

‘ELT for a Global World’



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Global Issues through ELT

A seminar course for MA in ELT
students

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Session 2: The teacher as educator

A word cloud visualization on a light green background. The words are of various sizes and colors (purple, blue, green, red, brown). The most prominent words are 'school', 'teachers', 'educator', 'only think', and 'students'. Other visible words include 'because', 'about', 'language', 'learners', 'subject', 'years', 'parents', 'lesson', 'course', 'kids', 'year', 'responsibility', 'myself', 'comments', 'even', 'teaching', 'opinion', 'each', 'time', 'someone', 'need', 'important', 'class', 'help', 'issues', 'way', 'first', 'topic', 'some', 'able', 'situations', 'part', 'give', 'teaches', 'world', 'most', 'primary', 'impact', 'same', 'many', 'just', 'role', 'better', 'spend', 'certain', 'things', 'between', 'learn', 'culture', 'similar', 'positive', 'mother', 'wanted', 'future', 'anything', 'really', 'educate', 'being', 'his/her', 'something', 'literature', 'high', 'life', 'English', 'show', 'want', 'knowledge', 'share', 'student', 'good', 'children', 'right', 'other', 'expect', 'means', 'material', 'become', 'all', 'believe', 'teach', 'people', 'like', 'through', 'especially', 'example', and 'one'.

WordItOut

Session overview

This session has three main aims:

- To explore the meaning of ‘teacher as educator’
- To focus specifically on what language teachers can do if they see themselves as educators
- To give you a chance to reflect on your past school experiences

What do *you* think?

1 Write a short response to the following quote:

“In my view, an educator is a person who not only shares his/her knowledge but also prepares students for life outside the school and teaches them certain values.” (Kitti)

2 Share your ideas with the person sitting next to you.

3 Discuss your ideas in a whole-class format.

What do *you* think?

1 Write a short response to the following quote:

“What I have to do as an educator is to teach children to never take anything for granted just because they hear it from someone they like or look up to.” (Zsófi)

2 Share your ideas with the person sitting next to you.

3 Discuss your ideas as a whole class.

What do *you* think?

1 Write a short response to the following quote:

“There are two types of teachers. Those who became teachers because they wanted to choose a profession in connection with a subject they love; and those who wanted to become educators, so they had to choose a subject to teach.” (Rita)

2 Share your ideas with the person sitting next to you.

3 Discuss your ideas as a whole class.

Reflect on your own experience

- Has learning a foreign language contributed to your personality development? If yes, in what way?
- Has speaking a foreign language enabled you to gain new knowledge, or develop new skills? If yes, what exactly?
- Recall one of your teachers who was an educator as well as a subject matter specialist. In what way was s/he an educator?

Widening horizons: overview

In addition to teaching the language, a language teacher can help to widen horizons. Here are some ways in which a teacher can do this:

- Raise awareness of cultural differences
- Do student projects with real-world content
- Give home assignments related to current issues
- Invite guest speakers from other fields, backgrounds

Widening horizons: example 1

The Country Project

Your task is to carry out some research on the country that has chosen you. You will need to present your findings in the form of a poster presentation. Make sure to include the following:

- Geographical location / neighboring countries
- Population / form of government/ languages
- Customs / everyday life / city life – country life

Widening horizons: example 2

The 'special term' project

Choose one of the special terms seen on the next slide and prepare to give a 5-minute presentation on it in our next class. You will be giving your presentations in small groups of 3-4.

Remember, less is more. Make sure you don't overload your fellow students with too much information. In addition, you need to include a visual element, e.g. poster, ppt, picture.

'Special term' project: choose one

influenza

flow

johari window

xenophobia

gated community

Valley girl

slow food

downshifting

mindfulness

culture shock

carbon footprint

sustainable development

tipping point

serendipity

Ubuntu

critical mass

micro-credit

amnesty international

Follow-up reading

For our next class please read:

Cates, K. (1990) Teaching for a Better World. The Language Teacher. 14 (5).

<http://www.hurights.or.jp/pub/hreas/5/06cates.pdf>

Write a comment responding to the following:

- According to the article, what makes a ‘socially responsible world citizen’?
- What is one idea raised by the article that you want to think more about?