



The Gwangju Communicator

Newsletter of the Gwangju-Jeonnam Chapter of Korea TESOL

February 2018

No-Prep Activities: How to Do Less While Your Students Produce More!

By Maria Lisak

While many people think that teaching English as a foreign, other, or second language is like the scene from *Stripes* (singing “Da Do Run Run”), classroom teachers know that there is a lot that goes into a class: the preparation, the material making, the scaffolding strategies, the follow up, the feedback, the grading, the reports, and all the administration that schools and bureaucrats need to fulfill legal obligations or get funding.

A recurrent reflective practice question in our community of teachers has been: How can I do less while my students do more? This workshop is a chance for us to share some no-prep activities with each other to build our repertoire of instant teaching solutions. The facilitator will be sharing some tips and tricks to help you elicit student production while reducing prep and follow up.

THE PRESENTER

Maria Lisak is celebrating her 22nd anniversary of her first steps in South Korea this month. From the Midwest in the US, her Chicago accent still plagues her Korean pronunciation. In answering the question that a Korean colleague asked her last semester, she is still here because she can live a simple life while pursuing her love of learning in a community that values education. She has been teaching public administration and social welfare at Chosun University since 2012. You can check out her degree pedigree on her blog: koreamaria.typepad.com/gwangju



(Maria will be presenting on this topic at the Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL Chapter meeting on February 10, 2018 at the 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. 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:** 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.

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

From Reading to Thinking: Teaching Reading Comprehension

By Jessica Magnusson

Reading materials (stories, articles, advertisements, etc.) can be wonderful materials for language teaching and language learning. Reading gives students exposure to a wide range of vocabulary and grammar within a context. Reading in a foreign language can not only improve students' language proficiency, it can also expand their knowledge of our world. Reading can be the starting point of many thoughtful conversations.

However, many students of a foreign language struggle with reading comprehension. Some students are resistant to reading in a foreign language and prefer grammar or vocabulary exercises. Some students are able to read the sounds but not able to fully or even partially comprehend what they are reading. It is interesting to note what many Korean students think of when they think of reading in English. Many think of reading in English as hard work and not at all enjoyable. Many students think of test-prep passages, which are usually void of images and are read alone.



Teachers often wonder how to best teach reading comprehension or even whether or not it can be taught. Isn't reading and comprehension something that students should just do by themselves? This presentation will examine the shared reading experience, allowing reading and comprehension to be a bridge to conversation.

This presentation will examine ways to know whether or not, or how much of a reading passage students have comprehended.

Examples using different reading passages for various groups and backgrounds of students (age, language proficiency, student interests, etc.) will be given. Some reading comprehension activities, such as picturing, retelling, and expressing opinions will be covered.



THE PRESENTER

Jessica Magnusson has taught English conversation, teacher training, and special programs at Gwangju National University of Education (GNUE) since 2011. She earned an MA in TESOL from the School for International Training (SIT) in Brattleboro, Vermont (USA). She is interested in teaching vocabulary and reading comprehension to all ages of learners. In her free time, she enjoys reading and going for walks.

Gwangju-Jeonnam KOTESOL February Chapter Meeting

- Time: Saturday, February 10, 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 is free for first-timers. Future membership is welcomed.)

2:00 – 2:50 pm: PRESENTATION 1

No-Prep Activities: How to Do Less While Your Students Produce More!

Maria Lisak (Chosun University, Gwangju)

2:50 – 3:15 pm: Refreshment Break

3:15 – 4:05 pm: PRESENTATION 2

From Reading to Thinking: Teaching Reading Comprehension

Jessica Magnusson (Gwangju Natl. University of Education)

4:15 – 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 at The First Alleyway downtown.

Upcoming Chapter Events

March 10, 2018. Chapter Conference.

Sharing, Caring, Daring: Adventures in ELT

Gwangju National University of Education

Plenary Speaker: Maria Lisak

April 14, 2018. Chapter Meeting.

Presenters: Lisa Casaus & Jung Soo-a

Gwangju National University of Education

Upcoming KOTESOL Events

February 25, 2018. Chapter Presidents Meeting

Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul

March 31, 2018. Seoul Chapter Conference

Reinventing a Student-Centered Classroom

April 21, 2018. Busan Chapter Conference

University of Ulsan, Ulsan

May 12, 2018. National Conference

Kangnam University, Yongin, Gyeonggi-do

Reflective Practice SIG

No February Meeting

**Next Meeting March 10 at
Chapter Conference (10:30–12:00)**

At GNUE Teacher Training Center