

Accent International – a focus on training excellence.

Accent was founded by a trainer - and excellence in training is at the heart of the organisation. Our team of trainers is strongly supported by an office staff which provides the infrastructure and the platform to enable our trainers to produce high-quality programmes for each and every course participant.

Mark Waistell B.Sc., M.A., P.G.C.E., R.S.A.Dip. TEFLA, F.R.S.A Senior Partner

Mark founded Accent in 1988 after working in the UK and abroad as a Teacher, Course Designer, Director of Studies and Principal. He is a Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics, a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry and holds the Postgraduate Certificate of Education and the Royal Society of Arts Diploma in Teaching English as a Foreign language to Adults. Mark is a published author of English language course books and writes and speaks widely on English language teaching. He is responsible for General Management, Consultancy and Corporate Programmes abroad and teaches on Executive programmes in the UK and abroad. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Steve Oliver B.A., P.G.C.E., R.S.A.Dip. TEFLA Director of Training

Steve joined Accent in 1990 after working in the UK and abroad as Teacher, Teacher-Trainer, Materials-writer and Lecturer. He is a Bachelor of Arts in English and Philosophy and holds the Postgraduate Certificate of Education and the Royal Society of Arts Diploma in Teaching English as a Foreign language to Adults. Steve also has qualifications and experience in the fields of IT and Finance. His responsibilities are Executive and Professional Courses in the UK, Course Design, Materials Writing and Trainer Development. He also teaches on Executive Programmes in the UK and abroad.



Jill Bray Office Manager

Jill joined Accent in 2007 to take on the important role of Office Manager. Jill has worked in a wide variety of companies in areas as diverse as Financial Services, Biotechnology, Open Learning Centre, Early Learning Centre and the National Trust. She has held positions in Training Co-ordination, Customer Services and as Centre Manager. She and her family have moved to Devon and she is now responsible for all of the work of our busy office, including bookings administration, accommodation, transport and welfare.



Training Staff

Our team of full-time and part-time trainers is selected for their qualifications, experience and knowledge. In addition to qualifications in English Language Teaching, many of our trainers have qualifications and/or experience in other areas of business or professional work. This team provides a variety of approach, expertise and methodology which, we believe, enables us to create a quality programme of specialist English training for almost every professional area.



Accent International Language Consultancy

Accent International is different. It was founded in 1988 as a specialist consultancy and language training organisation for Companies, Executives, Managers and Professionals. We work all over the world providing training solutions for professional language problems, enabling our clients and course participants to work effectively on a global scale.

Accent's philosophy is "Personal, Professional, Quality Training."

Because we always focus on the needs of the individual – even when training for large corporate clients.

Because we always use experienced and well-qualified staff on all courses.

Because our belief in quality extends from the training through accommodation, organisation and client-company relations to all aspects of our service.

Because we use training concepts, interpersonal skills, technology and a business environment to create a professional atmosphere.

Accent – "Professional Training in English."



Executive and Professional Training

Accent is a small, specialist organisation. Although we work with big corporations, we never have more than 25 course participants on our courses at Bicton College. This is deliberate because we believe that we need to limit the number of people to enable us to provide a personal, tailored service and respond to the needs of the participants.

Our participants are mature adults – executives and professionals who need to make rapid progress in specific areas.

Our programmes of study are in General English, Business English or Specialist English.

General English can include Socializing, Travel, General Communications, Study Purposes.

Business English can look at General Business Language or work-focused topics such as Finance, Sales, Marketing, Human Resources, Production, Logistics etc.

Specialist English can examine such areas as Accounting, Banking, Construction, Engineering, Insurance, Law, Medicine, Petroleum, Pharmaceuticals, Technology.

Specific skills can cover Meetings, Negotiations, Presentations, Report-writing, Intercultural Awareness, Attending Conferences.



Executive and Professional Training

In England, Accent provides training in three main formats.

One-to-one

One-to-one programmes are available in intensities from 20 to 50 hours per week. An individual course allows you to decide exactly what you are going to study, when and with what. Each course is individually-designed and tailor-made to fit the needs of the participant.

Small Group

Studying in a small group is a very good way of improving accuracy and communication skills in a professional context. Small groups are for a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 participants. These courses are for 40 hours per week.

