

ISSUE 25
SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

This newsletter is brought to you by
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Margarita Johnson



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



Preview of the Next Episode

EPISODE 70: ADVICE FOR NEW LANGUAGE TEACHERS

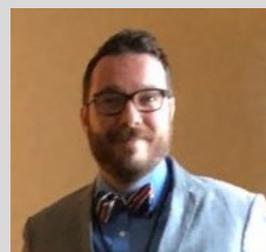
As it turns out, an episode with advice for new language teachers is full of pretty great reminders for ALL teachers. Whether we are a few weeks into our first year of teaching or our umpteenth year, we can all use occasional reminders to focus on the basics. I hope this episode will be a quiet centering moment in the midst of all the busy-ness of a new school year.



Stacey and Ying

This is the third episode built around interviews I conducted at the SCOLT conference back in March. I am so grateful to the teachers who graciously allowed themselves to be interviewed as part of the podcast for this episode as well as episodes 50 and 51, and there are more to come!

This week's guests are **Albert Fernandez**, **Bill Denham**, and ACTFL 2018 Teacher of the Year **Ying Jin!** (Check out these pics from SCOLT!)



Albert



What advice for new language teachers would you add to this episode? Please tell us by posting in the episode comments or tagging @weteachlang on Twitter or Facebook.



**Bill with past contributors
Erin & Stephanie**

REMINDER ABOUT EPISODE 69: ENGAGING ALL LEARNERS WITH LESLIE GRAHN

Have you entered to win a copy of Leslie's book or a seat for her VLM through ACTFL? You have through Monday, September 17th to post your takeaways, questions, or comments on episode 69 to Facebook, Twitter, or the comments section of the episode. And don't forget to tag @weteachlang in your post! More details about the contest can be found at www.weteachlang.com/giveaway

Florencia Henshaw So many wonderful takeaways...Here are just a few, if I may list more than one: (1) Keep it real! Authentic resources are not just for advanced learners; modify what you're asking students to do with it based on their proficiency level, instead of modifying the resource. (2) Keep it balanced! As you create or revise your daily lesson plans, make sure students are engaging in all three modes of communication and not just interpretive activities; both meaningful input and output are important. (3) Keep it varied! Use different modalities, scaffolding tools, and grouping strategies, so that you can increase the likelihood of engaging all students in your class. (4) Keep it student-centered! Most language educators probably understand what "student-centered" instruction looks like, but about assessment? Write rubrics and learning/proficiency goals in a student-friendly way to empower learners to strive for a tangible outcome.

Susan Gremel Hojnacki Loved the idea of combining the Growth Mindset with language learning and what that looks like in practice.



Reactions to this episode:



Lacey Lowe
@srallowe

Following

@weteachlang Episode69 was so inspiring. Feeling excited to try offering A, B and C level differentiated tasks giving choice #langchat #weteachlang #spanisheducators



Melanie Thomas
@senoraMThomas

Following

I love the basics that Leslie shares. Environment is key! Build confidence, create rapport, scaffold to have success in 90% TL and allow mistakes. Promote Growth mindset. Share proficiency levels. IMHO, easier said than done... But certainly the foundation for a solid Lang class



Caroline Schlegel
@senoraschlegel

Following

Replying to @weteachlang

I love that Leslie emphasizes how important it is to build relationships with your kids to help you select which strategies will work best!



Manda Clancy
@manda_clancy

Following

@weteachlang Listened to episode 69. I'd love to read more in the book & share with colleagues. I'm on board with the proficiency approach. How do I get my district there???

As always, share your reactions to this episode with us on Facebook, Twitter, or in the comments section on our website weteachlang.com!

Resource Corner

- On Leslie's blog, she posts about teaching grammar using authentic resources.
- She also wrote a post on using technology tools for interpretive reading.
- In another post, she explained how to have students participate in a discussion in the TL about an authentic resource.

Updates from Past Contributors



Sara-Elizabeth Cottrell (episode 53) has been blogging frequently. In this recent post, she discusses incorporating drawing back into her lessons and the importance of maintaining tried and true strategies.



Daniel Woolsey (episode 42) is a lead author on a new textbook called Rostros. The textbook is geared to the college classroom and includes cultural curriculum, authentic resources and integrated multi-media.