



EMOTIONAL FREEDOM TECHNIQUES (EFT) PRACTITIONER (LEVEL 2) TRAINING POINTS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Vitality Living College (VLC) EFT Practitioner (Level 2) Training Points and Learning Outcomes document outlines and describes the EFT (Emotional Freedom Techniques) skills and concepts that must be taught in any Vitality Living College (VLC) EFT Practitioner (Level 2) Training course.

It is designed to align with the original (or “classical”) EFT as developed by Gary Craig, and to include refinements. Additionally, it is designed to allow Vitality Living College (VLC) Trainers the flexibility to teach standardised EFT Practitioner (Level 2) EFT skills in their own style.

It also takes into consideration that learning and teaching styles vary individually and across cultures, and includes guidance and recommendations for Vitality Living College (VLC) Trainers based upon input from experienced Vitality Living College (VLC) members.

Please Note: In Vitality Living College (VLC) training, the term Training Points (also referred to as ‘Standards’) refers to the specific areas of knowledge and skill taught in EFT Foundational (Level 1), EFT Practitioner (Level 2) and EFT Advanced Practitioner (Level 3) Training courses.

Learning Outcomes refers to the specific areas of knowledge and skill that students are expected *to know, understand or be able to do* when they complete EFT Foundational (Level 1), EFT Practitioner (Level 2) or EFT Advanced Practitioner (Level 3) Training courses. Students assess their own competency in these specific areas during and after training.

Trainers assess competency during training and as Practitioner candidates progress through their Vitality Living College (VLC) education.

This document is to be used in close conjunction with the [EFT Definition of Terms](#). This reference replaces the 2010 L2 competencies checklist.



Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Review of EFT Foundational basic knowledge and skills	Have basic knowledge and skills from Vitality Living College (VLC) EFT Foundational (Level 1). See <i>EFT Foundational (Level 1) Training Points and Learning Outcomes</i> .
Don't go where you don't belong	<p>Know that there are limits as an EFT Practitioner based on expertise, scope of practice, and capacity to handle emotional intensity – both yours and the client's. See <i>Vitality Living College (VLC)</i> EFT Definition of Terms.</p> <p>Awareness that, at minimum, mentoring may be required, or a referral may be necessary.</p>
More about the trauma experience	<p>Have a brief overview of the trauma experience from EFT Foundational (Level 1) Training.</p> <p>Understand that humans experience, carry forward, and are adversely affected by traumatic events in various ways (i.e. fight, flight, freeze or flop, neurological reactions, how pervasive and intrinsic, how our bodies carry a history, etc.).</p> <p>Understand the importance of a gentle approach (e.g. Sneaking Up and other gentle techniques) at all times, and the utility of protective distancing/ proceeding slowly and systematically.</p> <p>Be aware of research showing the effectiveness of somatic approaches to working with trauma.</p>
The gentle techniques (the importance of being gentle)	Have awareness of when and how to use the three gentle techniques of EFT (Tearless Trauma, body sensations and Sneaking Up) appropriately to work with peripheral aspects of an intense issue.

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Training Points	Learning Outcomes
The Movie/Tell the Story Technique in EFT Practitioner (Level 2) Training	<p>Know there are nuanced ways to appropriately use The Movie/Tell the Story Technique and how one may need gentle techniques before or during use.</p> <p>Know how to use the Movie /Tell The Story Technique from beginning to end – both as processing and testing. See The Movie/Tell the Story Technique in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>
Abreactions	<p>Understand the concept of abreactions and how excessive emotional intensity can be minimised or otherwise handled using EFT. Understand how abreactions are normal and may be a part of an EFT interaction.</p> <p>Help someone safely manage, address or otherwise tap down high emotional intensity. See Abreactions in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p> <p>Understand that sometimes intensity gets worse before it gets better, and this can mean two things: either we are on a useful track (and the client will need reassurance) OR it can mean the intensity is actually <i>too much</i> for the client.</p> <p>In this case, understand the importance of assessing the capacity of the person you are working with, and your capacity to work with them, as not everyone has a diagnosis or is aware of trauma or early lack of support issues they may have. We may get a client with more serious issues than first appears to be the case.</p>
Rapport skills	<p>Know the importance of rapport and the essence of building (or rebuilding) it by listening, asking appropriate questions and reflecting the client's exact words/subjective experience during the EFT interaction. See Rapport in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>

Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Writing on the Walls metaphor (Introduction to Limiting Beliefs)	<p>Understand the metaphor Writing on the Walls and how it applies to the concept of Limiting Beliefs/thinking, and Core Issues.</p> <p>Know how to identify Limiting Beliefs/thinking, ask questions about where such thinking may have originated, and apply EFT successfully to it.</p>
Identifying and handling Core Issues, and the Tabletop metaphor	<p>Explain what a Core Issue is in terms of Writing on the Walls and Tabletop metaphor.* See Core Issues in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p> <p>Know how to identify and handle a global core issue using EFT.</p> <p>Be able to uncover table legs or specific past events by asking appropriate questions such as, ‘What does this remind you of?’ Understand the role of Core Issues in relation to present challenges.</p> <p>Know that some Tabletop may be stacked on others. *Know how the Tabletop metaphor is ALSO useful for describing the presenting or global issue (e.g. anxiety) as a tabletop that is supported by legs of past experiences.</p>
Handling specific past events, and the Table Legs metaphor	<p>Know how to Sneak Up and how to begin using the Movie Technique/Tell The Story Technique or work with Aspects of a specific past experience.</p> <p>Understand specific past events in terms of the trauma experience and how the legs metaphor applies in the context of an EFT session.</p> <p>Understand how specific events or legs support the Core Issue or presenting/global issue, and how these can be the <i>lynchpin</i> events (critical or genesis events) that hold a table in place. See Specific past events in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>

Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Reversals and Secondary Gain: more about when EFT doesn't work	<p>Have awareness and know how to recognise Reversals.</p> <p>Know the importance of asking non-judgemental questions to identify and gently* address them when the Practitioner (or client) suspects they may be present (i.e. upside of keeping the problem, downside of keeping the problem, upside of letting it go, and the downside of letting it go).</p> <p>*Understand the importance of asking clients to describe, in as much detail as possible, what will be different once the issue is gone (or now that it's already gone), and look out for any spots of discomfort (i.e. Tailenders).</p> <p>Know how to address these considerations as aspects when they present themselves.</p> <p>Know that if progress is slow, there may be a safety issue involved somehow (i.e. a protective part of the person that may be afraid of the change).</p> <p>Know the history of PR (Psychological Reversal) and the origin of the term Reversals. See Reversals in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>
Introduction to using EFT by phone or video conferencing	<p>Understand that EFT is portable and can be done via phone or video conferencing.</p> <p>Know the benefits and challenges of working via phone or video conferencing enough to practice the EFT process successfully using either medium.</p>
Getting out of your own way	<p>Recognise when, as a Practitioner, we are <i>in our own way</i>. For example, if we are imposing an agenda on a client as opposed to working in a client-centred way. Remember that the process is Through Me, Not By Me. See Through Me, Not By Me in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>

Training Points	Learning Outcomes
More on testing and testing for Tailenders	<p>Be familiar with several ways to test.</p> <p>Know the importance of looking for Tailenders (“yes, but...” statements) as a way of being thorough – how Tailenders often reveal the inner obstacles that keep us from achieving our goals (which can lead to more awareness of core issues).</p> <p>Know how to test for Tailenders using Measuring and Testing skills, and how to address them as separate Aspects. See Tailenders in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>
Introduction to using intuition	<p>Know the importance of discerning when Practitioner’s intuition is appropriate during the EFT interaction(e.g. when the client has shown a Cognitive Shift).</p> <p>Understand the need to always check in with the client before incorporating intuitive input. For example, we might ask, “Is that right”? Some Practitioners call this doing a reality check.</p>
Calibration	<p>Know to observe and assess the client’s subtle cues (e.g. body posture, breathing, tone of voice, etc.), and be able to make adjustments to the EFT process based on being <i>in tune</i> with your client. See Rapport, Calibration, Measuring, Testing in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>
Integrating cognitive shifts (client reframes)	<p>Know how to recognise when clients have their own Cognitive Shifts, help the client recognise the shift, and integrate it into the EFT setup and/or sequence (client reframe).</p>

Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Introduction to reframing (Practitioner reframes)	<p>Understand that in EFT Practitioner (Level 2), Practitioner reframing must be used sparingly or not at all in favor of primacy of client's own cognitive shifts.</p> <p>Understand the difference between having an agenda and making a reframe that <i>lands</i> (i.e. is picked up or accepted by the client).</p> <p>Know that more on reframing comes with experience and further training. See Reframes in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>
Pre-framing	<p>How to pre-frame appropriately for the purposes of helping a client know what to expect during the EFT interaction (e.g. setting the stage).</p> <p>Understand that pre-framing includes helping a client manage expectations during the EFT process (e.g. EFT usually involves more than the rare '1-minute wonders' found on the internet).</p>
Role of the positive in EFT	<p>Know when to introduce positive language in EFT (see below).</p> <p>Understand how EFT is useful for acknowledging what is there (e.g. the negative that we might otherwise be pushing away) and allowing it the space to evolve (i.e. creating room for the positive).</p> <p>Remember a client's positive focus (e.g. "I want to feel better") can at times be incorporated into the second part of the EFT Setup Statement.</p> <p>Know how to close a session by helping the person turn towards a more positive focus by incorporating their own positive statements or cognitive shifts – a palliative approach to end the session safely for when there is more to do.</p>

