

## The Introduction

Your RAPP should include an Introduction providing the context within which the RAPP is situated. Your RAPP should include an introduction and a contents page. this is not included in the wordcount of the RAPP. In your introduction, specify:

- The context(s) in which your RAPP is situated and a brief account of your EAP/ELT experience •
- Your experience of EAP/ELT to date •
- Your learning through the process of assembling the evidence and writing the account •
- Future development suggested by your engagement with TEAP

Below is an example of an Associate Fellow Introduction which sets the context with feedback from an assessor:

I have taught EAP at [institution] continuously for the last fifteen months (since date) as well as during four summer pre-sessionals (dates). I first became aware of the TEAP accreditation scheme in (date) and I began collecting evidence towards a portfolio shortly afterwards.

At the beginning of that time, I was a teacher with considerable classroom experience outside of EAP. I had spent four years as a secondary school teacher of English, followed by eight years teaching EFL for general purposes. Twelve months later, however, as I write this Reflective Account of Professional Practice, I am able to look back on a year of intense development during which I have deepened my knowledge and understanding of EAP and enjoyed diverse opportunities to practise using EAP teaching techniques and strategies. My understanding of EAP principles and the wider context in which EAP is practised have also developed. From a competent teacher of EFL I have developed into a competent teacher of EAP.

### Feedback from the TEAP Assessor:

Provide context of your teaching experience. It can include previous English Language Teaching; it doesn't need to be EAP.

Have you done any relevant teacher training and what would you like to learn more about EAP

Don't be too modest. Sell yourself as a teacher.

### **Introduction Analysis:**

Here is the redraft of the context based on feedback:

I am a teacher of English with more than fourteen years of experience across a wide range of settings. I have spent a total of two years teaching EAP at [institution]. I previously taught English for four years at secondary schools in [country], where I prepared students for university entrance examinations. Before that, I was an English Language Assistant in a high school in [country] for one year, and afterwards I spent seven years teaching EFL at language academies in [city] and [city], [country], where I prepared students for IELTS and Cambridge Examinations, as well as teaching English for Business Purposes. I have a PGCE in English and MA in Linguistics which have informed my practice teaching in schools and later when teaching EAP.

Study the Introduction redraft extract above submitted by this Fellow candidate and the comments from the assessor.

- How has the candidate expanded on their expertise and experience of EAP/ELT ?
- What values is the candidate demonstrating in this extract?

### **Suggested Responses:**

How could the candidate expand on their expertise and experience of EAP/ELT?

*The applicant is more confident in their teaching experience as a whole as this will also shape and inform their EAP practice.*

What values is the candidate demonstrating in this extract?

*The applicants continuous CPD has shown they are committed to evidence based practice within their various professional contexts (V1).*

### **Learning from the BALEAP TEAP**

When describing what you have learnt through the process of assembling the evidence and writing the account concentrate on what you have learnt, not the process.

## Introduction Analysis:

Study the Introduction extract below submitted by a fellow candidate describing what they have learnt from the process.

- How has the candidate shown what they have learnt through the process?
- What else could have been included to support this development?

Composing my RAPP has also made the conceptualisations of EAP between my varying contexts to become more apparent. From the low stakes academic literacy support which takes an English for Specific Academic Purposes (ESAP) approach which I provide on insessional provision in [country]. To the high stakes English for General Academic Purposes (EGAP) approach for the preessionals I have taught at [institutions]. This has highlighted the different approaches I take to EAP when teaching in these contexts, and depending on autonomy, how I teach the students in these classes. One approach that is constant is taking a discourse approach to EAP through analysis of texts appropriate for the target contexts

## Suggested Response:

How has the candidate shown what they have learnt through the process?

*The applicant has explored how different contexts impact and shape how EAP is delivered.*

What else could have been included to support this development?

*Some links to theory could have been added in this section. Perhaps Discourse approach/academic literacies. This could come from suggestions in the TEAP Handbook or beyond.*

## Future Development

The final components asks applicants to consider future developments to be considered after your engagement with the BALEAP TEAP. It would make sense to complete this section after you have completed the RAPP and Case Study. Here is a brief example from a Senior Fellow applicant:

By completing the BALEAP TEAP I have reflected on my teaching practice and areas for development. In the future, an area I would like to develop further is shaping the contexts within which EAP operates. To do this I would like to take on

an external examiner role or a committee/leadership role within student education at [institution]. Also, I would like to develop my mentoring skills by both becoming a mentor at [institution] and beyond.

### **Introduction Summary:**

- Don't be too modest. Sell yourself and your experience.
- Don't write down the process. Reflect on what you have learnt from the process.
- Identify areas for development from weak or lacking competencies.
- Include citations if relevant.
- Think about how your context and what you have learnt reflect BALEAP values?
- The RAPP should not contain a conclusion, but rather any final reflections can be placed at the end of the introduction.