



# *Literacy Volunteers of America*

## *Essex & Passaic Counties*

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### **The Podcast Puzzle: How to Listen to Podcasts**

*Presenter, Catherine Angus*

*Platform: Google Meet*

*Thursday, December 14, 2023, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm*

#### **Presenter's biography:**

Catherine Angus returned to teaching ESL in 2016, after pursuing a career in International Development and Human Rights. She's taught and been an advocate for immigrants, students, and young people in Canada and the USA, at the UN, and with partner organizations in Latin America. Her teaching is informed by her own experiences learning French and Spanish, and from navigating the immigrant experience herself. Catherine believes in the importance of a good lesson plan, but that we should also embrace instructional detours when they arise. Inspired by a student in NJ, she began a podcast in 2022 called *Hear You Go*, that encourages listeners to connect their listening skills to their speaking skills, and build their confidence while doing so. She is currently working with multilingual English language teachers and academics wanting to improve their listening and speaking skills to better serve their students.

#### **Workshop description:**

Too often we ask learners to listen to an audio to answer comprehension questions. This is but one important step in the process of listening. However, a slower, piece by piece approach we can help listeners get more from a podcast/audio/video to help them decode the sounds of spoken English. This interactive workshop will show both tutors and learners how to listen for things like connected speech, contractions, reductions, intonation and rhythm: all the things students think are "fast" speech, when really they are just the way English is smushed together and messy.

