

## Using Short Clips from TV in the Classroom: Pronunciation, Intonation, and Creativity through Role Plays

By Henry Gerlits

**H**ave you ever wanted to use a TV show in your EFL classroom? As one of the most popular cultural products of our generation, television shows have the ability to capture the interest of our students, but their length and complexity make them difficult to work with in the classroom. This past semester, I had the opportunity to teach an “English through TV Dramas” class at the university level, in which students viewed eight different TV shows across a variety of genres. By focusing on one 5-10 minute scene from each episode, the students were able to enjoy and learn from the episodes in a way that better fit the time restraints of the classroom environment. Building on the pronunciation and intonation patterns we had practiced, and using the vocabulary words we had focused on, in groups, the students wrote and performed their own “scene” for the midterm exam and “episode” for the final exam.

### The First Viewing

The introduction of each episode followed a similar routine each week. For the first viewing, students were given a sheet of discussion questions (about 8), which they read in advance of starting the episode. Since many of the students in the class were fairly low-level, the first viewing was subtitled in Korean, but the students were required to take notes on the discussion questions in English. The show was paused halfway through the questions and the students discussed their opinions with partners, and then briefly as a full class; this was repeated again for the second half of the questions.

### Single-Scene Work

During the next step, the students watched a single scene, usually one involving many characters, emo-

tional interaction, and/or humor. This time the clip was subtitled in English, and the students were also given a script to follow. After this viewing, students chose characters and prepared the delivery of their lines, based on the focus of that particular week (r-l pronunciation, intonation indicating power relationships between characters, volume of delivery, etc). The first reading was a seated “reader’s theater,” and then in the second reading, students utilized space and props in the classroom.

### Homework

Homework involved an email diary sent to me each week in which the students were required to demonstrate their knowledge of the vocabulary underlined in the scripts by using the word in context. Sometimes the students were also asked to memorize their lines for a script-less performance in the next class (toward the end of the semester, when students became more comfortable with acting).

### Demonstration of a Scene

This presentation will explicate in more detail the steps explained above, as well as identify the pedagogical theory underlying the activities I have described. I will do a short demonstration of a scene from “Lost,” which I used with my class, and we will practice intonation patterns with emotional delivery. Finally, I will show a clip from “Harry Potter” with some ideas on modifying these methods for younger learners. I hope that together we will be able to share some thoughts and experiences on using video in the classroom.

*(This is the featured presentation at the February 11, 2012, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Meeting. See page 3 for a biographical sketch of the presenter.)*

# ■ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Officers: 2011-12

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## Chapter Website

<http://www.koreatesol.org/GwangjuJeonnam>

*The Gwangju Communicator*, the Chapter's monthly newsletter is prepared by Dr. David Shaffer.



# ■ Joining Korea TESOL

## Who May Join

English teachers of any level or nationality are eligible to join KOTESOL. We welcome native and non-native speakers teaching at primary schools, secondary schools, language institutes, colleges and universities and other organizations. University students may join as student members.

## What Memberships Types Are Available?

- **Individual 1-Year Membership** (40,000 won)
- **International 1-Year Membership** (60,000 won / US\$60.00)
- **Undergraduate Student 1-Year Membership** (20,000 won, Documentation required)
- **Lifetime Membership** (400,000 won)

## How to Join

Apply by using the online membership form at <http://www.koreatesol.org/>. On the front page, click on the tab "Membership Information Update (Step 1)" and follow the directions.

Paper membership application and renewal forms are available at Chapter meetings for those who prefer making a hard-copy application.

**Membership payment** may be made by:

- Bank transfer to **KOTESOL**, Korea Exchange Bank account number: 630-006952-841
- Payment in cash to the Chapter Membership Officer at a Chapter Meeting

## Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Activities

### February 11. Chapter Meeting



**Henry Gerlits** is delivering our featured presentation at our chapter meeting on February 11, 2012. It is entitled *Using Short Clips from TV in the Classroom: Pronunciation, Intonation, and Creativity through Role Plays*. Mr. Gerlits is an instructor in the English Department at Gwangju University. He has been teaching English since 2005 and has experience in Korea, Japan, and his hometown of Boston, USA. He recently completed his Masters in Applied Linguistics and was very happy to return to teaching in Korea in 2011. His interests include hiking, cooking, yoga, brewing beer, and traveling. Email: henry.gerlits@gmail.com.

### December 17-18. KOTESOL Annual Leadership Retreat

The 2011 Leadership Retreat was held in Seoul at Sookmyung Women's University's Professional Development Center. Attending from the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter were Vice-President Ynell Lumantao, Treasurer Vivien Slezak, and President David Shaffer. The theme of the Retreat focused on the basics: commitment to quality, meeting our mission, prioritizing our goals. On Sunday, David Shaffer led a full session on "Chapter: Focusing on Members," followed by a session for chapter presidents on National support of the chapters.

