



DCC DISPATCH

THE BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER OF DCC KOTESOL

December 2021

Vol. 1, No. 2



Photo Credit: Hank Haddock

CONTENT

DCC Dispatch Editorial Team.....	2
DCC Wednesday Workshops.....	3-4
Resource Review: Humanising Language Teaching.....	5
Cooking Corner.....	6-7
Brain Teasers.....	8
Conclusion.....	9

DCC Dispatch Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief:

Sydney Lee

Associate Editors:

Mike Peacock, Andrew Griffiths, Theresa Chen & Eric Cebreiro

Contributors:

(Maybe you!)

Contact us!

dcckotesol+newsletter@gmail.com



Looking to get involved? Join our Editorial Team!

We are looking for:
Featured Article writers, photographers,
Cooking Corner Contributors,
Arts & Culture Contributors, and more!

dcckotesol+newsletter@gmail.com

DCC Wednesday Workshops

by Andrew Griffiths

From Summer to Winter: The Second Half of 2021

Hello to all DCC members, and I hope you are all staying warm, well-fed, and Covid-free! We're coming to the end of our first year of doing our Wednesday Workshops, and what a successful year it's been. Turnout to the events has remained consistently high, the quality of the presentations has been excellent, and we've managed to get almost all the workshops recorded, which we're planning to make available to chapter members early next year – so if you missed out first time around, don't worry.

So what's been happening since the summer? Well, after the Woosong TESOL-MALL Symposium in May, we restarted with having Rakesh Lazar do a presentation entitled 'How You Think Matters' for our June workshop. He talked about how mindset and attitude affect the way we think and teach, and gave a workshop like we've never seen before – looking deeply into the mechanics of how we approach life and how that can have such a big impact on our students and our success as teachers.

Unsurprisingly, the reaction to Rakesh's talk was massively, massively positive – and for my part, I'm quite certain that, in all my years of attending KOTESOL events, I'd never seen anything quite like it. Indeed, he had such a strong impact on us all that we invited him back for our November Symposium, where he repeated and even surpassed his successes in June! The chapter took a brief break over the summer before coming back in September with John Breckenfeld, who talked about how music and movies can be infused into an ELT curriculum. Anyone who's seen John present before knows that his talks are always filled with practical, innovative ideas, and this workshop was no different – his ideas for using movies and media really went beyond the standard tactics of using media that are often used in language classrooms (teach vocabulary, play movie, discuss... yeah, I'm guilty as charged). His deconstruction of the themes inherent in Disney movies definitely sticks in the mind, as well as his clever use of such neglected musical luminaries such as Robert Johnson and Jim Morrison in his teaching.

In October we welcomed Kimberley Roberts for our first joint workshop – this time with the Daegu-Gyeongbuk chapter, of which Kimberley is chapter president. This joint workshop was aimed at improving our ties with our neighboring chapter as well as spreading the word about our Wednesday workshops – after all, while our primary audience is DCC members, we welcome folks from other regions too! We were especially pleased to have Kimberley present for us as she works in the public school system, a sector of the Korean education industry that sometimes gets under-represented in KOTESOL.

As such, we also took the step of inviting EPIK teachers from the Daejeon MOE to join us (we wanted to invite Chungcheong EPIKers as well, but sadly we didn't know who to get in touch with – if anyone knows a contact, please let us know!) as we hoped it would help the new EPIK intake in September to adjust to life in a Korean classroom. We had a great turnout, not only from the Daejeon EPIK teachers but from the wider KOTESOL community in general. Kimberley's workshop was filled (and when I say filled, I mean – filled!) with solid, practicable tips for improving student speaking in the classroom. Every participant – myself included – was able to leave with a host of usable 'take-homes' that they could implement the following morning. And indeed, what more could one hope for in terms of midweek professional development?

DCC Wednesday Workshops

From 2021 to 2022 – and Beyond!

Kimberley's workshop won't be the last of the year. Following our November Symposium, we're going to have one final Wednesday Workshop this year – a games night, hosted by us, on the 29th December! At the time of writing, we're still in the planning stages of the event (read: we're recovering from hosting the November Symposium. Pass me another beer...), but we hope it'll provide a warm, fun-filled end to the year for all our chapter members.

