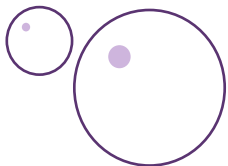


# Fostering accent diversity in workplace communication

Oksana Hera

PronSIG Online Conference  
4 October 2020



# Workplace context



TEACHER'S ROLE



INTERACTION  
PATTERNS



BUSINESS GOALS

# A bubble of our own



<https://www.pexels.com/photo/selective-focus-photo-of-tear-drop-717412/>

Accent = fear

# Accent as a barrier



PREVIOUS  
EXPERIENCE



LACK OF  
KNOWLEDGE HOW  
TO DEAL WITH IT



LIMITED EXPOSURE

# Accent as a barrier



# Techniques



HELP THEM SEE A  
HUMAN BEHIND  
THE ACCENT




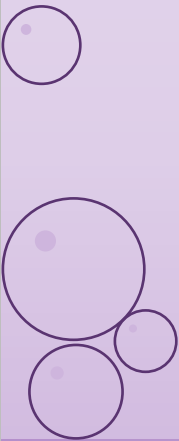
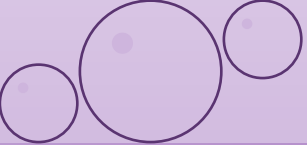

BROADEN THE  
PERSPECTIVE



EQUIP WITH THE  
TOOLS



# Help them see a human


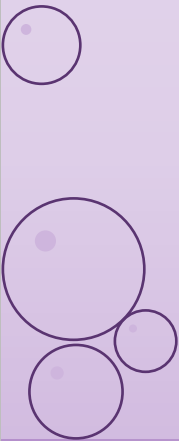
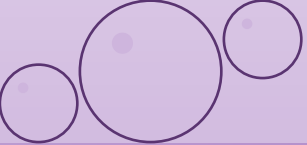
- How often do you talk to them?
  - How long have you known them?
  - What do they care about?
- 
- 
- 
- 






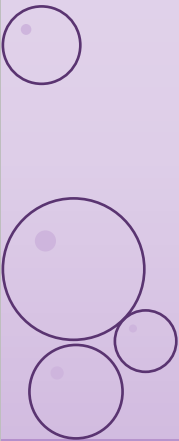
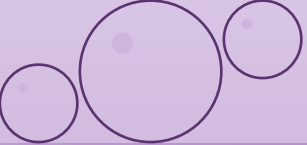

# Broaden the perspective

## Team training

- Listening tracks from *Business Listening: B1-C2 (Collins Business Skills and Communication)* by Ian Badger
  - Information about the way English sounds are pronounced in Indian English and the prosody of Indian English (based on Wikipedia [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian\\_English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_English) )
- 
- 
- 



# Equip with the tools

- Encourage their input
  - Guide them
- 
- 
- 
- 



# Movies by Levels

## INTERMEDIATE / B1

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) + **vocabulary practice**

Cinderella (1950)

Ferdinand (2017)

Inside Out (2015)

Inside Einstein's Mind (2015)



# Movies by Levels

## SEARCH

## NAVIGATION

[Home](#)

[About](#)

[Blog](#)

[Tips for Learners](#)

## RECENT POSTS

[One Planet \(2019\) B1 + film link](#)

So there's a good film. What's next?

# Movies by Levels

## Brené Brown: The Call to Courage (2019) B2


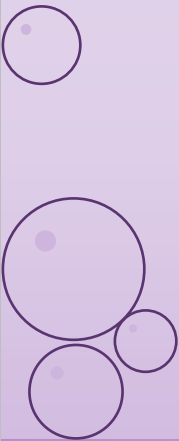
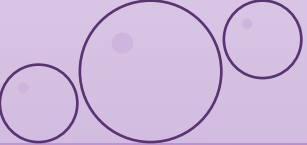

august 9, 2019

It's a brand-new film defined as a documentary. However, it's a very different genre for the readers of Movies by Levels. Based on her research findings, Brené looks at shame, vulnerability and how these are related to courage which is crucial for everyone to know. Unlike many documentaries recommended earlier, this one has only one ... [Continue reading](#)

tagged [american accents](#), [american english](#), [documentary](#), [inspirational](#), [life skills](#) [leave a comment](#)



# Equip with the tools

- Encourage their input
  - Guide them
  - Follow-up on their impressions
- 
- 
- 
- 

# My takeaways



Fear of accent shouldn't be ignored



Diversity of accents can't be imposed by the trainer



Accent is one of the elements of the puzzle



Relate to L1 accents



Manage expectations



# Thank you!

[languagetconnect.com](https://languagetconnect.com)

[linkedin.com/in/oksanahera](https://linkedin.com/in/oksanahera)