## Chapter Members in the News

**January 14. Dr. David Shaffer** presented on *In Defense of Extensive Reading for Language Learning* at the 2012 KAPEE International Conference at Busan National University of Education in Busan.

**December 18. Julien McNulty** was presented with a plaque of appreciation at the annual KOTESOL Leadership Retreat by 2011 International Conference Co-chair Stafford Lumsden. It recognized Julien, the 2011 International Conference Chair, for his "outstanding organizational skills, discerning foresight, and wise stewardship as Conference Committee Chair in leading the 19th Annual Korea TESOL International Conference to a highly successful conclusion."

**November 26.** The GETA 2011 Annual Conference was held at Chosun University, Gwangju. Three Chapter members gave presentations at the one-day conference:

**Keumju Cheon** (Chosun University), *The Effects of Extensive Reading Experience on Elementary School Students' Interest and Confidence in English Reading*.

**Lindsay Herron** (Gwangju National University of Education), *Teaching Culture in the EFL Classroom*.

**Dr. David Shaffer** (Chosun University), *Tertiary English Learners' Beliefs on TELL (Technology-Enhanced Language Learning)*.

**November 19-20. Julien McNulty** (Chosun University) presented a pecha kucha, *The History of English in Verse*, at JALT 2011: The 37th Annual International Conference on Language Teaching, held in Tokyo, Japan.

## About Korea TESOL and the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

**K**orea TESOL, also known as KOTESOL, is a professional association of teachers of English to speakers of other languages. The nationwide organization has been serving English teachers, administrators, and interested individuals in the field of English education since 1992. KOTESOL has ten active chapters across the nation and holds annual national and international conferences. The Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter has monthly meetings, usually the second Saturday of the month, which contain two one-hour presentations or hands-on workshops on topics related to English language teaching, such as classroom methodology, activities, and management. Meetings are presently being held at Chosun University in Gwangju. Admission to Chapter meetings is free, but we encourage your participation as a full member. (Membership information on page 2.)

## Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL February Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, February 11, 2012, 1:30 p.m.
- Place: Chosun University, Main Building (본관), Room 2123. In Gwangju.

### Schedule

**1:30 pm:** Registration and Welcome

**2:00 pm:** FEATURED PRESENTATION:

***Using Short Clips from TV in the Classroom: Pronunciation, Intonation, and Creativity through Role Plays***

Henry Gerlits: (Chapter Member; Gwangju University)

**2:50 pm:** Refreshment Break

**3:10 pm:** PECHA KUCHA PRESENTATION: ***Classroom Management: Strategies for Success***

Dr. David Shaffer (Chapter President; Chosun University)

**3:20 pm: Swap-Shop Hour: Beginning-of-School Teaching Ideas**

Share with us your New-Semester Teaching Ideas and Classroom Games and Activities (Open to All Attendees. Handouts welcomed.)

**4:30 pm:** Announcements

Drawing for Prizes

Closing

(Admission is free. Membership is encouraged.)

## Upcoming Chapter Events

**March 10, 2012. Chapter Conference**

**Co-hosted by Extensive Reading SIG and Young Learners & Teens SIG**

- ER Plenary Session: Scott Miles (ER-SIG)
- YL Plenary Session: Jake Kimball (YL-SIG)
- ER, YL, and General ELT Strands

**April 14, 2012. Chapter Meeting**

- *Phonological Pitfalls for English Teachers*  
Dr. Steve Garrigues (Gyeongbuk Chapter Vice-President; Kyungpook Natl. University)

## Upcoming KOTESOL Events

**March 31, 2012.**

**Seoul Chapter Conference**

*Students Finding Their Voices*

Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

**May 26, 2012.**

**The 2012 KOTESOL National Conference**

*Drive: Putting Students Behind the Wheel*

Busan University of Foreign Studies, Busan

## Upcoming Korea ELT Events

**WCSEL-1: The 1st World Congress of Scholars of English Linguistics**

*Issues in English Linguistics*

June 26-30, 2012; Hanyang University, Seoul

**2012 DisCog-SSK Joint Conference**

*Electronic Media and Communication*

April 21, 2012; HUFS, Seoul

**2012 KATE International Conference**

*English Proficiency for All: Narrowing English Gap*

July 6-7, 2012; Sookmyung Women's Univ., Seoul

**ACL 2012: 3rd Workshop on the People's Web**

**Meets NLP:** Collaboratively Constructed Semantic Resources and Their Applications to NLP

July 12-13, 2012; Jeju, Jeju-do

**For Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Events:**

Facebook: Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL

Website: [www.koreatesol.org/GwangjuJeonnam](http://www.koreatesol.org/GwangjuJeonnam)

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