Combination Courses

There are 3 different combinations of one-to-one and small group training and intensities are 35 or 40 hours per week. The small group element can focus on professional skills and communication and the one-to-one element can be tailor-made for very specific needs.



Accent International's UK Centre

Accent's courses in the UK take place at Bickton College in the beautiful county of Devon in South West England.

Bickton College was built in the early 18th century and is the former home of Lord Clinton. It stands in a private park of 200 hectares and is reached by a long tree-lined avenue. The building is surrounded by formal gardens, trees, flowers and fields and at the front is a large lake.

It is now a fully-equipped training centre, providing modern technology and facilities for participants travelling to Accent from all over the world.

From the entrance lodge along the only avenue of monkey-puzzle trees in Europe, past the lake and through the trees, you enter the colonnaded main door.

As you pass the statue of Lord Clinton and ascend the stairs with their chandelier and stained glass windows you arrive at Accent's Executive Suite of offices and training rooms.



Accent International's UK Centre

Accent's Executive Suite has been created out of the 18th century building to give a modern learning environment within the beauty of a historic manor house.

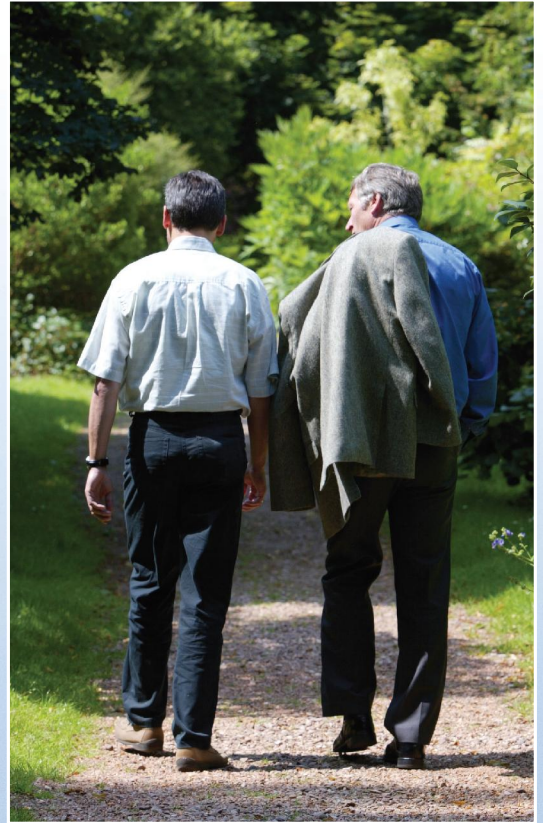
Careful use of glass, furniture, partitioning and sound-proofing has produced light, bright, well-equipped teaching rooms for one-to-one or group training.

There are nine training rooms in addition to reception and coffee room. Equipment includes: video and audio recording, computers, beamer presentation-facilities, and, of course, free internet and email access.

All of the training rooms look out over the park and most have sea views.

Learning specialist language intensively is very hard work. Working here, in this beautiful place, we can take advantage of the woodland walks, seats by the lake and the quiet of the walled gardens to clear the head and help participants to work effectively and with the greatest possible efficiency.

We believe that we have created the ideal environment for language learning. Our course participants work extremely hard in a relaxed atmosphere located in a place of great beauty.



Accent International's Location

When Accent International was founded, it was decided to look for a centre and a location which closely resembled corporate management training centres. So – definitely not London or any big city but somewhere in the countryside, in attractive surroundings but close to good facilities and with excellent communications. The choice has been a good one.

Devon, in south-west England, has two coasts and a choice of wonderful beaches, fishing villages and sea suitable for swimming, sailing or surfing.

UNESCO has recently recognised the beauty of this area by making our local coast a World Heritage Site. This coast is 5 minutes from our centre.

In addition to two coasts, Devon has two national parks, Dartmoor and Exmoor. Dartmoor is a high moorland with “tors” and connections with Sherlock Holmes and Agatha Christie. Exmoor is more gentle with trees, valleys and rivers. Wildlife is wonderful and even includes wild horses.



