice questions. Each teacher-led lesson contains suggested tips for delivering the lesson content.

Within the independent activities, students receive several opportunities to correct their mistakes when they answer a question incorrectly. Feedback is generally a hint at the correct answers, but other types of feedback include switching the student response

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from open ended to multiple choice, or simply providing the student with the correct answer.

All activities types, both teacher-led and independent, include combining sentences from provided prompts, proofreading, selecting provided options to best complete a sentence, and answering reading comprehension questions. The reading comprehension activities specifically focus on building the learners' ability to answer questions while using support from the text as evidence.

Student Interface

While logged into Quill, students can easily find assignments that are due, or they can review their past assignments. Quill's student interface is very intuitive and uncluttered, but if students find they need additional help navigating the site, they can use the student resource center to find video and text-based resources for getting started.

Teacher Interface

Teachers can create their own classes in Quill or import a pre-existing class from Google Classroom. From their class roster, teachers can edit student profiles, reset passwords, merge duplicate accounts, and remove students from specific classes. In addition, teachers have access to a chat-based tech support once they log into Quill, should they need any technical assistance.

Accessibility Features

Online platforms may include different accessibility features to aid learners. The publisher has provided a [Voluntary Product Accessibility Template](#) to help you review the features offered. Information that may help you understand the VPAT is available in our [informational document](#).

You may also contact the publisher's sales representative or customer support.