

KICK STArt: Student Task-based Activities for Kids Intensive Camps

By Nate Kent

There are an increasing number of intensive language learning experiences becoming available in Korea, and overseas as well. The desire to learn English as quickly and effectively as possible has created a myriad of learning, and teaching, options. These include week- or month-long camps, stays at an “English Village,” intensive study at one’s company’s training facilities, weekend seminars, etc. The nature of these learning situations is quite different from a standard classroom experience where the teacher meets the students regularly over an extended period of time. How does teaching change in these kinds of circumstances? How should it change?

There are many factors involved that make these intensive learning situations uniquely challenging for the teacher. These factors range from classroom dynamics and the type and amount of material prepared to simple things like what to do with students in the morning and evening times before and after the “class” times. Many things have to happen at an accelerated pace, and students (and parents) often have a different set of expectations. What kinds of things could you incorporate into your camp, or other intensive setting, to make these times as productive as possible?

Intensive learning situations, like those mentioned above, have some advantages as well as some disadvantages. The limited number of days spent with students is offset by the sheer amount of face-to-face classroom time. What are the best ways to deal with this shift in the amount of time spent with students? How can you cope with making the days interesting

and continue to motivate learners as they approach the end of an eight-hour day? There are several ways to make the teaching (and learning) time more productive, easier, and more fun for both students and teachers. Certainly some of these include games, but there are also other classroom techniques and strategies to make the most of the time you have, and yet keep it interesting. There are many practical things you can implement, especially in the organization and management of the daily schedule, to keep the students focused and interested. Most of the ideas covered in this workshop will be focused more on the elementary and middle school age groups but they can be tailored to fit any age group.

The Presenter



Nate Kent first arrived in Korea as a private language school teacher in 2003. In the years since his arrival, he has gathered extensive experience in a variety of teaching situations, and he now teaches at Chosun University, where he has been teaching for four years. In recent years he has become interested in the intensive learning environments available in Korea, specifically the summer and winter vacation camps. Nate has taken a special interest in looking at ways to make language learning more enjoyable and has the point of view that learning English doesn’t have to be difficult. He can be reached at nhkent@gmail.com

(This is the first of two presentations scheduled for the May 12, 2012, Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Meeting. See page 3 for information on the second presentation and presenter.)

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■ 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).
- **Lifetime Membership** (400,000 won). Student and International Membership options also available.

How to Join

Apply by using the online membership form at <http://www.koreatesol.org/>. On the front page, click on “Membership” in the menu, 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

What Every EFL Teacher Should Know about Teaching English Writing

The second presentation scheduled for our May 12 meeting is on writing and what is essential for teaching it to learners of English as a second language. Writing is a form of communication that varies significantly from the spoken word. This presentation will give an overview of the purpose of writing as well as some tips for teaching writing in an EFL classroom.



The Presenter

John D. McDonald has been teaching English in Korea for the past 16 years. He is currently Senior Lecturer at the Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, where his primary duties include coordinating the speaking and writing curriculum for graduate students in the English program and editing and proofreading papers for faculty and students.

Chapter Members in the News

KOTESOL Appointment: William Mulligan has been appointed Editor-in-Chief of *The English Connection* (TEC), KOTESOL's quarterly professional magazine. Bill is looking to fill some openings on the publication's editorial staff.

April 21. The Jeonju-North Jeolla 2012 Regional Conference was held at Geun Young Girls' High School in Jeonju. The scheduled presentations for the day featured four by Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter members:

Dr. Joo-Kyung Park started the conference off with the plenary address *Changes in the Korean ELT Context: To Lead or to Be Led?*

Maria Lisak presented *The Big Share: Smartphones, Podcasts, Microblogging in the Mobile Classroom*.

Julien McNulty's workshop was on *SMall: Smart M-Learning Teacher-Tool Solutions for Language Learning*.

Dr. David Shaffer gave a classroom research report in *Language Learning Portfolios: Effective Reflective Learners*.

April 28-29. **Dr. David Shaffer**, Chapter President, attended the annual KOTESOL Chapter Leaders' Meeting held at the Busan University of Foreign Studies in Busan.

May 5-6. **Julien McNulty** put his acting talents on display in *Ives Just Got to Dance: An Evening of One-Act Theatre*. Julien played Don in "The Universal Language."

About Korea TESOL and the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter

Korea 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 is on page 2.)

Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL May Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, May 12, 2012, 1:30 p.m.
- Place: Chosun University (Gwangju), Main Building (본관), Room 5210.

Schedule

- 1:30 pm:** Registration and Welcome
- 2:00 pm:** FEATURED PRESENTATION 1:
KICK STArt: Student Task-based Activities for Kids Intensive Camps
 Nathaniel Kent (Chosun University, Language Education Institute)
- 2:50 pm:** Refreshment Break
- 3:10 pm:** FEATURED PRESENTATION 2:
What Every EFL Teacher Should Know about Teaching Writing
 John McDonald (Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology)
- 4:00 pm:** **Swap-Shop Session**
 Share your Teaching Ideas, Classroom Activities, and Language Games.
 (Open to All Attendees. Handouts welcomed.)
- 4:30 pm:** Announcements
 Drawing for Prizes
 Closing
- (Admission is free. Membership is encouraged.)

Upcoming Chapter Events

June 9, 2012. Chapter Monthly Meeting

- *Fun and Games – Every Child's Language Learning Preference*
 Jacob Boer (Taebong Elem. School, Gwangju)

- *The Bimodal Narrative Approach: Extensive Reading and Listening*
 Michael Rabbidge & Nico Lorenzutti
 (Chonnam National University, Gwangju)

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

May 19, 2012.

2012 Franklin SpellEvent: Korea Event
 Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

May 20, 2012.

Reflective Day with Dr. Thomas Farrell
 Reservations Contact: kotesol.rpsig@gmail.com
 Meeple Café, Sinchon, Seoul

May 26, 2012.

The 2012 KOTESOL National Conference
Drive: Putting Students at the Wheel
 Busan University of Foreign Studies, Busan

June 2, 2012.

Christian Teachers SIG Symposium
Teaching Fruitfully: Producing the Fruit of the Spirit in the Classroom
 Jeonju University, Jeonju, Jeonbuk

June 2, 2012.

The 2nd KOTESOL High School Pop Song Contest
 Organized by Jeonju-North Jeolla Chapter
 Jeonju University, Jeonju, Jeonbuk

Upcoming Korea ELT Events

KELTA 2012 International Conference

Implementing Speaking and Writing Tests of English in an EFL Context: Problems and Tasks
 May 26, 2012; Korea University, Seoul

WCSEL-1: The 1st World Congress of Scholars of English Linguistics - Issues in English Linguistics
 June 26-30, 2012; Hanyang University, Seoul

2012 KATE International Conference

English Proficiency for All: Narrowing English Gap
 July 6-7, 2012; Sookmyung Women's Univ., Seoul