When You Meet a Suicidal Student

By Dr. Oh Jung Keun

How did you feel when a student told you about their suicidal thoughts? You may have been shocked or fearful. But fear doesn’t help the situation; empathy is needed in this situation.

What can you do with a suicidal student?

- If the school has a mental health professional, contact them.
- If necessary, we should take the suicidal student to a clinical setting.
- Let their parents know about this.

We need to work to remove the prejudice against psychiatry, which is very serious in Korea. Eight out of ten people who commit suicide have spoken about their intent before killing themselves. So don’t consider the telling of suicidal ideas an ordinary situation. Discussing the subject openly shows that you take the person seriously and that you care. Direct questioning about suicidal ideas is helpful, not harmful. Most suicides are related to depressive disorders. So we would do well to be informed about depressive disorders.

THE PRESENTER

Dr. Oh Jung Keun is a medical doctor and psychiatrist at Gongju National Hospital. He is the director of the hospital’s Department of Psychiatric Rehabilitation, the director of the Chungnam Provincial Mental Health Center, and a member of the mediation committee in Daejeon family court.

(To be presented on June 9 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education).
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What Makes a Great Lesson? vs. What Makes a Lesson Great?

Daniel Svoboda

Teaching is all about creating great lessons. Whatever age group or skill level you find yourself teaching, you probably spend time creating the best possible lessons and delivering new and existing lessons in the best possible way. This workshop will look at several factors related to creating a “great lesson,” including content, students, delivery, classroom, teachers, and other miscellaneous factors. This doesn’t mean that teachers should come expecting a “magic bullet” that miraculously transforms your future classes. Instead of being prescribed simple and quick fixes, participants will ask themselves engaging questions, reflect on their own experiences, and share ideas on what makes a lesson “great.”

The Presenter

Daniel Svoboda is an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Interpretation and Translation at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS) in Seoul. Following an undergraduate degree in English, he graduated with an MA in English in 2011 and is currently working on his doctoral dissertation. Over a teaching career that spans almost a decade, Daniel has worked with learners as diverse as kindergarten students and company executives—and just about every age level in between—at private academies, elementary schools, high schools, universities, and in-house corporate training programs. A fluent Korean speaker, Daniel uses a variety of learning strategies and tools on a daily basis as he tries to ensure his two young children grow up to be fully bilingual. Daniel has presented papers at almost thirty international conferences both in Korea and abroad on topics related to TESOL, literary theory, and translation. Email: dansvo82@naver.com

(To be presented on June 9 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education.)
Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL June Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, June 9, 2018, 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 free for newcomers. Future membership always welcomed.)

2:00 – 2:50 pm: Presentation 1
When You Meet the Suicidal Student
Dr. Oh Jung Keun (Gongju National Hospital)

2:50 – 3:10 pm: Refreshment & Networking Break

3:10 – 4:00 pm: Presentation 2
What Makes a Great Lesson? vs. What Makes a Lesson Great?
Daniel Svoboda (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)

4:10 – 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

Multimodal Writing: A Key for Creative Learning and Teaching
– Teri An Joy G. Magpale (Wonkwang Univ.)
Novel Pair Information Gap Activities for Mixed-Level Classes
– Daniel Corks (Woosong University)
At Gwangju National University of Education

August 11, 2018. Chapter Meeting.
A Framework for Explaining Activities and Games to Learners with Limited English
– Andrew Griffiths (Daejeon Education Training Institute)

Reflective Practice SIG
Morning Session
Are You Teaching Critical Thinking?
June 9 (11:00–12:30)
Jocelyn Wright Facilitating
At Coffee Lab Mujii (near GNUE)

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

October 13–14, 2018. Korea TESOL International Conference
Focus on Fluency
Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul