

ISSUE 66
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This newsletter is brought to you by
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WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE NEXT
WTL PODCAST EPISODE TO COME OUT...



Preview of the Next Episode

EPISODE 114: BLENDED TEACHING AND INQUIRY PROJECTS
WITH KRISTIN KVASNYUK

Maris Hawkins is back this Friday with a new interview with her colleague and friend, Kristin Kvasnyuk. Maris and Kristin both taught blended classes at their previous school, meaning they taught language classes that took place partly face-to-face and

partly online. These two teachers share some of their favorite activities for online learning and advice for how to succeed in a blended format. Kristin also discusses how her Latin students engage in independent inquiry projects that turn out to be one of the highlights of her class.



RESPONSE TO EPISODE 113: MIND, BODY, AND VOICE SKILLS WITH JUSTIN SLOCUM BAILEY

This response is from Dr. William Justin Morgan whom you can find on Twitter @MindfulSLA

After listening to this podcast, I am encouraged to hear that teacher's mental health is still on the forefront of people's minds. I agree wholeheartedly with physical awareness, taking a moment to breathe, and the skill of centering oneself as a means of personal maintenance. Moreover, the combination of body awareness in the classroom for the language teacher and learner builds into this broader notion that language is taught/acquired through a myriad of resources.

Speaking of personal and professional mental health, I highly suggest educators explore the effectiveness mindfulness meditation techniques in their language classrooms. My own research has shown that learners have benefited from a mindfulness practice in more ways than even I expected. Anecdotally, language teachers have gone out of their way to express how mindfulness meditation has helped with the day-to-day stressors that surround their profession. Some resources that I particularly enjoy are found in apps that you can download, for example, Headspace and SimpleHabit. Want to give mindfulness meditation a try? Click here for the first ever mindfulness practice I ever followed. It changed my life and the direction of my career.

In sum, listening to Justin's episode gives me a great deal of hope for the future of language education—not just for the learner, but also for the educator. Remember to take care of yourselves. Breathe in. Breathe out.



REACTIONS TO PAST EPISODES:



Leah Strobel
@LeahStrobel

I appreciated so much about this episode & look forward to learning more from @IndwellingLang. I'm particularly thankful for the openness about mental health struggles, it was a good day for me to hear how another educator works through these things in the classroom.



Melanie Thomas
@senoraMThomas

Replying to @weteachlang

Looking forward to listening to this one. Good timing for back to school!

Katy Ganino Reddick Justin Slocum Bailey is AMAZING! Optime!



Nancy McLaughlin
@nmlaugh

Loved the interview w @IndwellingLang at @weteachlang about #mind #body #voice

Updates from Contributors



Michelle Nicola (episode 110) wrote a blog post recently with interviews that she recorded about being afro-mexicano.

These videos are some that she recorded on her Fulbright trip to Mexico.



Mandy Manning (episodes 104-105) recently tried to visit a Texas detention immigrant center. This article discusses what happened and includes her tweets about the situation as well.