

# #ENGLISH4U NEWSLETTER

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**Dear colleagues,**

A new month begins and we're back with lots of energy! ⚡ 😊

At the [British Council Cuba](#), we have embraced the “new normal” with great desire to work, although we continue to take care of ourselves.

We've started with the **Materials development course for authors of English language workbooks for Cuba**, together with the [Ministry of Education \(MINED\)](#).

This is our first online training experience with MINED and we are very happy to begin exploring digital scenarios for our future exchanges and workshops.

The course for the Collective of Authors (ongoing from **October 19-23 and November 2-6**) is aimed at the Primary, Secondary and Pre-university educational levels and has the advice of the UK expert **Anthea Edgar**.

English language teachers from Havana, Pinar del Rio and Artemisa provinces have been able to join the online sessions.

During last week and next one the group works to enhance existing materials to **develop skills-based learning** with an emphasis on communicative competence and materials which are topical, appropriate and as authentic as possible, and also works to include the teaching of language in a way which promotes genuinely communicative practice and use in realistic situations, among other relevant topics.

Do you want to know how our teachers have done during this first part of the course? 

## Let them tell us!

What's new?	Partners & friends	Highlights
<p>As part of International Education Week, we'll be celebrating teachers who support young people around the world to work towards positive change. Through the Education Exchange series' webinar <b>Schools reopening: community action</b>, we'll hear from teachers whose pupils are working on a wide range of projects including climate change, community connections during lockdown and helping to make a more anti-racist world. The webinar will take place on <b>Wednesday 18 November 2020 from 10.00am to 11.00am</b> Cuba time.</p>	<p>You are still on time to register for the online short courses in English being promoted by the <b>University of Informatics Sciences (UCI)</b> on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of its Language Centre (Congrats!!!). We're co-sponsoring the courses and the University have invited British experts to join the academic board leading the trainings. Courses are aimed at Cuban professionals from any area of expertise!</p>	<p>October is <b>Black History Month</b> in the UK to challenge racism and promote understanding, by making sure that black people's achievements and stories are not forgotten. This time, our <b>LearnEnglish - British Council</b> team has created new content to talk about #BlackHistoryMonth on classes around the world. For teachers who are interested in using the materials on this topic in lessons, we share the link below.</p>
<p><a href="#">Register now!</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Apply before October 30</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Download the materials</a></p>

Our aim is that as many people as possible benefit from this initiative. For this reason, we would like to know if you have any **special visual or hearing needs**, and if so, please specify what changes would be required (lighter, darker, larger letters, in another colour, fewer texts, more or less audio content, among other).

If you have a friend or colleague who may be interested in receiving our bulletin, please share this link to subscribe: <https://caribbean.britishcouncil.org/es/boletines-electronicos>

We can also stay connected through our new Facebook page for British Council in Cuba: <http://www.facebook.com/BritishCouncilCuba>