

NUFS Workshop 2010

Newsletter No. 12

Final Presentation

Date: March 27, 2011, 14:30-17:00

March 28, 2011, 8:30-11:30

Venue: Conference room at Irago Garden Hotel

The number of participants: 15

Advisors: Nancy Mutoh, Kazuyoshi Sato (Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)

Abstract: Each action research group member made their final presentation on their action research. They reported what they did, what happened, what they learned, future issues and so on. They had a great time at Koijigahama beach after that.

Comments from the participants

1. What do you think of the action research project you have participated in? Did it help you to improve your teaching skills?

- I believe this year's action research project was helpful in allowing me to try to analyze the classes and material I taught. It forced me to reflect on what I did, to try new things and not be afraid to change things up. Action research forced me to be more reflective and to assess students and myself in a variety of ways.
- It helped me a lot. I got many good ideas and suggestions from the professors and other teachers throughout the project. Conducting the action research made my everyday classes more effective and enjoyable for both myself and my students.
- This project is a great chance for me to know there are many teachers who study research and struggle for their students. It has given me a lot of hints to improve my teaching skills and energy to do my best in my classes.



2. How was a monthly report and presentation?

- It was a little hard for me to write a monthly report because I am very busy and there was not enough time to write a good report. But it was useful and helpful to read other teachers' reports and to hear about their presentations.
- It was a good opportunity to reflect my teaching. Without a monthly report, I would never reflect my teaching and analyze students' voices. It was also a great help to listen to monthly reports from other teachers. I learned how to introduce the communicative activities, how to make the handouts and how to modify the activities if we couldn't do well.



3. How do you feel of a monthly workshop? Did you learn any good ideas from the instructor? Which one(s) did you like the best? What kinds of topics do you want for future workshops?

- I want to know about the technical part such as way of survey or way of analysis.
- I attended only a few workshops this school year. The one on extensive reading was a very important and interesting for me.
- I like Mat's presentation about using movies or videos. I had thought movies were too difficult for my students, but I think English in animation can be connected with English I teach at junior high.
- I learned a lot from Brad Deacon's presentation and Tamami & Harumi's presentation. Especially Tamami's one was very practical. I'd like to learn research methodology (how to make questionnaires, how to analyze the data, etc.) from Robert Croker. It will be helpful for the participants of action research project.

4. How can we improve this action research project? Please write your comment/advice.

- I think we need more input on how to conduct AR. Especially those who are in the MA program taking the AR course need a text on creating surveys and other data sources.
- We had mixed groups this year. So I could learn a lot from others who teach in different contexts. If possible, I'd like to choose a group by myself. So maybe we could divide groups based on the types/focus of projects.
- I think I need to know how to analyze the data of survey. I have to study.
- Some SH and JH teachers were instructors in these two years. But I hope there are more workshops conducted by instructors who are studying advanced techniques in teaching English.



Thank you for your cooperation to the NUFSS Workshop 2010.