Featured Session

Ten Tech Tools to Ease Teachers’ Lives

By Lindsay Herron

Teachers’ time is at a premium. Fortunately, technology can help! But too often, sites that purport to help teachers ultimately prove disappointing or expensive. This presentation cuts through the chaff to introduce tried-and-true online tools that are free, easy to use, and guaranteed to make an EFL teacher’s life easier, without any software installation.

Among the highlighted tools are those that can make class feedback more dynamic, such as Padlet, or make worksheets more interactive and multimodal, such as Wizer. Educators looking for easy ways to gather student information, create self-grading tests, distribute assignments, or conduct surveys will be gratified to discover the plethora of tools offered by Google. Voice Spice and Vocaroo will prove invaluable for teachers who wish to record their students or create their own listening exercises. And keeping up with online articles for professional development has never been easier, thanks to tools such as Feedly and Readability.

Attendees will leave the workshop with great ideas and new enthusiasm for effectively integrating tech tools into their teaching, helping to make their lives much easier.

NOTE: Attendees will have an opportunity to try out several tools for themselves; bringing a smartphone pre-loaded with a QR-reader app is encouraged.

THE PRESENTER

Lindsay Herron has been a visiting professor at Gwangju National University of Education since 2008. She has master’s degrees in language education and cinema studies, a CELTA, and a CELTA YL-Extension. She is currently the national president of Korea TESOL (KOTESOL) and a Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter officer.

(Ms. Herron will present this session on tech tools at the September 10th “meeting” of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of KOTESOL as part of the ALAK-GETA International Conference at Honam University. Presentation time: 2:00 p.m., Bldg. 6, 2F.)
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?
- **Regular 1-Year Membership:** 50,000 won.
- **Lifetime Membership:** 500,000 won. Student and International Membership options are 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
Doing Reflective Practice: Awareness-Raising for Empowerment
By Jocelyn Wright

Reflective practice is a professional activity many teachers choose to engage in in an effort to improve learning- and teaching-related outcomes. They may have very different foci and adopt diverse approaches to meet their needs. Critical reflection, especially, involves questioning experiences. To do this effectively, teachers need to consider many areas in addition to curriculum, planning, teaching, learning, and assessment, such as social contexts, values and identities, communication, among others. Moreover, to feel empowered, they have to feel they have opportunities to excel in their duties or to make a difference. In this short workshop, teachers will be able to reflect on the degree of control they have over a number of areas and, through an interactive, mingling activity, dialogue about those that they wish to focus on, either because they are successful or because they pose problems that participants desire to understand better, so they can attempt to bring about positive change in the future.

The Presenter

Jocelyn Wright is an assistant professor in the Department of English Language and Literature at Mokpo National University. She has degrees in linguistics and education and holds a CELTA. She has been teaching in Korea at the university level for over seven years and has been actively involved in KOTESOL for just as long. She has also taught in French-Canada, the Dominican Republic, and France. Her many interests include professional development and critical pedagogy.

Understanding Our Learners: Being Reflective and Intentional About How We Know Students
By Bryan Hale

As teachers we often want to understand our students as much as we can - to understand not just their language level and learning experiences so far, but also their motivations, goals, anxieties, and hopes, their personalities, and the relationships among our students. But, much of the time, our relationships with our students are unavoidably limited, bureaucratic, and institutional. Even if we make relationship-building part what happens in our classrooms, we may wish we were doing more. In this short session, teachers will have a chance to reflect on their knowledge of their students, how they (really) built that knowledge, and the limitations of that knowledge. Participants will also discuss how we can be mindful and intentional about managing our understanding of our learners, even in limiting circumstances, and share ideas about how teachers might feel content or fulfilled in how they relate to learners in real teaching contexts.

The Presenter

Bryan Hale is a teacher from Australia who has been in Korea since 2011. Bryan currently teaches conversation and writing to elementary and middle school students at Sunkyung Academy in Gwangju. He has experience teaching students in Korea of all ages, from very young to adult.

(Jocelyn Wright and Bryan Hale will be presenting their sessions at the September 10th “meeting” of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of KOTESOL as part of the ALAK-GETA International Conference at Honam University at 3:00 and 3:25p.m., respectively, in Building 6, 2nd Floor.)
Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL September Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, September 10, 2016, 2:00–3:50 p.m.
- Place: Honam University, Building 6, 2nd Floor, English Zone

Schedule: The 2016 ALAK-GETA Joint International Conference

8:30-9:00: Registration
9:00-9:50: Concurrent Sessions (2 x 25 min.)
10:00-10:30: Opening Ceremony
10:30-11:15: Plenary Session I — Dr. Daniel Perrin (Zurich University)
11:15-12:00: Plenary Session II — Dr. Hyukseung Kwon (Seoul National University)
12:00-1:00: Lunch Break
1:00-1:50: Concurrent Sessions (2 x 25 min.)
Poster Sessions
2:00-2:40: Featured Sessions
3:00-5:10: Roundtable & Concurrent Sessions (4 x 25 min.)
5:10-5:55: Plenary Session III — Dr. Gabriele Kasper (University of Hawaii)
6:00-7:00: Korean Traditional Music
B-Boying Performance
ALAK and GETA General Meetings
Closing Ceremony
7:00-8:00: Conference Reception

— COMING EVENTS —

Upcoming Chapter Events

Extended SwapShop Session and
Halloween-Themed Potluck Dinner

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

October 15–16. KOTESOL Intl. Conference
Shaping the Future: With 21st Century Skills
Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul

Three SwapShop Sub-themes
- Halloween-Themed Ideas & Activities
- International Conference Take-Aways
- General Ideas and Activities