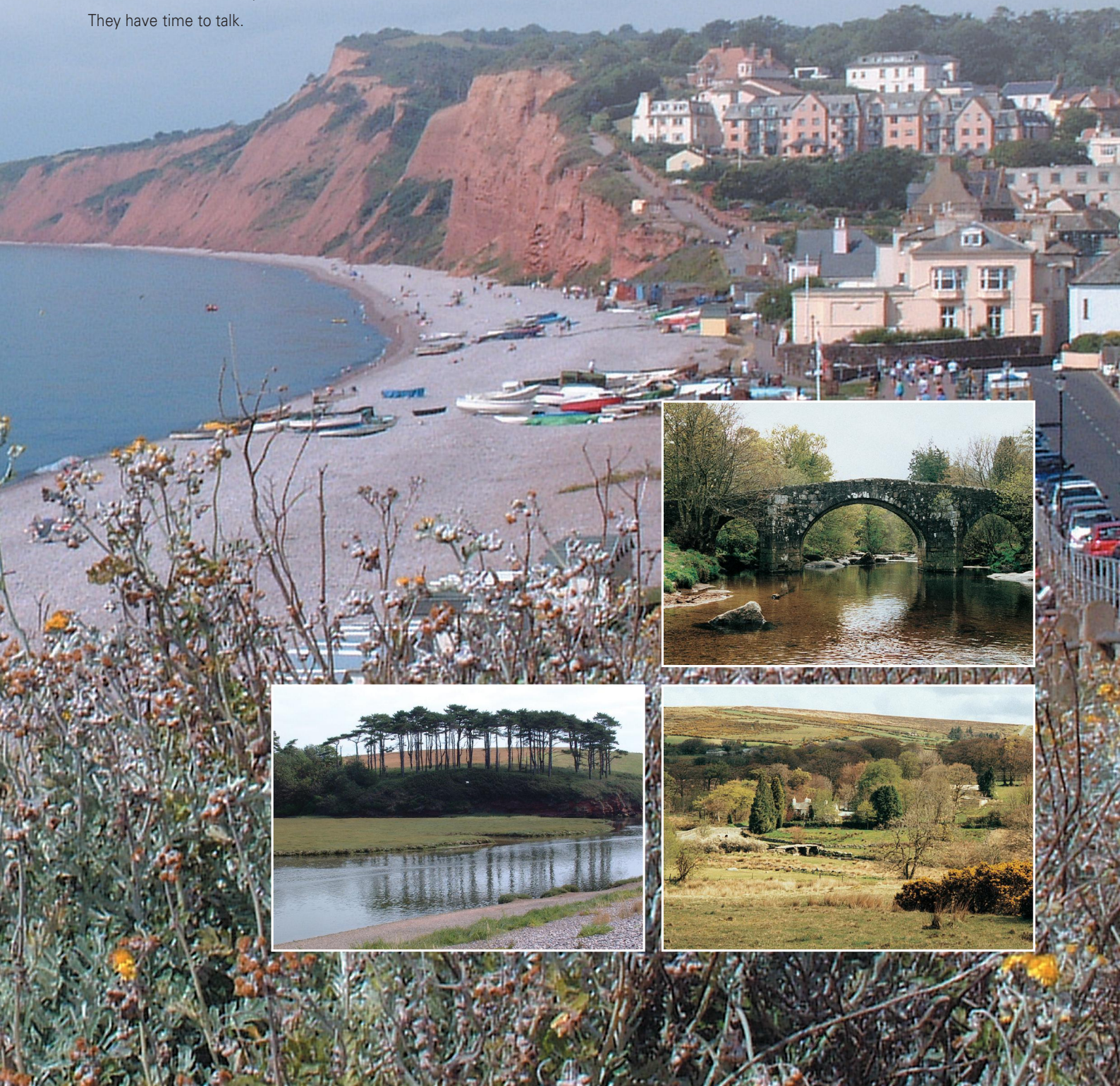
Accent International's Location

Bicton College is in its own park five minutes from the sea. It is very close to Budleigh Salterton and Sidmouth. Both of these are small, elegant towns with traditional shops, cafes, pubs, restaurants and hotels in addition to the beaches. All around the college are thousand-year-old villages with typical cottages and houses. Exmouth is a larger town, also on the sea, and has more facilities and nightlife.

