

IATEFL Voices Guidelines: IATEFL Webinar Reviews

The reviewer is expected to have an academic interest in and/or practical experience of the webinar topic. This is a voluntary task and IATEFL pays no fee. However, the reviewer gets a complimentary copy of the issue of Voices the review appears in. The review can be cited among your professional activities and is a good entry to writing for ELT publications.

Procedure: The reviewer chooses the webinar from the list at <http://www.iatefl.org/web-events/webinars> and then emails the editor with the one s/he would like to review. The reviewer attends the webinar and writes up a review following the guidelines below. The recordings and PowerPoints of the webinars are available to the general public for a week after the event and to members after that. These can be used to aid the memory / check facts when writing the review.

Aim: to give a balanced representation of the event for readers of Voices

Style: MSWord document, left-justified Ariel 11 text

Length: 300 – 350 words

Name of Speaker: 'Webinar Title', day/month presented

1. Why you attended
2. Summary of webinar aims and content, including any interesting points made and/ or any interesting audience reaction
3. Evaluation: whether the aims of the webinar were achieved and effect on you

Your name and affiliation/work context and country, email address

Sample Review:

Dorothy Zemach: 'Self-publishing your Materials', June

When I heard that Dorothy Zemach was doing a webinar for IATEFL on 'Self-Publishing Your Materials', I signed up to attend, flagged up my online calendar, highlighted my real world calendar and started telling all my author and 'would-be author' friends and colleagues that they had to come too - because if anyone was going to be able to show us how to do it, Dorothy was that person! As well as being a successful ELT writer in her own right, Dorothy runs her own independent publishing company, Wayzgoose Press where she publishes genre fiction, literary non-fiction and educational materials.

I'm pleased (but not surprised) to say that Dorothy didn't disappoint and, in true DZ-style, her webinar was clear, informative, often humorous and pitched at the perfect level both for those of us who know very little and those who already know a bit about the growing world of self-publishing. Dorothy's no-nonsense, common sense and practical approach to training and presenting was reflected in her webinar and slides. First she gave us convincing reasons for why we should consider self-publishing (and also why we shouldn't). Then she gave us advice about formats, outlining the pros and cons of eBooks and PODs (print-on-demand) paperbacks. She showed us examples of pages of self-published materials in both formats and explained exactly what we would need to do both. She ended with invaluable advice about where to publish and where to get more help – AND a voucher for a free downloadable eBook.

I was particularly impressed by (and grateful for) Dorothy's ability to spontaneously answer the questions participants posted without losing her train of thought or veering from the path we were following. I left the webinar feeling inspired to self-publish my own materials - and curious to know what 'wayzgoose' means! If anybody else is wondering, they can find out on Dorothy's website <http://wayzgoosepress.com/>

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Please note, we do not currently publish SIG webinar reviews