



**BUCKEYE**  
Real Life American English

## ESL - Conversation Specialist

Buckeye English - Dnipro, Ukraine

[www.buckeyeenglish.com](http://www.buckeyeenglish.com)

Thank you for your interest in our Conversation Specialist position located in Dnipro, Ukraine.

We offer a rewarding and amazing life adventure like no other! To begin the interview process, please review this Q and A to determine if this position is right for you.

**Q:** What are the most important professional qualities a Conversation Specialist needs?

**A:** You must have a strong desire and ability to ask interesting questions in order to engage students in conversation. A **FUN PERSONALITY** to make the lessons enjoyable, a **GENUINE PASSION** for people and for teaching, **FOCUSED LISTENING** so you can correct speaking mistakes, a **COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING** of your audience, **ENTHUSIASM**, **TEACHING EXPERIENCE** and **LESSON PREPARATION** so you can handle any classroom situation.

**Q:** What and how are you going to teach?

**A:** Our lessons are interactive, fun, energetic, interesting and useful. Our native teachers focus on “8 core areas” : pronunciation, vocabulary, phrasal verbs, idioms, slang, collocations, speed, fear (building confidence). We approach each lesson with the same methodology: 1) review 2) practice what they know 3) use what they learn

**Q:** Who are the students?

**A:** Our students are 22-35 year old professionals. We teach very intelligent software engineers, developers, designers, project managers, artists and CEOs. The IT industry is the #3 export in Ukraine and growing. This generation is creating a middle-class and changing the mentality of this country.

**Q:** Do I need a Visa?

**A:** If you are a U.S. citizen, you do not need to have a Ukrainian visa as long as you will be in Ukraine for fewer than 90 days within a 180-day period. You need a visa or valid Ukrainian residency permit for all stays longer than 90 days. <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/ukraine.html>

**Q:** What if everything works out and I want to stay longer?

**A:** We will assist you in obtaining a 1) valid Ukrainian residency permit or 2) help you leave the country on an excursion trip to get your passport stamped or 3) provide assistance in “overstay” procedures.

**Q:** How much is a plane ticket to Ukraine?

**A:** It varies depending on your point of departure in the US, but a round trip ticket costs between \$800 - \$1,200.

**Q:** What are the living accommodations like and how much is rent?

**A:** If you are offered a Conversation Specialist position, we will provide you a comfortable apartment near the city center. Based on your living preferences, you can choose either single or roommate housing. We manage and negotiate everything with the landlord on your behalf. Monthly rent includes all utilities and WiFi: approximately \$275 for shared living, \$350 for single. During the interview process, we show you some examples of apartments.

**Q:** What do I need to bring?

**A:** Apartments come fully furnished. We provide pillows, clean sheets and pillow cases. For teaching, a laptop with an HDMI connection is required. We provide the cables.

**Q:** What about medical care?

**A:** Compared to the United States, medical care in Ukraine is very cheap. We have a good company doctor that speaks English and will assist with any medical problems while you are here.

**Q:** Why is there a 1-2 week orientation/training period?

**A:** Teachers work through this progression: **crawl** (*orientation*) - **walk** (*semi-autonomous*) – **run** (*fully-autonomous*) Dnipro is our “work campus” so we travel to different office buildings located throughout the city. Our goal is that by the end of your 2<sup>nd</sup> week, you know where all your classes are located, you understand each group's level, company security procedure, how to use copiers, etc. and your lessons are ready. Also, you understand how to use public transportation and where shops, restaurants, cafes and points of interest are located. We have a first class teacher support team that assists you through this learning curve and helps you get settled into Dnipro life.

**Q:** How much do I make?

**A:** Pay schedule:

- |                                                                                 |   |       |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-------|------------------|
| 1) <b>crawl</b> : orientation and training (week 1): 250uah/hour                | : | 3-5   | intro. lessons   |
| 2) <b>walk</b> : semi-autonomous : 250uah/hour and 375uah/1.5hour class         | : | 15-20 | lessons per week |
| 3) <b>run</b> : fully-autonomous : 275uah/hour and 400uah/1.5hour class         | : | 15-20 | lessons per week |
| 4) <b>thrive</b> : you continuously EXCEL: 300uah/hour and 450uah/1.5hour class | : | 20 +  | lessons per week |
- Your salary is paid once a month and is based on how many classes you teach.

**Q:** I want to make 20,000uah a month, how many classes is that and what's the schedule like?

**A:** Great! When you get to the “**run**” phase, you will average 4 classes a day (20 classes per week) and you will make 20,000uah per month. No two schedules are alike. Some companies prefer morning classes, others prefer afternoon or evening classes. However, the earliest start time is 9am and the latest end time is 8:30pm.

**Q:** Classroom performance and lesson preparation are very important, aren't they?

**A:** Yes! Your classroom performance, student evaluations and lesson preparation are very important if you want to make it to the “**thrive**” phase. We help you become an expert in turning “Ukrainian English” into “Real Life American English.” We create a fun, interactive atmosphere where students learn and practice English in conversation. This position is called “Conversation Specialist” because we want to get our students talking. You are required to have lesson plans and materials prepared 2-weeks in advance.

**Q:** How much money should I bring to Ukraine?

**A:** Since you get paid at the end of the month, you will need money to live on until your first paycheck. You will need to bring rent money for your first month's rent. Rent is due when you arrive (at the beginning of the month) and then taken out of your salary for the following months. You will also need money for food, entertainment, etc.

**Q:** What is Dnipro like?

**A:** Awesome! Dnipro is the perfect size, not too big, not too small. It's alive with a cool vibe! A wonderful place for a native teacher to live and work. Read more here <http://gorod.dp.ua/eng/>

**Q:** When are teachers expected to arrive in Dnipro?

**A:** Ideally, anytime between the last 4 or first 4 days of the month. Your first week consists of recovering from jet lag, settling into your apartment, a busy orientation, observation and training schedule and teaching a few classes.

**Q:** What if I can't make it now, but I'm interested in this opportunity?

**A:** Start the interview process now! We are opening new locations and hiring more teachers in the nearest future.

**Q:** What is the interview process?

**A:** 1) Q and A 2) Skype interview 3) Test lesson

**Q:** What is the biggest reward about this job?

**A:** The amazing individuals and people you will meet while living in Dnipro, Ukraine.



Please consider these questions and answers carefully. If you have any questions or would like to continue the interview process, please write me at [andy.buckeye@gmail.com](mailto:andy.buckeye@gmail.com) or find me on skype at “**buckeye.teachers**” and we'll schedule a skype interview on an upcoming Saturday or Sunday anytime from 11am-2pm EST. Ukraine is 7-hours ahead of EST.

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