

SUPPORT GROUP	TEACHER	SYNOPSIS	1st SESSION
Literature – advanced reading skills – theory and practice	Eva Čoupková	During our several sessions I intend to read critically a text of our common choice in English – be it a novel, a short story, an essay, or a poem – and interpret and analyse it employing the basic theoretical tools. These include, depending on the nature of the narrative, the differences between story and narration, point of view, use of figurative language, gender and genre aspects of the text, questions of originality and value, and so on. Before the first session I would like you to think of a text that would be interesting for you, giving me your suggestions and reasons for your choice. You can use the web page http://www.goodreads.com/ for reference.	18/10/2013 at 9 am PřF Kotlářská 2, room J2, ground floor
Drama	Libor Štěpánek	This support group will focus on linguistic and sociocultural features of Academic English by means of direct experience and focused reflection in order to increase knowledge, clarify values, and develop skills within the context of academic conferences and projects. The programme of this group is practical and largely non-theoretical. Participants will be actively involved in a series of written and oral preparatory individual as well as interactive group tasks; a one day drama workshop; and a follow-up series of reflection and feedback activities. At the end of the group work, participants will be equipped with some useful language tools for effective negotiation and confident problem solving	10/10/2013 at 5pm Jazyková studovna
Vocabulary builder	Martina Šindelářová - Skupeňová	This support group is designed to help students to expand their Academic English vocabulary. The focus of this group is practical, aiming at students' individual needs. Participants will be introduced to some useful vocabulary learning strategies and tools, including the usage of language corpora. Students will develop their individual as well as interactive group word lists. They will also be involved in a series of recycling, revision and feedback activities. At the end of the group work, participants will know how to develop and maintain their vocabulary knowledge.	9/10/2013 at 7pm N41, Janáčkovo nám.

Case studies	Štěpánka Bilová	In this support group you will choose a contemporary or recent case from your field of study and prepare a report (in both written and oral forms) describing the parties, conflicts, negotiations, results and your own comments. It would be valuable if you were successful with contacting any of the persons involved and provide their perspective. The group will meet twice. During the first session we will develop the strategies and in the second one we will share the outcomes.	7/10/2013 at 6:15pm room 258, PrF, 2nd floor
Business English	Jiřina Hrbáčková Blanka Pojslová	Students are expected to follow media coverage of major current development in business, economics or politics according to their field of study/interest and report shortly on a regular basis to peers in their support groups via e-mail correspondence or a google docs file. English online sources are expected to be used and to serve as basis for discussions during the meeting sessions in the course of the semester. Any comments or online discussions concerning the reporting of the news (in terms of the content or the language) are welcome and appreciated. The aim of the support group is to enhance students' understanding of major business and economic development and increase their reading, listening, writing and speaking English language skills. Suggested sources: bbc.co.uk , economist.com , ft.com , and other according to preferences of participants.	14/11/2013 at 4:30pm Jazyková studovna CJV
Art in galleries and elsewhere	Barbora Chovancová	In this support group we shall look at visual art in different forms. It will take place in two meetings: first, we shall meet in an art gallery (November 1, 3-6 p.m.) to discuss how we feel about the artwork displayed there and subsequently write an art review. The second meeting will take place in the CJV study room (December 3, 9 a.m.-noon) where we shall watch and discuss film art – working our way from pop culture upwards.	1/11/2013 at 3pm Moravská zemská galerie

