Spotlight on Vocabulary

Learning a language is a complex process. Typically, grammar is seen as the most important component for learning a language. While grammar is certainly important, the role of vocabulary to convey the speaker’s message during communication is often left in the background. As Wilkins (1972) states, “without grammar, very little can be conveyed; without vocabulary, nothing can be conveyed” (p. 111).

Generally, knowing vocabulary constitutes knowing the definition. However, is knowing only the definition enough? With this in mind, the focus of this workshop is to place a spotlight on the importance of vocabulary and how teachers can help students gain a deeper understanding of the words being learned.

Based on Scott Thornbury’s ideas, this workshop will encompass a range of activities to address various factors related to teaching vocabulary: how to introduce vocabulary, multiple meanings of vocabulary, a word’s relationship with other words (collocation), and how to practice newly introduced vocabulary.

References

The Presenter
Jessica Ives is from Niagara Falls, Canada. She is a professor at Dongshin University in Naju. Before teaching in Korea, she was an ESL Instructor at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. She completed both her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics (TESL) at Brock University. She is interested in reflective practice and the sociolinguistic aspects of language teaching.

Jessica will present on innovative ways to teach vocabulary at the September 9th workshop of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of KOTESOL at Gwangju National University of Education (Room 811).
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: KEB-Hana bank account number 299-890069-83204.
- Payment in cash to the Chapter Membership Officer at a Chapter Meeting.
Roundtable Discussion & Upcoming Events

September 9: Collaborative Workshop
Roundtable Discussion

This session will be a set of Roundtable Discussions. Several roundtables (workstations) will be set up around the room, and every teacher will be expected to have prepared at least one item to present to the group for discussion – two or three or more would be even better.

Here is a list of possible items to bring to the meeting:

- A problem that’s driving you up the wall (concerning ELT, students, colleagues, the administration, etc.).
- A question about the English language that makes you go “Hmmm…”
- A head-scratching question about why Korean learners make certain English mistakes.
- A teaching method- or technique-related question that you have.
- A half-finished idea that’s looking for help for completion.
- An activity or game you love (i.e., a swapshop type of item).
- An activity that seems like it will work fabulously, but has hidden pitfalls. (Things to beware of!)
- A longing to listen and help your fellow KOTESOL teachers!

October 28th Meeting (4th Saturday)
Super SwapShop & Halloween Party

Following on the success of last year’s October meeting, the upcoming October meeting will feature a 90-minute swapshop, followed by a Halloween party.

For the swapshop session (2:00–3:30 pm), attendees are asked to prepare at least one item to share with the group on any of the following three topics:

- Halloween-Related SwapShop Topics
- Favorite Take-Aways from the International Conference
- General ELT SwapShop Topics

For the Halloween Party portion of the day (3:30–5:00 pm), everyone is encouraged to come in masks, make-up, and/or costumes. Halloween-themed refreshments will be available, but snack and drink contributions by attendees are welcome.

September 30th
Reflective Practice SIG Event
Day of Reflection 2017

Reflective Practice Workshops featuring
Dr. Thomas Farrell

The annual RP-SIG Day of Reflection is coming up the last Saturday of September. The full day of workshops will feature a 90-minute workshop by worldwide reflective practice authority, Dr. Thomas Farrell of Brock University, Canada. Two of the other one-hour workshops will be by Jocelyn Wright and Maria Lisak. At Sookmyung Women’s University in Seoul.
Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL September Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, September 9, 2017, 1:45–5:00 p.m.
- Place: Gwangju Natl. University of Ed., Teacher Training Bldg., Room 811 (1st Floor)

Schedule: Chapter Meeting, Main Session

1:45 pm: Sign-in and Meet-and-Greet (Admission is free for first-timers. Future membership is welcomed.)

2:00 – 2:50 pm: PRESENTATION
   Spotlight on Vocabulary (See page 1)
   Jessica Ives (Dongshin Universitry, Naju, Jeonnam)

2:50 – 3:15 pm: Refreshment Break

3:15 – 4:05 pm: COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP
   Roundtable Discussions (See page 3)
   David Shaffer (Chapter Vice-President)

4:15 – 4:45 pm: SwapShop Session (Open to All)
   Everyone is encouraged to share their Teaching Discoveries and Secrets with the group.
   Share your Teaching Tips, Ideas, Classroom Activities, Games, ELT Books, or other Teaching Wisdom. (Handouts welcomed.)

4:45 – 5:00 pm: Announcements / Drawing for Door Prizes / Closing

After-Meeting Dinner at The First Alleyway downtown.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Gwangju National University of Education

October 29, 2017. GIC Day. ACC, 5.18 Plaza

Gwangju Natl. University of Education

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

September 23, 2017. Christian Teachers SIG Symposium
   Restorative Approaches in ELT
   Hadong University, Pohang

September 30, 2017
Reflective Practice SIG: “Day of Reflection”
   RP Workshops Featuring Dr. Thomas Farrell
   Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul

25th KOTESOL International Conference
   Why Are We Here? Analogue Learning in a Digital Era
   Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul

Reflective Practice SIG
Sept. 9 Morning Meeting (11-12:30)
   “Investment” and “e-Journaling”
   Jocelyn Wright & Maria Lisak
   At Coffee Lab Mjii (Woori Church)