Training Points	Learning Outcomes
	<p>Know that, in general, at the EFT Practitioner (Level 2) stage of training, Vitality Living College (VLC) recommends Practitioners keep positive statements out of the sequence unless closing a session (i.e. we are not tapping in the positive).</p> <p>Understand the use of the positive in three ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Test (i.e. check for Tailenders and Reversals) 2. Offer appropriate reframes using a client's own cognitive shifts. 3. Increase gentleness and help take the edge off when intensity is high (using the client's own reassuring words: e.g. "Right now, I'm doing the best I can.")
Introduction to tapping with children	<p>Know the importance of meeting a child where they are using simple language (e.g. "I'm mad" or "They hit me").</p> <p>Understand that tapping with parents (or primary caretakers) first is optimal to educate parents and to address any need to fix the child.</p> <p>Know the importance of setting up and managing a session with a minor to maintain safety and confidentiality, as well as the importance of getting a parent/guardian's permission.</p> <p>Depending on the country, know there will be special considerations for working with minors. Understand the need to research those considerations before working with children.</p>



Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Introduction to Surrogate Tapping	<p>Know the existence and utility of the Vitality Living College (VLC) protocol (or variation) for Surrogate Tapping enough to begin exploring post-training. See Surrogate Tapping in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p> <p>Know that while we can tap on behalf of others (including animals), understand the importance of addressing our own feelings/agenda for another person or animal first. Know there could be ethical concerns involved.</p>
Introduction to tapping with animals	<p>Know that Surrogate Tapping (above) may be the method of choice for working with animals, as many animals may not enjoy being tapped on.</p>
Introduction to working with groups	<p>Know that there are specific considerations required when offering group tapping classes or introducing EFT to others (i.e. the importance of effective demonstrations, the need for participants to have their own experiences of tapping, the importance of safety and specific preparation, Borrowing Benefits, etc.)</p> <p>Recognise that knowledge of facilitating groups is gained from experience and is only possible on becoming a Certified Practitioner and certified to present EFT.</p>
More on Borrowing Benefits	<p>Understand that Borrowing Benefits is a phenomenon that happens when we experience a reduction in emotional intensity (or a shift in awareness) after tapping along with a group, audio, video or live EFT session – especially when the client’s issue mirrors our own.</p> <p>Know that Borrowing Benefits is also a strategy – one we can use individually or with a group – that involves setting an intention to work on our own specific issue before turning our complete focus towards assisting someone else to tap through an unrelated issue.</p> <p>After tapping (and speaking) along with the other person, we often find a reduction in the emotional intensity (or a shift in our awareness) around our specific concern, even when it was not specifically addressed in the tapping. See Borrowing Benefits in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p>



Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Additional tapping points	Recognise the existence and utility of adding additional points (fingers, gamut, ankle, liver) enough to experiment with them in sessions with self or others. See The Standard EFT Protocol in the <i>EFT Definition of Terms</i> .
Additional tapping strategies	Know the existence and utility of other tapping strategies (e.g. the full 9 Gamut procedure and touch and breathe, etc.) See About Original EFT in the EFT Definition of Terms .
The importance of Practitioner's self-care and The Personal Peace Procedure	<p>Know the continued importance of self-care to EFT practice (including Getting out of your own way and Do not go where you don't belong), and how to do self-care tapping using the Personal Peace Procedure.</p> <p>Understand the importance of ongoing mentoring to foster careful, skillful, and congruent EFT practice (see <i>Vitality Living College (VLC)</i> EFT Definition of Terms.)</p> <p>Understand the value of receiving your own EFT sessions with buddies and/or experienced professionals. See Doing Your Own Work in the EFT Definition of Terms.</p> <p>Know that Vitality Living College (VLC) Certified Practitioners are required to receive six hours of Supervision and Mentoring per year.</p>
Safety: professional and ethical considerations for Practitioner and client	Understand the importance of being an EFT professional beyond knowing how to tap – including how to begin integrating good professional habits (i.e. mentoring, rapport, confidentiality, safeguarding, boundary issues, etc.) See Do Not Go Where You Don't Belong in the EFT Definition of Terms .



Training Points	Learning Outcomes
Limitations to EFT Practitioner (Level 2) practice	Be aware there are specific considerations when using EFT Practitioner (Level 2) skills professionally, including need for mentoring and further training, potential need for and wisdom inherent in certification, experience and development before engaging with clients.
Vitality Living College (VLC) Code of conduct	Be familiar that there is a Code of conduct for Vitality Living College (VLC) Practitioners (and Trainers), and that all Certified Vitality Living College (VLC) members need to sign the agreement and adhere to this code. See https://vitalitylivingcollege.info/vlc-code-of-conduct/ .