

The Proceedings of  
**Teachers Helping Teachers**  
**Seminar on Teaching Strategies for the ESL Classroom**

College of Foreign Languages - Hue University  
March 25 - 30, 2006

With the cooperation of  
Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT)

# Introduction

It is with great pleasure, and a healthy dose of humility, that we offer this collection of papers based on our presentations at Teachers Helping Teachers inaugural event in Vietnam. Approximately 120 participants from Hue and surrounding areas were present for the presentations and workshops offered by fourteen teachers based mainly in Japan. We hope that the success of this year's event will stimulate interest in future events and that these proceedings will provide a springboard for further professional development throughout the language teaching community.

The papers have been loosely organized according to the schedule of presentations (see page 3). Each paper includes the original abstract that was submitted for consideration and readers will notice how some papers have diverged from the intended path. Personally, I believe this is preferred over sticking slavishly to some preconceived ideas when our thinking has evolved. The theme of this 5-day seminar was Teaching Strategies for the ESL Classroom and authors have attempted to include useful suggestions for implementing the various strategies as well as starting points for further exploration. We hope readers will find both encouragement and inspiration in the following pages.

Warmest Regards,  
Brent A. Jones  
Editor

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**Preface - THT Vietnam 2006 Proceedings**  
**“The Sharing of Experience to Make a Better World”**

By William M. Balsamo

The following collected proceeding of short essays reflect the high excellence of presentations given at the Hue International Seminar in March 2006. In total over thirty-five workshops and papers were given including an unscheduled panel discussion related to general relevant interests.

Although English was the medium language of the conference several presenters had themselves learned English as a second language. This added to the dynamics of the seminar and illustrated the importance of English as an international language.

The teachers and professors who presented at the seminar were mostly professionals working at Japanese Colleges and University. They came as volunteers with the conviction that working with teachers in developing countries is a vital and positive way to guarantee the future of any nation. However, although the presenters were based in Japan, most were not Japanese nationals. They came from Canada, America, England, Argentina, and Australia as well as Japan; countries with distinct and diverse histories and cultures.

Together the presenters brought with them over 300 years of teaching experience in the ESL classroom and many had worked abroad in several other countries thus validating their hands-on knowledge of language teaching.

Although these essays represent only a portion of the total program presented at Hue Teachers College, they underline the general atmosphere sustained throughout the seminar. The issues discussed here cover a wide range of current and traditional topics from developing reading skills to improving writing ability; all issues which confront the ESL teacher today.

These proceedings, therefore, document the content of the proposals and are available for anyone who may not have been in attendance. For those who did attend the seminar they stand as a record and reflection of the happenings of the seminar’s activities.

Hopefully, the teacher-training seminar in Hue is only a beginning and will set both precedence and a standard for future cooperation between teachers dedicated to bringing excellence to their work. The teachers who have contributed to these proceedings are eager to dedicate their work to the growth of teacher education and through these proceedings their work may reach a wider audience.

## Seminar Overview (Daily Schedule)

**March 25**      07:30 - 08:00      Registration  
                     08:00 - 08:30      Opening Ceremony

**Dr. Tran Van Phuoc, Rector**

### *Morning Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
William M. Balsamo	- Back to Basics: Using “PC” in the ESL Classroom - Pencil and Chalk - Creative Group Activities for the ESL Workshop
Ann Irish	- 40 or More Suggestions, Ideas, Concepts and Reminders for Teaching English to Vietnamese Students - Teaching English with Newspaper Articles

### *Afternoon Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
Linda Martine	- Creative Ways to use Dictionaries in the EFL/ESL Classroom - Activities Highlight the Discourse Feature of Turn Taking in Discussions among Native English Speakers
William M. Balsamo	- Speech Activities for Second Language Learner - Using Newspapers to Reinforce the Four Language Skills

## **March 26**

### *Morning Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
Peter Grevstad	- PowerPoint for Teaching and Learning - Paraphrase and Summary using Newspapers: A Poster-Project
Linda Martine	- The Advantages and Disadvantages of Using Small Group and Pair Work in the Classroom
Ann Irish	- How Are We Similar? Enhancing World Understanding in the ESL Classroom

*Afternoon Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
	- Panel Discussion – ESL Trends and Issues <i>Balsamo, Irish, Jones, Palmer, Sheehan, Silva</i>
Peter Grevstad	- Literature Circles: A Four-Part Reading Activity

**March 27**

*Morning Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
Brent A. Jones	- Metaphors for L2 Teachers and Students - A Drama Approach and the L2 Classroom - Developing Public Speaking Skills
Roger Palmer	- Selecting and Adapting Communication Strategies
Joseph Sheehan	- The Inner Teacher

*Afternoon Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
Cecilia Silva	- Problem Posing Activities in Foreign Language Teaching - Task Design: Oral Interaction and Cultural Construction with Beginners
Ronald Klein	- Teaching Vietnamese American Fiction: Combining Language, Literacy and Culture - Creative Exercises for Creative Writing
Brent A. Jones	- Language Teaching as Artful Science

**March 28**

*Morning Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
Matthew Apple & Etsuko Shimo	- Learning Together, Teaching To Gather: Using Cooperative Learning Activities in Your Language Classroom - Portfolio Fun! Cooperative Assessment through Sharing Learning Process
Maggie Lieb	- Popular Music and its Role in the EFL Classroom
Joseph Sheehan	- The Process of Writing

*Afternoon Sessions*

Presenter	Topic
Marilyn Books	- Learning English via Activities
Nicholas Gromik	- Open Source Software, What Benefits Can They Bring Into The Language Classroom? - Film Editing In Contrast With Second Language Acquisition - From Authorware to Computers as Tools in the Computer Assisted Language Learning Classroom
Matthew Apple & Etsuko Shimo	- Cool Listening with Listening Strategies
Maggie Lieb	- Vocabulary Acquisition and Expansion for EFL Learners - Multiple Intelligences in the EFL Classroom

## Day One (March 25) Papers

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