

The “I Am Happy” Project: Working with Young Learners

By Billie Kang

Earlier this year, I presented twice on the “routinized class” model at Gwangju KOTESOL workshops in the belief that having a fixed class routine would help teachers prepare more efficiently for their classes and help students to feel more comfortable knowing what to expect in class. Having taught the same group of students with this same class routine for almost three years now, I got to wondering if this was really the best way or if there were other methods that might be just as suitable or even more suitable for the young learner classroom.

In this presentation, the “I Am Happy” Project will be introduced, which is a very different approach compared to the “fixed routine” that was introduced in the spring workshops. In addition to the advantages of this approach, the difficulties of managing different classes will be talked about.



THE PRESENTER

Billie Kang has worked with young children since she started her teaching career at the elementary school level in 1997. Her undergraduate major is in elementary pedagogy from Gwangju National



University of Education and her M.Ed. in TESOL from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo was completed in 2003. She has given lectures at various workshops and training courses on various topics for both Korean and non-Korean teachers. Billie is currently teaching English at Taebong Elementary School in Gwangju as a master teacher one of only 22 at the elementary level in all of Gwangju. Outside of the classroom, she has recently taken up bike riding and plans to enjoy it even more in the future.

Billie is a lifetime member of KOTESOL and is a past vice-president of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter (2006-2008). She is a regular Chapter presenter on young learner topics and served as a member of the registration team at the 2013 KOTESOL International Conference in Seoul.

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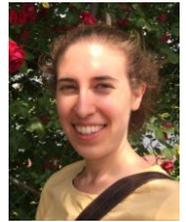
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10 Poetry Activities for the EFL Classroom

By Dr. Yeon-seong Park

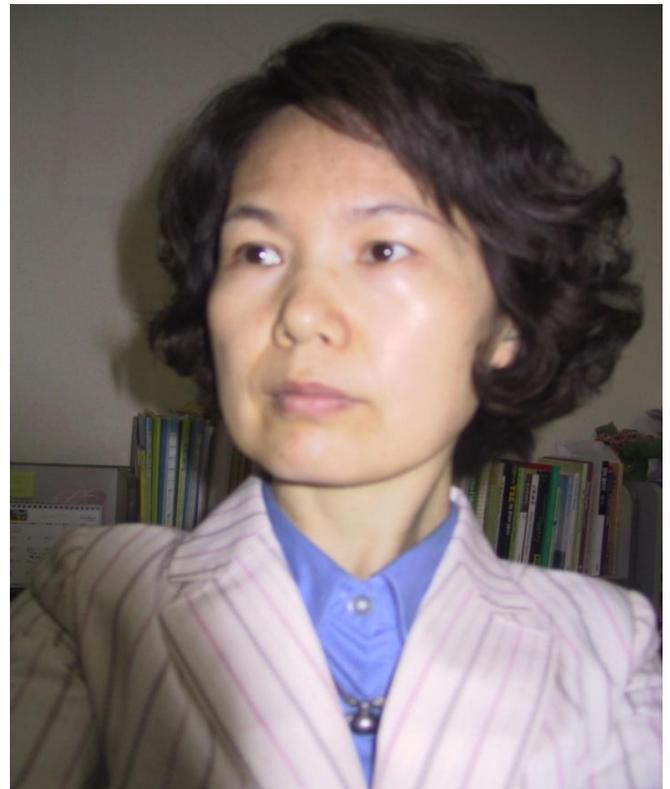
Traditionally, reading literature was part of the EFL curriculum. It was popular when the grammar-translation method was used in the 1950's; however, this changed after the audio-lingual method was introduced in the late 1960's. In the mid

Poetry

1980's, the use of literary works in teaching English saw a revival in the spirit of communicative language teaching. A literary work can be a catalyst for meaningful and spontaneous communication. In this light, ten pieces of poetry were designed to promote university-level students' integrative competence in English as a foreign language. The poems chosen for the CLT activities are Elizabeth Bishop's "One Art," A. E. Housman's "Loveliest of Trees," Christina Rossetti's "A Birthday," William Blake's "The Chimney Sweeper," and Langston Hughes' "Dream Deferred."

THE PRESENTER

Yeon-seong Park is a professor of English at Chonnam National University. She earned her BA in English Literature from Ewha Woman's University,



her MA from Seoul National University and her PhD from Chonnam National University. Dr. Park completed a summer school program in English literature at Cambridge University (1994) and spent a year as a visiting scholar at the University of Hawaii (1998). She has written several books including *Enter the Flower Field of English* (2000), *W. H. Auden* (co-authored, 2005), *Creative English Practice* (2009), and *Dances with Anticipating Ants* (2010). She is a lifetime member of KOTESOL and served as Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter President from 2006 to 2007.

(Dr. Park will be presenting on basing communicative activities on poetry for the EFL classroom at the November 8th Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter meeting at Chosun University.)

Year-End Holiday Dinner at GIC

This year the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter will be holding its holiday dinner on December 6 at the GIC facilities in its new location just off Chungang-ro. The dinner begins at 6 pm, following the Chapter's monthly meeting at Chosun University. The turkey dinner will feature a Christmas medley by a local a cappella troupe. The venue is located in the Samho Building, up the street across from the Wongak-sa temple.

Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL November Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, November 8, 2014, 1:45–5:00 p.m.
- Place: Chosun University Main Building (Gwangju), 4th Floor, Room 4211

■ Schedule

Reflective Practice SIG Morning Session (Starbucks, Chosun University back gate)

10:00- 11:30 am: Topic: *Video Observations – Learning Through Others*

Chapter Meeting: Main Session

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

2:00 - 2:50 pm: PRESENTATION 1

The “I Am Happy” Project: Working with Young Learners

Billie Kang (Taebong Elementary School)

2:50 - 3:10 pm: Refreshment Break

3:10 - 4:00 pm: PRESENTATION 2

10 Poetry Activities for the EFL Classroom

Dr. Yeon-seong Park (Chonnam National University)

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: Chapter Elections / Announcements / Drawing for Door Prizes / Closing

- After-meeting dinner at The First Alleyway.

Upcoming Chapter Events

December 6. Chapter Meeting

Getting the Most Out of Your Coursebook Activities

Jessica Ives (Dongshin University)

COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP:

What Makes a Really Good Class Activity?

December 6. Year-End Holiday Dinner

Gwangju International Center 1F, 6-9 p.m.

Turkey Dinner and trimmings with Christmas

Medley by an A Cappella Troupe

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

November 22, 2014.

The Annual KOTESOL National Drama Festival

Hosted by Jeonju-North Jeolla Chapter

Jeonju University, Jeonju, Jeonbuk

November 29, 2014.

Daejeon-Chungcheong Chapter Symposium and Thanksgiving Dinner

The Winds of Change: What's New, What's Hot, What's Not. The Changing Face of ELT in Korea

Featuring David Sperling of Dave's ESL Café

Woosong University, Daejeon

November 30, 2014.

Reflective Practice SIG Workshop

Featuring Dr. Thomas Farrell (Brock University)

Seoul

December 13, 2014.

Korea TESOL Conference at English Expo

The 2014 Exposition on English Education, Educational Opportunities, and Employment

COEX Convention Center, Seoul

Upcoming Korea ELT Events

November 22, 2014

2014 GETA Conference

Towards Creativity in ELT: Issues and Directions

Honam University, Gwangju