Metaphor in the Writing Curriculum

By Dr. Joseph Tomei

In Cognitive Linguistics, metaphor is argued to underpin human language ability, not only helping us to communicate but organizing thought processes. However, for EFL teaching, metaphor is consigned to classes for advanced learners to “dress up” their English.

Rather than treating metaphor as an advanced topic only available to high-level students, learners at any level should be able to use metaphor to develop writing skills and communicative ability.

This presentation will outline a 15-week English composition course for Japanese university students based on metaphor. After briefly reviewing metaphor research, the presentation demonstrates some simple yet effective metaphor-based classroom activities.

THE PRESENTER

Dr. Joseph Tomei is a professor in the Faculty of British and American Studies at Kumamoto Gakuen University and is a visiting professor at Daejeon University for the 2019-2020 academic year. He has taught EFL in France, Spain, and Japan at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. In addition to his interest in computer-mediated communication, he also is interested in the application of functional/typological grammar to language teaching, practical activities in the language classroom, and writing instruction, and his recently completed doctorate from the University of Birmingham is on the use of metaphor by EFL writers.

(Dr. Tomei will be presenting on “Metaphor in the Writing Curriculum” on May 11 at the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter KOTESOL meeting at Gwangju National University of Education).
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How learners experience their first contact not only with a new foreign language, but also with the methods associated with teaching and learning it, plays an important role in the development of their attitude towards the target language, their motivation, and their engagement during the learning process. One way of gaining insight into this through “visual narratives,” an intuitively appealing method in which students draw their impressions and supplement them with very short explanations.

After discussing the basic layout as well as advantages and disadvantages of this method of qualitative data collection, participants will be presented with the result of one such analysis conducted in 2018 with first-year German majors over the course of two semesters.

Using these data as an example, we will analyze how they perceive their second foreign language and their learning process, identify changes over the course of the first year of studies, and ultimately arrive at suggestions for teaching and counseling practice. Particularities related to learning an L3 (German after English) will also be addressed.

Results from the analysis of the “visual narratives” will be supplemented by additional information gathered from the same group of students through course evaluations and retrospective motivational panels.

**THE PRESENTER**

Angela Jeannette is currently an assistant professor in the Department of German Language and Culture at Chosun University, Gwangju. Previous positions include both leadership and teaching responsibilities for the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Goethe-Institut in Africa, Southeast Asia, and East Asia.

She holds a Magister in Linguistics, English, and Scandinavian Languages from Kiel University, Germany, and her research interests include identity and language, learner and teacher (de)motivation, and locally appropriate praxis-related aspects of language teaching methodology.

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**Ask Me Anything: Online Teaching**

As the popularity of English lessons delivered online increases, so does the number of EFL teachers moving to online teaching as a full-time job, in addition to others teaching online part-time as a supplementary source of income.

This session will follow the ask-me-anything Q&A format with Zon Petilla answering questions from the group (audience). Zon is presently doing online EFL teaching from his base in Gwangju.

Questions can be emailed in advance to Bryan Hale at bryan.english.teacher@gmail.com
Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL May Chapter Meeting

- **Time:** Saturday, May 11, 2019, 1:45–5:00 p.m.
- **Place:** Gwangju Natl. University of Ed., Teacher Training Bldg., Room 812 (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**
*Metaphor in the Writing Curriculum*
Dr. Joseph Tomei, Kumamoto Gakuen University (Kumamoto, Japan)

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

3:10 – 4:00 pm: **PRESENTATION 2**
*Images of Language and Language Learning: “Visual Narratives” by Korean First-Year German Majors*
Angela Jeannette (Chosun University, Gwangju)

4:10 – 4:45 pm: **ASK-ME-ANYTHING SESSION**
*Online Teaching* – with Zon Petilla
Questions can be sent in advance to Bryan Hale: bryan.english.teacher@gmail.com

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

After-Meeting Dinner downtown at the First Alleyway.

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**Upcoming Chapter Events**

June 8, 2019. Chapter Meeting.
Teacher Training Center, GNUE, Gwangju.

**Upcoming KOTESOL Events**

May 25, 2019. KOTESOL National Conference
*Motiva(c)tion: Sparking Learner Motivation in Our Evolving Context* **Plenary Speaker:** Jack C. Richards
Jeonju University, Jeonju, North Jeolla Province

October 12–13, 2019.
The 27th Annual Korea TESOL International Conference
*Advancing ELT: Blending Disciplines, Approaches, and Technologies*
Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul

**Reflective Practice SIG**

*Positive Emotions in the Classroom*
May 11 (11:00–12:30)
Bryan Hale facilitating.
At Coffee Lab Mujii (near GNUE)

Plenary Speakers
Rod Ellis
Andrew Cohen