Soft skills	Eva Trumpešová - Rudolfová	SOFT SKILLS – EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND HOW TO SURVIVE IN A WORLD FULL OF ... PEOPLE Motivation, self-motivation, empathy, intuition, trust, cooperation, multiple intelligences, self-reflection, self-presentation, personal swot analysis, recognizing and managing emotions, handling relationships, working in a team, communicating well ... You name it, we can work on it. In personal as well as in working lives, we need to be able to get along with people. We need to have good inter-personal and intra-personal skills as it makes things much easier. This course is a place where you can gain or enhance or practice them, depending on what you need. I believe that every individuals bringing in his or her experience will enrich the classes with new perspectives, new ideas...	to be specified
Presentation skills	Lenka Zouhar Ludvíková	Sooner or later you are all going to give a presentation and it might be in English. Let´s try a few presentations in this support group. All of you are going to perform at least 3times, presenting different topics. You will be learning from your and other people´s mistakes, you will be giving feedback to one another and you will become better presenters for exams to come, for conferences to go to, for your future careers.	13/11/2013 at 5pm Jazyková studovna CJV
Academic discussions	Lenka Zouhar Ludvíková	In three sessions of this support group we are going to explore the mechanisms and principles of academic discussions and much more. After the first meeting we will decide which topics are the most attractive and controversial for us so that we can then prepare for the real academic discussions ourselves. You are going to learn useful language tools and phrases, you are going to study and prepare materials for our discussions and you will hopefully enjoy the whole experience.	23/10/2013 at 1:30pm Jazyková studovna CJV
Journalling	Martina Nosková	We will explore the exciting sphere of personal journal writing. Whether you choose to read published journals of famous writers, books on journalling or get inspired in the virtual world, whether you decide to try writing personal accounts of your everyday life or compose your life into poems and little haiku snippets, you will realize that apart from thinking, reading and writing for the course, you also think, read, write, and, above all, live your life more mindfully than ever. You will create your own version of this course as well as you create you own life.	to be specified

Academic Writing	Tristan Lee Libor Štěpánek	This support group is designed to provide students with an opportunity to take their academic writing skills in English to a higher level, specifically in relation to their own discipline. The programme of this group is practical as well as theoretical. Participants will be actively involved in a series of written individual, collaborative and peer-review tasks. Their texts will be analysed and discussed with a native speaker, an academic support professional. At the end of the group work, participants will be able to understand generic and specific features of academic texts; evaluate strengths and weaknesses of written work and know how to improve their individual writing style.	11/10/2013 at 4pm Jazyková studovna CJV
English for the Environment	Šárka Roušavá	English for the Environment will bring together English language learners and inspire them to discuss environmental issues in a form that is created by the learners themselves. At the first support group session, students will be provided with various e-learning language links focused on environmental issues; these will include vocabulary, readings, comprehension questions, discussion topics, quizzes and videos. Between the support group sessions, students are encouraged to design group or individual projects on an Environmental theme of their choice. These topics can range from activism, organic agriculture and eco-architecture to eco-business planning, fair-trade and urban planning. The topic is up to you, as well as the work strategy. The support group will attempt to provide a forum of discussion for people who care about the earth, but may find it difficult to express their opinions and concerns in English.	10/10/2013 at 6pm room U44, FSS

SHOWERS	<i>teacher</i>
Pronunciation	Eva Trumpešová - Rudolfová
Book Club	Eva Čoupková
Film Club	Pavel Reich
Reading Shower	Petra Trávníková
Grammar Shower	Petra Trávníková
Double Speak and Loaded Language	Pavel Reich

We will speak, we will listen, we will improve our guessing and intuition of what the others are saying, simply, we will be doing whatever you personally need to do to improve your pronunciation, so that you feel at ease from now on, when using all the weird words like choir, ruthlessness, conscientious, thoroughly and many more...
In our single session I would like you to speak about the literary work of art you like – be it a novel, poem, short story, drama – belonging to English or any other national literature; however, you should be able to discuss it in English. Your task will be to introduce the work and/or its author, tell us what you find important/interesting/strange/valuable/ typical regarding the author/work/ period in which the work originated, and suggest further points for discussion.
Students will be offered 5 films out of which they will have to agree on one and watch it individually before the session. During the session itself there will be a discussion about the film, followed by language excersises based on the film dialogues.
This shower will provide students with an opportunity to improve a skill that is essential in academic research, i.e. reading. They will be given some tips and tools that will make their reading more efficient, such as skimming and scanning, which will be illustrated and practised.
In this shower, we will concentrate on those areas in English grammar that are found problematic by the students themselves and identified prior to our session in email correspondence. Consequently, we will deal with these areas both at the theoretical and practical level.
Students will be made familiar with doublespeak and loaded language, i.e. special kinds of language used mainly by governmental, military, and corporate institutions in order to manipulate people's thought and influence their perception of reality. Students will learn to identify such langauge and will be given the opportunity to try to create it actively.