And what of 2022? Well, Mike and I have just been re-elected president and vice-president respectively (and to all of you who voted – thank you for your support), and our first decision on re-election was – we really want to continue doing the Wednesday Workshops. For a start, turnout at the event has been solidly strong month after month – way more than we used to command when doing face-to-face workshops. Not only that, but we're really pleased with the variety and quality of speaker that we've been able to have present for us. In the past twelve months, we've had talks about conflict education, creativity, climate change, mindset, music, speaking strategies, and 21st Century skills, each presented by people who were passionate, well-informed and willing to share what they knew with us all. Biased as I am, I feel that as a chapter we've truly punched above our weight this year (not just with our workshops, of course), and I believe we can do the same – if not better - in 2022. We're planning to take a small break in January while we plan what to do in the coming months, and then in February we'll have a KOTESOL favorite – Mike Griffin – presenting for us for our first workshop of the year! As some of you will know, Mike is an expert on reflective practice; we thought he'd do an excellent job of allowing us some time to reflect on the end of the semester in order to get ready for the new academic year in March.

Beyond March, we're open to ideas and suggestions as to who you'd like to see speak at our events – and we're especially open to having people from the chapter do a presentation themselves! Hopefully you've noticed that we try to be friendly and welcoming to all at our events. We don't want a stiff, overly-academic feel to the workshops; we want our members to be relaxed while they learn and develop at the same time. As such, we really like seeing new faces at our events, either as attendees or presenters. If you have an idea you'd like to share, or if you'd just like to get more presentation experience under your belt, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

On a final note, I'd like to thank each of you that took the time to attend our workshops last year. We know that KOTESOL is something that each of us chooses to do – it's not some mandatory thing that we are forced into by our bosses. No-one has to spend a Wednesday night with us, and we appreciate that you chose to spend some of your precious time with us last year. We hope that you enjoyed it, and we can't wait to see you again next year. Thank you.

Andrew Griffiths
Vice President
Wednesday Workshop Coordinator
dcckotesol+vp@gmail.com

Resource Review

Humanising Language Teaching

Note of disclosure: While the author of this piece has been published in the above resource, both the author and the DCC Dispatch declare that they have no relevant or financial interests that relate to this review.

While the internet is an absolute goldmine of resources and information for English teachers, I find that one thing always sets me back: discovering, after several hours' search, that just-perfect-for-your-research article; excitedly clicking on it, and then - up pops the sentence that MA alumni the world over have loathed seeing ever since their university email accounts got invalidated post-graduation: Get access to the full version of this article; view access options below. 45 bucks? For 48 hours? Seriously?

(Cue a mournful few minutes scrolling down, looking in vain for those little coloured unlocked-lock logos next to the articles you want...)

Thankfully, there is some stuff out there which is useful and – yes – free. One of those is the online journal *Humanising Language Teaching*, which is published by Pilgrims, a UK company that publishes widely in the world of English Language Teaching. HLT (as it's often known) tends to focus on articles which relate to the humanistic aspect of teaching, but that allows it to cast a broad net, and you'll find everything in there from short articles showcasing good teaching activities to longer pieces detailing new research from around the world. And HLT really does have a global reach – in it, you'll find articles from all over the planet, some which are written by some outstanding names in our profession (Adrian Underhill, Tessa Woodward and Alan Maley can all be found contributing), but many of which are created by those working 'at the chalk face' – and in many cases I have found those articles to be the best and most useful for me both as a teacher trying to improve my craft and as a researcher trying to dig a little deeper into the world we work in.

The standard of content in HLT is high; I occasionally find a few damp squibs but they are far outweighed by the quality of what's on there. The lesson plans and activity ideas almost always give me inspiration and even if I don't copy the ideas directly (bearing in mind that with HLT's global reach comes a certain amount of stuff that won't always work well in the Korean context), I usually get something that I can adapt or try for my learners. The research articles are usually interesting and well-written, and each edition (HLT is published six times annually) usually contains something worth looking at. It's a magazine clearly aimed at teachers who care deeply about their trade and the quality of what's inside reflects that excellently – miles ahead of some of the other boilerplate stuff you find online.

It's not a perfect resource by any means. Like any other journal or magazine, not every article and piece in there will be relevant or interesting to the reader. And while the website is simple to navigate, I find that the search engine doesn't work very well (if at all), and it's not really practical to wade through all the back editions of the magazine to find what you need (I prefer to use google to search – just type site: <https://www.hltmag.co.uk/> + whatever you're looking for, and it'll only search in HLT for you. Job done!). I also find the 'humour' section to be, well... remarkably unfunny, but perhaps that's just my cynical heart working against me.

