

Out of the Class and into the Classroom: Turning Theory into Practice

By Jin Lee

This presentation considers teaching theory as taught in graduate teacher-training programs and how it can actually be applied to the elementary school classroom situation. The focus is on procedures for teaching young learners (YLs) by teachers who are new to the YL classroom and are concerned about improving their YL teaching techniques. For example, we are told that rapport between student and teacher is critical but not how to achieve it. And we are told that we need to strike a proper balance between reward and punishment for our students but not what that proper balance may be. I have been trying to effectively adapt these ideas to work in my classroom situation and in this presentation will share with you what I have so far discovered to be most effective.

There are three elements that I consider to be most important in teaching. Great teachers have these commonalities; professional knowledge, teaching technique, and consideration for the student. Among these, I have had the most difficulty with the student-teacher relationship because my gruff treatment of students. For curing teacher's Achilles' heel, for the past year I have studied many ideas from my graduate school program, my teachers' training, books, and documentaries applying what I have learned in my classes and instruction.

This self-improvement project is a work-in-progress (and I expect that it will always be). Some ideas have produced very successful results (and some have

failed miserably). This presentation should be meaningful to any teacher considering their relationship with their students and to anyone who wants to hear a story from a teacher in search of solutions her student-related teaching problems. This presentation can be divided into three parts. I first raise teaching theories and ideas learned, then relate my teaching experiences, and report on progress in adapting to the real classroom situation.

THE PRESENTER

Jin Lee is a teacher at Kumho Elementary School as well as a graduate student at Gwangju National University of Education, where she is majoring in Curriculum and Course Design. She graduated from Gwangju University of Education in 2013 with a degree in English Education. Jin also has a 2008 bachelor's degree from Ewha Womans University in Fine Arts with a minor in Art History. On KOTESOL's national level, she is a member of the International Conference's Registration Committee.



(Jin Lee is speaking on application of ELT theory to the classroom situation at the July 12th Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter meeting at Chosun University.)

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Awesome Online Tools for Project-Based Learning

By Lindsay Herron

The internet offers a wealth of engaging, intuitive tools that are ideal for student projects! Incorporating online tools into project-based learning can help make the learning “sticky”; provide a context for language use; enhance motivation by providing autonomy and purpose; and modify or even redefine a task, offering new opportunities and options that would be impossible without technology. This presentation will draw on the SAMR model and Bloom’s Digital Taxonomy to explore these issues; briefly address common concerns educators have about online projects, including privacy and copyright considerations; and recommend some free and easy-to-use tools for student projects. Attendees will leave with a new enthusiasm for incorporating tech tools, a rubric for evaluating online tools for student projects, and a selection of tools students can use in class on Monday. Tip: Bring a smartphone with a QR scanner to save yourself time in the presentation!

For Making Videos

Animoto (<http://animoto.com>). Students upload photos or videos, add text, choose a site-provided soundtrack or upload their own, and choose a theme to tie it all together. Then Animoto turns these elements into a video. App available. Tip: Teachers can apply for a free Animoto Pro account for classroom use (<http://animoto.com/education/classroom>) that allows the creation of videos up to 20 minutes long.

PowToon (<http://www.powtoon.com>). PowToon is easily the best and most user-friendly alternative to PowerPoint currently available. Students can create video projects that incorporate animated characters and text, eye-catching transitions, and a wide variety of images and music. Tip: The basic account is free, but teachers might like the “4Edu” upgrade that allows longer, higher-quality videos. Coupon code POW1 usually yields a discount.

For Making Still Images

Smore (<http://www.smores.com>). Create an interactive online poster that incorporates photos, text, music, videos, links, buttons, and more! Compatible with most mobile devices.

ThingLink (<http://www.thinglink.com>). ThingLink lets users “tag” pictures they’ve uploaded from their computer or imported from a website. These tags are small icons that link to additional information such as YouTube videos, music, Wikipedia entries, relevant websites, or even just the creator’s own text. iPad compatible.

Photovisi (<http://www.photovisi.com>). Photovisi is a photo collage site. Choose a template, upload photos, add text or “stickers,” and then download the finished product. Compatible with mobile devices that support Adobe Flash Player.

For Making Books

Tell-a-Story StoryBuilder (<http://kidsspace.torontopubliclibrary.ca/story.html>). This site from the Toronto Public Library lets students create a story up to 14 pages long using provided characters, backgrounds, and props. No log-in required. Notes: Flash plug-in required on mobile devices; final product seems to be editable by anyone who can access it.

THE PRESENTER

Lindsay Herron has been a visiting professor at Gwangju Natl. University of Education in Gwangju since 2008. Prior to that, she taught English on a Fulbright grant at Seogwipo High School in Jeju-do. She has a master’s degree in Cinema Studies from New York Univ., bachelor’s degrees in English and Psychology from Swarthmore College, a CELTA, and the CELTA YL-Extension. She is currently working on a master’s in Literacy, Culture, and Language Ed. from Indiana University-Bloomington. At the National level, Lindsay is currently KOTESOL’s Membership Committee Chair and serving on the International Conference Committee.



(Lindsay Herron is presenting on tools available online for project-based learning at the July 12th Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter meeting at Chosun University.)

Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL July Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, July 12, 2014, 1:45–5:00 p.m.
- Place: Chosun University Main Building (Gwangju), 4th Floor, Room 4211

■ Schedule

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

2:00 - 2:50 pm: PRESENTATION 1

Out of the Class and into the Classroom: Turning Theory into Practice
Jin Lee (Kumho Elementary School)

2:50 - 3:10 pm: Refreshment Break

3:10 - 4:00 pm: PRESENTATION 2

Awesome Online Tools for Project-Based Learning
Lindsay Herron (Gwangju Natl. University of Education)

4:00 Swap-Shop Session

Everyone is invited to Share one of your Teaching Ideas, Classroom Activities, and ELT Games, Books, etc. (Handouts welcomed.)

4:30 pm: Announcements / Drawing for Door Prizes / Closing

- After-meeting dinner at The First Alleyway.
- **Reflective Practice Morning Meeting**
11:00 AM, July 12, 2014 at Chosun University Starbucks (2nd floor) near the “back gate.”
Topic: Creating Teaching Portfolios Facilitated by Tyson Vieira
For venue or other information, please join our Facebook group (Reflective Practice SIG Gwangju-Jeonnam) or contact Tyson Vieira (tyson.vieira@att.net).

Upcoming Chapter Events

August 9, 2014

Chapter Monthly Meeting, Chosun University
Looking at Teacher Talk Through The Johari Window
Jocelyn Wright (Mokpo Natl. University)

Eyes on Lesson Plans & Hands-on Lesson Planning
David Shaffer (Chosun University)

August 30, 2014

Summer Social Event: Outdoor Dinner

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

July 26-27, 2014

TESOL International Academy 2014
ELT Leadership Management Certificate Program
Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul

October 3-5, 2014

KOTESOL International Conference
Embracing Change: Blazing New Frontiers Through Language Teaching.
COEX Convention Center, Seoul

Upcoming Korea ELT Events

2014 KEES Conference

Creativity in Humanistic English Education Assignments and Perspectives
August 6, 2014; Korea Natl. Univ. of Ed., Cheongju

2014 MEESO Conference

Innovative English Education in the 21st Century: Creative Convergence Pedagogy
August 22, 2014; Myongji University, Seoul