

Depeche Patel

English Language Professional · IELTS Examiner · EdTech Builder



CONTACT

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EDUCATION

iPGCE
Cumbria University · Jun 2025

CELTA
Cambridge ESOL · Sep 2006

BSc (Hons) Social Policy
University of Surrey · 2000

A Levels — Chem, Econ, Maths
Wyggeston & QEI College · 1990

LANGUAGES

English (native)
Gujarati
Hindi

PERSONAL

British
b. 25 December 1971

BRITISH COUNCIL TRAINING

Child Protection · Information
Management · Safeguarding · Fraud
Awareness · Managing Through Change ·
Safety & Security · Equality, Diversity &
Inclusion

PROFILE

Over 15 years teaching, examining and designing English-language courses for international schools, universities and luxury hospitality brands across China, the Maldives and Thailand. Currently building an iPad-based AI English tutor for high schools.

EXPERIENCE

IELTS & IGCSE Speaking Teacher Aug 2025 – Present
New Oriental Academy International School

- Teaching IELTS and IGCSE Speaking to senior international-stream students.

IELTS Speaking Examiner Mar 2023 – Present
British Council, China

- Conducting IELTS Speaking tests at weekends and during holidays.

IELTS Teacher Mar 2023 – Jul 2025
Suzhou International Academy

- Delivered IELTS instruction and trainer-of-trainers sessions for the High School International Department.
- Used iPad-based AI tools in lessons to accelerate IELTS score gains; began building a school-wide iPad AI IELTS tutor for English teachers.

English Department Coordinator Sep 2022 – Mar 2023
New Oriental Academy International School

- Led the English department from Grade 7 through Grade 12.
- Managed a team of 8 part- and full-time ESL, TOEFL, IELTS and IGCSE teachers.
- Taught ESL (G7-10) and IELTS preparation (G11-12).

Senior IELTS Examiner May 2012 – Apr 2021
British Council, China

- Scored IELTS Writing and Speaking tests for over 20,000 candidates across China and internationally.
- Served as Examiner On Request (EOR), re-marking junior examiners' scores for accuracy.

English Teacher Oct 2013 – Jul 2015
Hubei University of Economics, China

- Taught Hospitality English and Guest Contact Skills to Hospitality Management undergraduates ahead of their hotel internships.
- Only foreign teacher in the university's history offered a permanent contract, on the strength of student satisfaction scores.

English Teacher Oct 2011 – Jul 2013
Xiamen University, China

- English teacher at one of China's Top 10 universities.

Freelance Hospitality English Teacher & Trainer 2006 – 2012
Asia (China, Maldives, Thailand)

- Designed and delivered bespoke hospitality English and guest-contact training for Waldorf Astoria (Maldives), Hilton (Sanya), MGM Grand (Sanya), Six Senses and Soneva Gili (Maldives), and International English (Koh Samui).

Real-estate Renovation 2005 – 2006
Self-employed, UK

- Bought, renovated and sold residential property; managed trades, budgets and timelines end-to-end.

Business Development Consultant 2003 – 2005
Legal Costs Associates, Manchester

- Won new instructing-solicitor accounts for a legal-costs drafting firm; managed the client pipeline across the North West.

Account Manager 2000 – 2003
PR Newswire UK, London

- Managed corporate communications accounts; advised UK and international clients on press-release distribution to financial and trade media.

Interior Decorator / Designer 1990 – 1997
Self-employed, UK

- Ran a residential decorating and interior-design service for private clients between A-levels and university.