With that said, there is a lot more that's worthy about HLT than not. It's a great site to bookmark and check back on every couple of months to see what's new, and it's a nice chance to get some perspectives and ideas from teachers working outside the Korean educational context. There's good activities, good research, and it's made by people who care about what we do. Check it out!

Website: <https://www.hltmag.co.uk/>

Cooking Corner

Mug Cookies

Introduction

Around this time of year, cookies are a typical craving. But for those without an oven, a vast array of baking supplies, or a desire to have a dozen or more cookies at home, we either cave in to the cravings and buy some from the store or we force ourselves to go without. The mug cookie is a great option for that easy and quick sweet without the burden or pressure to eat more right away. Here are two options for you to choose from: a standard cookie recipe, or a low-carb version for those who are on the health-conscious side. Every ingredient is available on Coupang, and is linked for your convenience! Enjoy!

1 Minute Chocolate Cookie in a Mug

[\(link\)](#)

Ingredients

- 1 Tablespoon unsalted [butter](#)
- 1 Tablespoon granulated [sugar](#)
- 1 Tablespoon [brown sugar](#) firmly packed
- 1/2 teaspoon [vanilla extract](#)
- 1/8 teaspoon pinch [salt](#)
- 1 [egg yolk](#)
- 3 Tablespoons [all-purpose flour](#)
- 1-2 Tablespoons [chocolate chips](#)

Procedure

1. Microwave butter in a mug until melted, 30 seconds to 1 minute. With a spoon, mix in sugars, vanilla extract and salt until well-combined. Mix in egg yolk until no traces of the yolk are seen. Mix in flour. Fold in chocolate chips
2. Microwave on high for 40 seconds, or a maximum of 50 seconds. Serve warm (maybe even with a dollop of ice cream).
3. Enjoy!



Cooking Corner

Mug Cookies

90 Second Keto Chocolate Mug Cookie/Cake ([link](#))

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons unsalted [butter](#), [coconut oil](#), or [ghee](#)
- 1 1/2 tablespoons [cocoa powder](#)
- 2-3 tablespoons alternative sugar ([monkfruit](#), [xylitol](#), or [stevia/erythritol](#), etc.)
- 1 [egg](#)
- 2 tablespoons [almond flour](#)
- 1 tablespoon [golden flaxseed meal](#) or [psyllium husk](#), finely ground
- 2 teaspoons [coconut flour](#)
- 1/2 teaspoon [baking powder](#)
- pinch kosher [salt](#)

Procedure

1. Melt butter in a medium (microwave safe!) bowl. Whisk in cocoa and sweetener to taste, and mix until well combined. If using erythritol, your batter will likely be very thick.
2. Whisk in the egg and mix until smooth or until thoroughly combined (with granular erythritol, which doesn't dissolve as readily). Mix in the rest of the ingredients and spoon the (very thick!) batter into a mug.
3. Place a paper towel into the microwave and set the mug on top (to catch any overflowing batter). Cook on high for 70-90 seconds (time can vary a lot in microwaves, but to give you an idea I do 80 on 1000 watts!). Allow to cool for a couple minutes and enjoy!

Fat: 17g

Net Carbs: 7.5g



Brain Teasers

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORD SEARCH



BALLOONS
CALENDAR
CELEBRATE
CHEERS
CLOCK

CONFETTI
COUNTDOWN
GOALS
HAPPY
JANUARY

MIDNIGHT
NEW YEAR
NOISEMAKER
PARTY
RESOLUTION



DOWNLOAD MORE FREE PRINTABLES AT PJSANDBOARD.COM

This word search was retrieved from here ([link](#)).

Conclusion

Dear Reader,

Thank you so much for reading the second edition of our newsletter, the second of two for this year. For next year, we would like to offer our precious members a new Newsletter in March, June, September, and December. In each edition, we would like to feature articles, photographs, recipes, and member interviews. If you would like to get involved, please let us know by sending us an email to dcckotesol@gmail.com.

Also upcoming is a way for you to access our resource video library! We are hoping to make this available to you by February or March at the latest, and we will be sure to keep you posted when everything is all set up and ready to go!

We wish you all the best this winter, including a very wonderful start to your new year! We will keep you posted with any updates, and we look forward to seeing you for our Wednesday Workshop in February!

Sincerely,

The DCC Dispatch Editorial Team