

Newsletter of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of Korea TESOL

December 2018

# **Questioning Strategies**

**By Kristy Dolson** 

Why do teachers ask questions? This deceptively simple inquiry nets a diverse response. As teachers, our lessons are often full of questions to our students. Therefore it is vital that we consider our questioning strategies very carefully. How we ask our questions and how we expect our students to respond are key factors in the accessibility level and engagement rate of our classes. We will learn about the three most common forms of questioning used in the EFL classroom: whole class, direct, and think-pair-share.

Whole-Class Questioning: This is by far the most



commonly used strategy, but unfortunately it is also the least effective for motivating and engaging students. The teacher questions the entire class and either students shout out the answer, volunteers raise their hands to give the answer, or the entire class is expected to

respond chorally. We will discuss the problems and possible uses for each response scenario of this method.

**Direct Questioning:** This strategy involves asking a question, allowing students quiet time to think, then asking a student by name to answer the question. This strategy increases the participation rate of shyer

and lower-level students once your classes become comfortable with it.

**Think-Pair-Share:** The golden standard of questioning, this strategy enhances student engagement by allowing everyone the chance to think quietly before sharing ideas with a partner and then sharing with the entire class. (cont. on page 3)

#### THE PRESENTER

As a teacher trainer at the Jeollanamdo International Education Institute (JIEI), Kristy Dolson is responsible for instructing and inspiring Korean



primary and secondary public school teachers. She focuses on pronunciation skills to improve her trainees' comprehensibility and microteaching improve their teaching skills and strategies. At JIEI, she also participates in workshops for school administrators, principals

and vice principals, and city officials and is highly involved with the JLP (Jeollanamdo Language Program) orientations.

(To be presented on December 8 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education).

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## **Joining Korea TESOL**

**Who May Join:** English teachers of any level or nationality are eligible to join. KOTESOL welcomes native and non-native speakers teaching at public schools, language institutes, colleges and universities, and other organizations, as well as tutors. Undergraduate 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. Help available at a Chapter meeting. 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 either of these two methods:

- Bank transfer to **KOTESOL**: KEB-Hana bank account number 299-890069-83204.
- Payment in cash to the Chapter Membership Officer at a Chapter Meeting.

### **Questioning Strategies**

(Continued from page 1.)

After looking at each strategy, you will have a chance to reflect on your own questioning methods. You will also be encouraged to engage in practical exercises throughout the workshop to apply these strategies and methods to your own lessons.

Have you ever asked a question only to be met with blank stares and slack jaws? Did you panic and immediately rush to supply the answer? In addition to the main questioning methods, we will discover the key benefits regarding wait time, the "right to pass," and eliciting specific information.

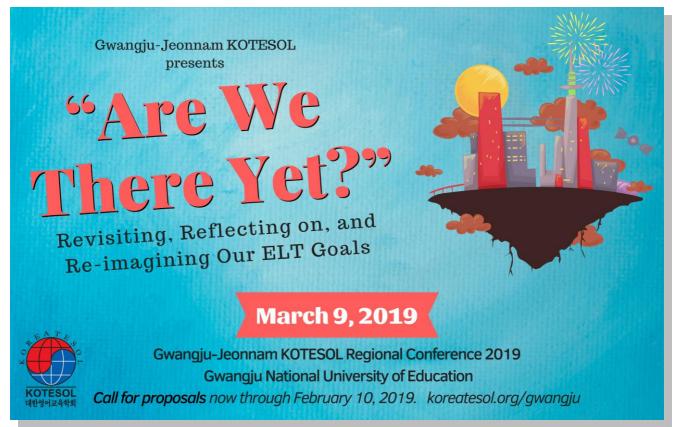
2018 Year-End Dinner

Join us for our annual end-of-year turkey dinner following our December afternoon meeting at GNUE, just across the hall from our meeting room on December 8, 2018. Reserve your seat. Registration will be available online.

In the EFL classroom we commonly use questioning to check in with our students. CCQs tell us if the students understand the concepts and vocabulary that we are teaching, while ICQs confirm that students understand our instructions for tasks and activities. Both will be examined during this workshop, with time given for you to practice using them authentically.

Finally, we will see how scripting good questions within a skills lesson can greatly improve the participation rate, confidence, and focus of your lessons. After a demonstration of poor planning versus better planning, you will have a chance to practice levelling questions for lower-level students.





# **Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL December Chapter Meeting**

- Time: Saturday, December 8, 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: WORKSHOP, PART 1

Questioning Strategies

Kristy Dolson (Jeollanamdo International Education Institute, Yeosu)

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

3:10 – 4:00 pm: WORKSHOP, PART 2

Questioning Strategies.

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 downtown at The First Alleyway.

# **Upcoming Chapter Events**

January 12, 2019. Chapter Meeting

February 16, 2019 (3rd Saturday). Chapter Meeting.

March 9, 2019. Chapter Regional Conference.

### **Upcoming KOTESOL Events**

February 24, 2018.
Chapter Presidents' Meeting
Sookmyung Women's University, Injae-gwan, Seoul

### **Reflective Practice SIG**

**Morning Session** 

2018 in Review: Goals Achieved?

December 8 (11:00–12:30) Maria Lisak facilitating.

At Coffee Lab Mujii (near GNUE)

March 24, 2019. Seoul Chapter Annual Conference. Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul.

April 20, 2019. Busan-Gyeongnam Chapter Conference. Kyungnam University, Changwon, Gyeongnam.