

## Getting the Most Out of Your Coursebook Activities

By Jessica Ives

This presentation serves to provide teachers with ways to use spoken or written texts (found in our coursebooks) for more than one purpose. Additionally, this presentation promotes the idea of slowing down our teaching. There is a lot of pressure put on teachers to finish  $x$  number of pages per lesson, to complete the textbook by the end of the semester, and/or to provide extra material to accompany what is given in the textbook. While it is certainly possible to complete the expected curriculum, while it may work perfectly well for many teachers, there are still some things to consider when applying this approach.

There is added concern when the quality of learning and opportunities to learn are decreased in order to finish everything. When this occurs, who really benefits from this "must finish the textbook" mentality? One possible option is to consider slowing down the pace and looking at written or spoken texts that have already been provided (i.e., your coursebook) from a new perspective. There are many benefits to using this approach. For instance, it gives students rich opportunities to review material and feel that they are mastering the language. It also prevents teachers from frantically photocopying extra worksheets before classes and allows them more time to design better lessons.

There are additional benefits that will be highlighted throughout the presentation. Drawing on Dr. John Sivell's article, *Sending Them Back to the Well*, this presentation will first introduce some relevant terms and the theory of connectionism. This will help us to understand the benefits of repeated exposure to the

same material. Next, by focusing on vocabulary, syntax, and discourse, a variety of possible activities will be introduced. In the final part of the presentation, you will apply your new knowledge and create your own activity/activities to accompany a sample text. By the end of this interactive presentation, I hope teachers will become more aware of the many possible activities available through re-using a written or spoken text.

### THE PRESENTER

Jessica Ives is from Niagara Falls, Canada. She came to Korea this past March. She is a professor at Dongshin University in Naju, where she teaches English Conversation to first-year students. This semester, she



also assists with a master's teacher training course at Dongshin University. Before teaching in Korea, she was an ESL Instructor at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. She completed both her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) and Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics (TESL) at Brock University.

Jessica is interested in Reflective Practice and the sociolinguistic aspects of language teaching. In March, 2015, she will return to Canada, where she plans to continue teaching and researching.

*(Jessica Ives will be presenting on how to get the most mileage out of coursebook activities at the December 6 meeting of the Gwangju-Jeonnang Chapter at Chosun University in Gwangju.)*

# ■ Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter Officers: 2014-15

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# ■ Joining Korea TESOL

**Who May Join:** English teachers of any level or nationality are eligible to join KOTESOL. We welcome native and non-native speakers teaching at primary schools, secondary schools, language institutes, colleges and universities, and other organizations. University students may join as student members.

## What Memberships Types Are Available?

- **Regular 1-Year Membership** (40,000 won).
- **Lifetime Membership** (400,000 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.

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:

- Bank transfer to **KOTESOL**: Korea Exchange Bank account number 630-006952-841
- Payment in cash to the Chapter Membership Officer at a Chapter Meeting

Collaborative Workshop

# What Makes a Classroom Language-Learning Activity Good (and how to make 'em even better)

By Dr. David Shaffer

The language learning exercise or activity is no stranger to the second-language classroom. Whether a more communicative or a more traditional approach is taken to language teaching the use of activities of some form are employed for the purpose of student practice in skill acquisition. As Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) is widely recognized as the more effective approach to language learning, this collaborative workshop will deal mainly with communicative activities and how to make them effective.

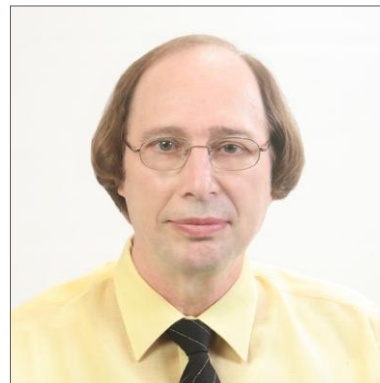
The workshop will begin with a look at activities some of the different types of activities that are commonly employed in the EFL classroom including both controlled and free activities. It will take a look at learner considerations, such as their interests, their learning styles, etc.). And it will take a look at the role of the teacher during the activity (facilitator, monitor, error corrector, etc.).

