
ISSUE 18
JUNE 27, 2018

This newsletter is brought to you by
Maris Hawkins and Stacey
Margarita Johnson



IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 1

PREVIEW EPISODE 59
WITH RICHARD KIELY
AND ERIC HARTMAN

Page 2

RESPONSE TO
EPISODE 58 FROM
GIANFRANCO CONTI

REACTIONS TO PAST
EPISODES

UPDATES FROM PAST
GUESTS &
CONTRIBUTORS

MIDWEEK NEWS AND UPDATES

WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE NEXT
WTL PODCAST EPISODE TO COME OUT...

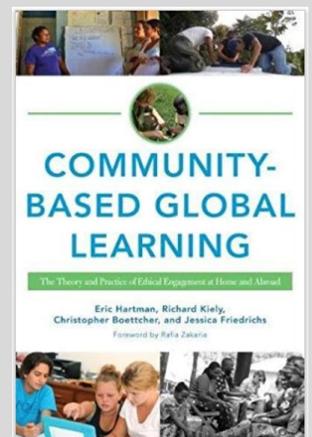


Preview of the Next Episode

EPISODE 59: COMMUNITY-BASED
GLOBAL LEARNING, PART I
WITH RICHARD KIELY AND ERIC HARTMAN

In the month of May, podcast listeners sent in their questions about community-based and service learning for Eric Hartman and Richard Kiely, two of the authors of a new book called *Community-Based Global Learning* from Stylus Publishing. One lucky listener won a copy of the book (winner announcement coming on Friday!), but all of us have the chance to hear the authors themselves talk about their work and answer a few listener questions. In order to make sure we had time to explore concepts from their book AND address listener questions, this interview will be released in two parts. The first half releases this Friday, June 29, and Part II on Friday July 6th.

If you are looking for a guide to ethical, meaningful, and transformative approaches to engaging with community, you need to listen to this interview. Then, if you want to buy a copy of the book for yourself, the authors have shared a discount code with WTL listeners that you can use to get 20% off at checkout on the publisher's website: CBGL20.



RESPONSE TO EPISODE 58: PRINCIPLES OF OUTSTANDING LANGUAGE TEACHING WITH STEVE SMITH

This week's episode reaction is from teacher, blogger and Steve Smith's co-author on The Language Teacher Toolkit, Gianfranco Conti (@gianfrancocont9 on Twitter).

Lots of invaluable advice in this podcast on a range of very 'hot' issues in L2 pedagogy. As always, Steve offers very balanced and no-nonsense views steeped in research and in his years of experience as an outstanding teacher. He is not afraid to go against the current fads and research dogmata to provide an impressive amount of meaningful, informative and thought-provoking input in a very short time - and in very teacher friendly language, too!

These are the points that stood out for me:

- L2 acquisition research may not always suit your classroom;
- Comprehensible input is key;
- Meaningful structured practice which addresses specific language skills can be beneficial;
- Grammar teaching ought to be less about knowledge and more about communicative practice;
- Teachers ought to shy away from the 'authenticity at all costs' principle. Rather, the selection of texts should be informed first and foremost by the answer to the questions: 'Is this truly usable?' and 'How much are the students going to learn from it?'
- Listening and Reading should be about modelling language, not about quizzing students

However, the greatest take-away for teachers is possibly that it doesn't matter how conversant you are with research or how wide-ranging your repertoire of techniques is; if you can't control your students, don't have a good rapport with them and you are not engaging, there are strong chances they won't learn much in your lessons.

To hear more from Gianfranco, check out his WTL podcast episodes from last year, episodes 16 & 17. And as always, please share your ideas and projects with us on Twitter, Facebook, or in the comments for this episode!

Interested in reading more from Steve Smith?

- Looking back on methodology
- Pros and cons of group work
- Working on listening skills
- A zero preparation fluency game



Reactions to past episodes:



Elspeth Jones
@ElspethJones

Following

Good job with this episode and others @weteachlang @staceymargarita. Common sense advice on language teaching as usual from my OH @spsmith45



Mely Aguilera
@profemely

Following

Finally I got around to listen to this podcast after all the comments. Thank you @spsmith45. A lot of what I hear lately is "this is the way to teach", which makes you feel inadequate (and spend hours researching) even when you know what you are doing works. A balanced approach!



Lauren Adams
@TechieFrau

Following

I have to add this to my toolbox over the summer! #learn german #languagelearning We Teach Languages Episode 56: How to Write Comprehensible Texts with Martina Bex weteachlang.com/2018/06/08/ep-... via @weteachlang



Thomas Sauer
@tmsaue1

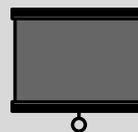
Following

The great thing about podcasts like @weteachlang is that I can listen to them while running. The bad thing is I can't click on the many links and resources referenced while running. My mental to do list after these past two episodes is a mile long.

Updates from Past Contributors



Lesley Cioccarelli (episode 47) is leading a Twitter chat in Australia on July 1 on extensive listening. It is inspired by Beniko Mason's interview on episode #52 of this podcast. Join in with #AusELT!



Caleb Howard (episode 19, 20 and 24) is presenting at the NNELL summer institute July 13-15 in New Jersey. His topic is "choosing instructional moves to keep students on lifelong pathways to proficiency."