

# Peer reviewing lectures: resource overview

**Collection:** Large group teaching

## Learning outcomes

This peer review exercise is designed to prompt individuals or groups to begin thinking critically about what makes a good lecture/lecturer and what tools and tasks can help make a particular lecture more or less successful. This is also a reflective exercise which will develop:

1. an enhanced level of critical self-awareness as a teacher;
2. an ability to deploy one's own subject skills (close reading; linguistic awareness; metaphorical play) on pedagogic subject matter [e.g. ability to 'read' a lecture];
3. one's repertoire of tools and media for engaging students as a result of observing other lecturers at work.

## Overview

Using a peer review exercise, the objective is to start thinking critically, as an individual or group, about what makes a good lecture/lecturer and what tools and tasks can help make a particular lecture more or less successful. We are very grateful to our colleagues for allowing us into their lecture halls to observe their teaching. As you work with these examples of teaching please keep your commentary focused on pedagogy and refrain from criticisms which would be unhelpful or unkind in a face-to-face peer review. The idea is make use of your professional skills to read and analyse a lecture: so you can use your attentiveness to language, structure, style, levels of formality or informality and so forth. As with reading a text, a detail may be as telling as an appreciation of a total structure.



**1** | *This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.*

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## Activities within this resource

- Peer review: A Science of Literature lecture
  - Peer review: Shakespeare's London lecture
  - Peer review: The Odour of Chrysanthemums lecture
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## Resources in the *Large group teaching* collection

- Large group teaching: introduction to the collection
- **Peer reviewing lectures: resource overview (\*you are here)**
  - Peer review: A Science of Literature lecture
  - Peer review: Shakespeare's London lecture
  - Peer review: The Odour of Chrysanthemums lecture
- Identifying good and bad practice: resource overview
  - How to give a bad lecture: individual activity
  - How to give a bad lecture: group activity
  - The written and the improvised
- Planning and evaluating your lecture: resource overview
  - The genre of the lecture: individual activity
  - Peer review: group activity