After this refresher on communicative activities, about five activity stations will be set up where one activity will be described/demonstrated at each station simultaneously for 5-7 minutes. The activities will target different age groups and different proficiency levels. The viewing groups will then rotate to become familiar with each of the activities. This will be followed with the groups being formed to discuss each activity (merits; opportunities for leveling up, leveling down; alternatives and improvements). The session will end with each of these groups summarizing their results to the whole group with further input from the whole group. Teachers will be able to return home with a set of

well-honed and fine-tuned communicative activities for use in their own classrooms.

## THE PRESENTER

David E. Shaffer (PhD Linguistics) is a long-time educator in Korea and long-time KOTESOL member. He is a professor at Chosun University, teaching English majors in the graduate and undergraduate programs. Dr. Shaffer is the author of



several books on learning English as well as on Korean language, customs, and poetry. His present academic interests include professional development, and young learner and extensive reading

research, as well as loanwords and effective teaching techniques. Within KOTESOL, Dr. Shaffer is presently National Publications Committee Chair, and a member of several committees, including the International and National Conference Committees, in addition to being Chapter president. He is the recipient of numerous KOTESOL awards and father of two KOTESOL members. Email: [disin@chosun.ac.kr](mailto:disin@chosun.ac.kr)

*(Dr. Shaffer will be leading the collaborative workshop on creating effective activities for the communicative classroom at the December 6 Gwangju-Jeonnang Chapter meeting at Chosun University.)*



## Year-End Holiday Dinner at GIC



This year the Gwangju-Jeonnang 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. Reservations will be available online prior to the event. Further information, including the reservations link, will be available at our Gwangju-Jeonnang KOTESOL Facebook page and on our website. Come and join in the camaraderie.



## Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL December Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, December 6, 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)  
**11:00- 12:30 am:** Topic: *Describing Before Judging: Managing the First Stages of the Reflective Cycle*

### 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:** FEATURED PRESENTATION  
*Getting the Most Out of Your Coursebook Activities*  
 Jessica Ives (Dongshin University, Naju)

**2:50 - 3:10 pm:** Refreshment Break

**3:10 - 4:00 pm:** COLLABORATIVE WORKSHOP  
*What Makes a Classroom Language-Learning Activity Good (and how to make 'em better)*  
 Dr. David Shaffer (Chosun University)

**4:00 Swap-Shop Session**  
 Everyone is invited to Share one of your Teaching Ideas, Classroom Activities, Games, Books, and other Teaching Wisdom. (Handouts welcomed.)

**4:30 pm: Chapter Elections / Announcements / Drawing for Door Prizes / Closing**

### Year-End Dinner Party

**6:00 pm: Turkey Dinner with trimmings** at the GIC (1st floor, Samho Center building) across from the downtown temple, Wongak-sa.

## Upcoming Chapter Events

**January 10, 2015. Chapter Meeting**  
*How Suspending Judgment Can Help Us Reflect on Teaching*  
 Bryan Hale (Sunkyung Academy, Gwangju)  
*Developing Critical Global Citizens: A Lesson or the Teacher?*  
 Jocelyn Wright (Mokpo National University)

**February 14, 2015.**  
**Chapter Meeting**  
 Two Featured Presentations

**March 14, 2015.**  
**Gwangju KOTESOL Regional Conference**  
 Concurrent Sessions all day.

## Upcoming KOTESOL Events

**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*  
 Woosong University, Daejeon

**December 13, 2014.**  
**Korea TESOL Conference at English Expo**  
*The 2014 Exposition on English Education, Educational Opportunities, and Employment*  
 COEX Convention Center, Seoul

**Nov. 30, 2014. Reflective Practice SIG Workshop**  
 Featuring Dr. Thomas Farrell (Brock University)  
 Injae-gwan, Sookmyung Women's Univ., Seoul

**December 14, 2014.**  
**KOTESOL Annual Leadership Retreat**  
 Injae-gwan, Sookmyung Women's Univ., Seoul