



# The Gwangju Communicator

Newsletter of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of Korea TESOL

October 2012

## Building Speaking Confidence

### Teaching from a Discourse Perspective to Encourage Longer Speaking Turns

By Catherine Peck

A: *Did you go somewhere for your summer vacation?*

B: *...Yes, Japan. (big smile)*

A: *Oh great, how was it?*

B: *...It was ... fantastic.*

A: *OK, tell me more.*

B: *...Japanese people ... are very kind.*

A: *OK, and how about the food?*

B: *...Mmm, very delicious.*

For many English teachers, this type of exchange will seem all too familiar. If A is a teacher, he or she may simply be pleased that B comprehends the questions and provides appropriate answers without needing too much time to think. In a real life situation, however, the reality is that no conversation partner will want to work as hard as A is to keep this conversation going. B will lose an opportunity to participate in a satisfying conversation or develop a closer relationship with A, and A will find a way to end this conversation and walk away as soon as possible.

A common complaint about Korean EFL learners is that they tend to offer “minimal contributions” in conversation, responding with a word or a phrase when offered a conversational “turn,” but rarely using the chance to say more – even after they have achieved intermediate or advanced levels of ability. For learners, this hesitancy to “hold the floor” in conversation or maintain a longer turn eventually leads to frustration, lowered confidence, and experiencing English as a language in which their identity, experiences, or thoughts are never meaningfully expressed. In fact, many of our EFL classroom teaching materials and techniques position students as minimal contributors to conversation and offer few opportunities for them to develop confidence in “saying more” or taking the lead in conversation. Consequently, this workshop first identifies some basic discourse strategies for extending the length and complexity of learners’ spoken English,

and then demonstrates simple classroom practice activities to apply these strategies at beginner, intermediate or advanced levels. Activities demonstrated build students’ confidence with extended speaking turns that include narrative, procedure, and description, and are easily incorporated into standard ELT classroom practices.

#### The Presenter

Catherine Peck is a TESOL trainer and Invited Professor in the Department of English Education at Chonnam National University, where she has worked



since 2007. She studied, taught, and trained teachers in Ireland and Spain before moving to Korea, where she currently teaches ELT methodology and academic writing courses. She holds a TESOL certificate (RELSA Ireland), a Cambridge ESOL Diploma in teaching English to Adults (DELTA), a Master of Applied Linguistics/

TESOL (Macquarie) and is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Linguistics (Intercultural Communication) at Macquarie University, Australia. She has previously presented at regional KOTESOL and international KATE and CamTESOL conferences. Catherine has a particular interest in the socio-cultural aspects of language education and language policy, and is researching the potential for intercultural competence to be developed within South Korean EFL contexts.

*(Ms. Peck is presenting on building speaking confidence at the October 6 Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter meeting at Chosun University.)*

# ■ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Officers: 2011-12

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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 "Join KOTESOL" in the menu, and follow the directions.

Alternately, paper membership application and renewal forms are available at Chapter meetings for those who prefer making a hard-copy application with Chapter assistance.

**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

## Beyond the Gap-Fill: Nine Dynamic Activities for Song in the EFL Classroom

By Nico Lorenzutti

Many teachers like to use music and song in the language classroom. Good motivational tools, they are fun, relaxing and provide a class with variety and a break from textbook study. For younger learners, song and chants are often used to help acquire new vocabulary in a non-threatening, naturalistic manner. Older students and more advanced learners can analyze lyrics and explore a songwriter's language choice and message. Despite the rich potential of songs as authentic and stimulating texts, however, when it comes to designing a listening activity for a song teachers tend to rely upon the 'gap fill'; by far the most frequently employed song-related listening task. Teachers undertaking in-service training programs often report that when they use a song as a warmer, a gap fill is the sole activity. Listen and fill in the blanks, listen again, check and move on to the next activity, is almost a mantra. Yet songs can be utilized in so many more variable and stimulating ways; songs can challenge students to learn and think about language, and provide opportunities for integrated skills practice as well as cultural and intercultural analysis. This presentation will demonstrate a collection of simple, effective techniques that can be easily applied to a range of songs. All techniques employed incorporate active learning elements such as movement, prediction, student-student interaction and competitive games – providing teachers with a bank of useful and engaging classroom activities. The

activities are suitable for learners from young teens to adults, ranging from low intermediate to advanced levels.

