

Newsletter No. 4

Workshop in August

Date: August 3-4, 2019

Venue: Green Hotel Sangane (Nishio, Aichi)

Advisors: Kazuyoshi Sato, Juanita Heigham (NUFS)

Title: Mid-term presentation on action research

The number of presenters: 8



(1) How did you feel about your presentation? Did you get any useful/impressive comment or advice? What was it?

- Even though Saturday's presentation was my first one, seeing the kind look on Yoshi and Juanita's face, gave me convince in myself. The advice that I want to follow was Yoshi's . In order for the students to write more in the open ended questions I should make it clear from now on that answering to those questions will be part of their grade.
- I'm very sad to know that my action research lacks quantitative and qualitative analysis. I had to verify my action research analyzing students' comments or their performances through videotape recording. All the participants' comments and suggestions were helpful to revise my way of teaching. I need to reconsider what activities I should cut off and what activity I should plan. I have three hours a week to teach students what they should study in four. Even though I don't have enough time to teach them what they have to study, I have to find time for students to try speaking tests.
- I felt my presentation needed more of coding analysis which I plan to start next week. The comment on literature review by Juanita was essential. As I mentioned the shortfalls of the area of research that Hinkel claimed in 2007, she suggested me to search for the following research that should be conveyed after that until this year.
- I did not have enough time to think about how to summarize well in my presentation, plus I misunderstood the length of my presentation time. I need more preparation and practice. Comments from the professors and colleagues are always useful, they pointed out the next issues that I have to do in my AR.

(2) How did you feel about other participants' presentations?

- Other participants made use of students' videotapes recording, so I was able to know how wonderful their practicing was. Moreover I was able to review literature reviews I need to verify my action research. It is useful and necessary for me to listen to and read the valuable and

important ideas of famous language scholars. I have to read and review them many times in order to improve my way of teaching.

- It's always useful to learn from others. Each time I listen or see somebody else's work I leave with a new idea.
- I am impressed with Kyonmi 's quantitative analysis of correlations. She has revealed the relations between four skills, between enjoying and understanding, and between grades and skills. I learned how to display the results.
- Listening to other participants' presentations always inspires me on how I should present in my presentation. They summarized well what they wanted to say, so it became a great motivation for me.

(3) How would you like to conduct your AR from now on?

- Referring to the participants' comments, I have to make a brave attempt at revising in-put and out-put activities to produce time for students try performance tests which enable students to get the wash back effect. In addition to this, I have to create more exciting out-put activities which are connected with performance tests. I would also like to study effective ratios of in-put and out-put activities.
- I can't clearly answer to this question, because I'm still on my way to discovering that. All I can say at this moment is that all the courses I've taken so far brought an improvement to my teaching and my future lesson plans.
- My plan is to quantitatively analyze the essay grades for whole class. For qualitative data, I would like to analyze the essays and interviews of focus students regarding critical thinking traits. Survey analysis is also planned using mix methods approach.
- I would like to analyze the length of pauses students make in the Timed conversation as quantitative data in addition to qualitative data.

Next Workshop (scheduled)

Date: September 28, 2019, 10:30-14:30 (Part I), 15:00-17:00 (Part II)

Venue: NSC College, Room A-31

Presenter: Joseph Wood (Nanzan University)

Title: “Using Communication Strategies to Develop Interactional Competence”