Exeter, the capital of Devon, is 12 miles from Accent. It was originally a Roman city but is now the most important cultural and administrative centre in the region. It has a famous cathedral and a well-known university as well as theatres, cinemas, art galleries, sports facilities and shops. It is also the regional centre for communications with airport, train and bus links to London and international destinations.

Devon is a very popular place to live – because of the beauty, but also because of the way of life. People have time here and this means that our course participants benefit from people's interest in them and in what they do.

They have time to talk.



Accommodation, Lunches and Transport

At Accent we offer three types of accommodation.

Executive Home Stay

We strongly recommend Executive Home Stay. These are the beautiful homes of English professional people. You have a bedroom with private bathroom and have breakfast and evening meal every day and lunch on Sundays. The food and accommodation are both of a very high standard. In addition, you are welcomed into an English home. This means that your total immersion in English is complete because before and after your course you are surrounded by English.

Hotels

Some participants prefer to stay in a hotel and we understand this. We work with several hotels and can arrange rooms from 1 star to 4 star.

Self-catering

If you wish to travel with your family, we can provide accommodation in a house, cottage or apartment.

Lunches

An essential part of Accent's courses is the lunch programme. All participants have lunch with trainers in a selection of pubs/restaurants. This is an important part of the course programme and so is included in the price.

Daily Transport

Every morning and evening all participants are transported by Accent people-carriers between their accommodation and the college.



Social Programme, Travel and Administration

Social Programme

Accent organises a social programme as part of each course. Every week there is an evening activity and every Saturday there is a full-day excursion.

Evening activities can include: Classical Music, Theatre, Jazz, Cinema, Golf, Bowling, Tennis, Fishing, Dinners, Coastal Drives, Barbecues etc.

Saturday Excursions can be Dartmoor National Park, Exeter and Plymouth, King Arthur and Cornwall, The English Riviera, the East Devon World Heritage Coast, Boat Trips, Bath and Wells, Castles and Croquet etc.

The cost of the social programme is included in the price of the course.

Travel to Accent

Exeter airport is becoming more international every year with direct flights from Paris, Amsterdam, Geneva, Dublin, Malaga, Alicante, Faro, Avignon, Nice etc. Many of our course participants connect in Paris or Amsterdam to fly on to Exeter, which is only 20 minutes from Accent. Alternatively, Bristol and London are not far away. Transport from Exeter to your accommodation is free. All other transfers are charged at cost price.

Administration

When you book a course at Accent, you must complete an application form and needs analysis. This can be done online from our website or by using the form with this brochure. We need this information to plan your course and organise your accommodation.



Corporate Training and Consultancy in the UK and Abroad

In addition to our usual courses in the UK, Accent also provides Corporate Training and Consultancy – both in the UK and abroad.

In the UK, courses are tailor-made for our client companies in specialist areas of industry and commerce and are particularly designed with the company's need at the heart.

Specialist areas of Banking, Engineering, IT, HR, Law, Pharmaceuticals, etc.

Skills for specific Meetings, Presentations or Negotiations using the company's materials and following the corporate strategy.

Ongoing programmes of courses for individuals or small groups as an integral part of the company's own management development programme.

Team-building courses for corporate groups with language, case studies and problem-solving.

We even provide programmes of English plus Golf for individuals and corporate groups. These can be for team-building, incentive schemes – or just for fun.



Corporate Training and Consultancy in the UK and Abroad

In other countries, Accent works closely with corporate clients to deliver tailor-made programmes in the company's own offices or training centres.

Accent provides training for almost any need: a one-day individual programme for a senior executive; small specialist seminars for one or two days for a complete department; one or two week programmes for special needs; residential programmes for 60-70 key people; year-round programmes for the whole company.

In addition, Accent is experienced in writing Simulations to provide managers with the opportunity to work at their normal jobs – but in English for 2 or 3 days.

Our consultancy work has grown out of close relationships with our clients. We provide everything from an audit of English needs, through diagnostic assessment of staff, feasibility studies, programme design, course writing, materials production, in-company language centre assessment and evaluation, report-writing and feedback.