This presentation was given at CAMTESOL in February, 2012, and at the KOTESOL National Conference in Pusan in May, 2012. Lindsay Herron wrote a review of the presentation for Uni Jobs Korea in June. You can read her review at: <http://www.unijobskorea.com/2012/06/05/4-dynamic-esl-activities-for-pop-songs/>

### The Presenter

Nico Lorenzutti has taught and trained teachers in Japan, Canada and South Korea for over 15 years. He teaches in the Intensive Teacher Training



Program at Chonnam National University where he has worked since 2008. He holds a CELTA and is currently a candidate for an MA in Modern English Language at the University of Nottingham. His main research interests are the use of popular culture products in the language

classroom. Email: zutti25@hotmail.com

(Mr. Lorenzutti is presenting on classroom EFL song activities at the October 6 Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter meeting at Chosun University.)

## Chapter Members in the News

**Dr. David Shaffer** was in Seoul on September 15 to present at the KAFLE 2012, the annual Korea Association for Foreign Language Education International Conference. His presentation was entitled Language Learning Journal Writing and Portfolio Projects: Efficacy and Sustainability.”

**Dr. Shaffer** traveled to Cheonan on September 22 to give a presentation at the Daejeon-Chungcheong Chapter KOTESOL mini-conference. There he presented on using an inductive approach to introducing grammar to young learners.

**Dr. Shaffer** is out of the country during the first week of October, participating in the Asia TEFL annual Executive Council Meeting on the 3rd and participating in the Asia TEFL Conference on the 4th-6th, both in Delhi, India.

## Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL October Meeting

- Time: Saturday, October 6, 2012, 1:30 p.m.
- Place: Chosun University (Gwangju), Main Building (본관), Room 5210.

### ■ Schedule

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

**2:00 pm:** PRESENTATION 1

***Dynamic Listening Activities for Using Pop Songs in the Classroom***  
Nico Lorenzutti (Chonnam National University)

**2:45 pm:** Refreshment Break

**3:00 pm:** PRESENTATION 2

***Building Speaking Confidence: Teaching from a Discourse Perspective to Encourage Longer Speaking Turns***  
Catherine Peck (Chonnam National University)

**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

### November 10. Chapter Meeting

- *Do They Get It? – Six Techniques for Monitoring Student Comprehension in Class*  
Heidi Vander Voort Nam (Chongsin Univ.)
- *Warmers and Coolers*  
Matthew McLaughlin (Chosun University)

### December 8. Chapter Meeting

- *Good Teachers and Bad Coursebooks: Adapting Materials to Fit Your Class*  
Henry Gerlitz (Gwangju University)
- *Incorporating Writing Activities into the English Classroom in Korea*  
Warren Merkel (Chonnam Natl. University)

## Upcoming KOTESOL Events

### October 20-21, 2012

**The 20th Korea TESOL Intl. Conference**  
*Perfect Score: Methodologies, Technologies, and Communities of Practice*  
Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

**November 10, 2012** (Registration Open)  
**Jeonju-North Jeolla KOTESOL Drama Contest**  
Jeonju University, Jeonju, Jeollabuk-do

**November 24, 2012** (CFP: Now Open)  
**Daejeon-Chungcheong Chapter Symposium and Thanksgiving Dinner**  
Woosong University, Daejeon

**March 30, 2013** (CFP: Nov. 30)  
**Seoul KOTESOL Chapter Conference**  
*Preparing for Tomorrow: Real Ideas for Real Classrooms*  
Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

## Upcoming Korea ELT Events

**2012 KAFLE International Conference**  
Web: <http://www.kafle.or.kr/>  
September 15, 2012; HUFSS, Seoul

**The 21st Century Association of English Language and Literature Autumn Conference**  
September 15, 2012; Mokpo University, Mokpo

**ALAK 2012 International Conference**  
*Conversation Analysis and Corpus Linguistics*  
October 13, 2012; HUFSS, Seoul

**2012 PKETA International Conference**  
*Perspectives in Qualitative Research for ELT*  
October 20, 2012; Pukyong Natl. University, Busan