

NUFS Workshop 2014

Newsletter No. 11

Final Presentation

Date: March 28, 2015, 14:00-17:00

March 29, 2015, 9:00-12:00

Venue: Conference room at Hamanko Kokusai Zuno Center

The number of participants: 17

Advisors: Nancy Mutoh, Kazuyoshi Sato (NUFS), Robert Croker (Nanzan University)

Abstract: Each member made their final presentation on their action research. They reported what they did, what happened, what they learned, future issues and so on.



Comments from the participants

1. What did you think about the final presentation? What did you learn/notice?

- Most of other MA students' final reports were successful. There were many innovations in their teaching and the effect to students' learning was great. Many of us mentioned how useful monthly workshops and reports were because we were able to get suggestions and feedback from other teachers.
- I was especially impressed by the conversation strategy and the writing procedure.
- I could reflect what I had done this year by preparing the final presentation. I also learned effective ways to present data from other presenters.
- I could get many tips for my next AR. The schedule of this year for presentations was not tight. So I could concentrate on the presentations.
- I could learn a lot of useful thing that I would like to know about and try by myself from my classmates' presentation.
- I did good presentation this time comparing to last year, so I am very happy! In addition, I learned many practical lessons ideas from other presenters such as SH teachers. Recently, I belonged to the group for elementary and JH schools. It's good for me to see SH's activities, data and results.

2. 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 strongly believe that monthly workshops were very essential and useful. There were various topics for all levels and yet I was able to adjust the activities and fit it to my teaching context. I can't choose one, all of them were amazing! The topics for the entire year were carefully planned to suit teachers' interests. I will be glad if there's a workshop about assessment especially making good tests.
- I enjoyed all the lectures although I didn't participate in all the lectures, cannot choose only one. Tim Murphey, Eric Jacobson, Curtis Kelly are my favorites.
- I got a lot of good ideas from instructors and workshops were really useful. I just attended the afternoon part, but Eric Kane's "Adapting and Applying Young Learner Activities and Concepts in Your Classroom" was very interesting. But I liked all workshops I attended. I'm interested in extensive reading, but I could attend the workshop about the extensive reading this year. So, I hope you can have the topic again.
- I have learned many things from the workshops. Especially, the workshops on extensive reading and critical thinking were attractive because I was interested in the topics. I would like to learn about how to debate in the classrooms for future.
- A monthly workshop is very useful because it provides me with a lot of ideas and knowledge. I can take advantage of them in my English class. I liked Junko Yamanaka. I'd like to know more about how to assess, performance tests, extensive reading.
- It is practical place for me to get feedback. Especially, I learned the idea to make graph or charts to show the data. Lem's AR is awesome! Writing lesson's instruction which I want to know much more for further study.

3. What do you think of the action research project you have participated in 2014? Did it help you to improve your teaching skills? (For the participants of the second session only)

- The action research helped me to improve my teaching skills. I could get advice in action research workshops every month, and it was really helpful.
- Action research project is the key of the English class. I need some advice from the other members and my advisor. It really helped me to improve my teaching skills.
- 2014 AR project lead me to reach my goal. Thanks, Yoshi, Nancy, Robert, Chihaya and classmates and SENPAI!

4. What is(are) the reason(s) of not being able to attend monthly workshop?

- Club activity at school.
- School duty.
- They are school events, club activity, or family problems
- I attended all workshops in 2014.

5. How can we improve this action research/ monthly workshop project? How can we attract more teachers? Please write your comment/advice.

- I think regular participants need to invite colleagues. But we know that not all of us have the time and

motivation to come. We can share to them what we've learned during monthly workshops hoping that they will realize that they need to participate to experience it themselves. It is also important that the description of the topic for the workshop is clear and comprehensible. Not all teachers are familiar with the terminologies used. Teachers might end up disappointed expecting a different content about the topic.

- Perhaps we could specify (narrow down) each research focus so that there would be more variety of topics
- I learned action research is very effective way to improve my teaching skills, but at the same time it was very time consuming and hard. We have to have a strong will to make our lessons better. I think it is important to tell teachers about what they can get and learn from action research.
- I think action research is attractive, but teachers have club activities and family event or something. I will try hard to invite new teachers to this project. Using the words “integration of the four language skills” and “performance tests” seems more attractive because they are used in the new course of study and many meetings and trainings are held by Aichi prefectural board of education recently.
- I think the project is doing well, I have no-more request. Thanks for organizing such a wonderful project.



Thank you for your cooperation to NUFs Workshop in 2014. We are looking forward to seeing you again in 2015.