Presenter, Tory Thorkelson shared thoughts on strategies for keeping ESL students engaged with games and communicative activities.

**Games Vs. Activities**

September 20, 2014

Do you incorporate games as part of your teaching routine? Of course you do, we all do in one form or another. The September workshop welcomed thoughts and ideas about effective strategies for keeping students engaged in all aspects of English Language learning with an emphasis on games and activities. Presenter, Tory Thorkelson (BA, B.Ed., M.Ed. in TESL/TEFL), who has been a KOTESOL member since 1998, opened up by having us compare games and activities, with regard to the EFL/ESL classroom.

We took a short break for some light but delicious refreshments from Stephanie Nixon, who has replaced former president, Erin Williams. What a treat!

We resumed the day’s presentation fully cognizant of the role of well-thought-out games in the classroom. After all, if you’re teaching a speaking class, it really makes more sense to reinforce those skills learned that day with a speaking game.

Furthermore, games can be used as a motivator to get involved, a reward for good behavior or a means to practice newly learned skills.

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**Upcoming Events**

11/2/2014

**Fundraiser H5 Market**

With autumn settling in, we are raising money by offering mulled wine at the next H5 Market.

When: Nov. 2, 2014, 12pm
Where: Park next to Hanmaeum Hospital In Jeju City
Free Giveaways!!

11/12/2014

**Cafe TeaSOL Workshop**

If you missed the workshop in September, don’t miss this one. This is an informal group discussion, led by Stephanie Nixon.

When: Nov. 12, 2014, 8pm
Where: Choco Art, City Hall

12/13/2014

**Holiday Dinner**

The most wonderful time of the year. Enjoy a traditional holiday dinner with all the fixings.

When: 12/13/2014
Where: The Bar, City Hall, 5pm

Join our facebook group, Jeju KOTESOL http://bit.ly/Jeju-Chapter for more information all upcoming events.
We wrapped up the day working in pairs to create our own games. The game requiring the least preparation time and materials—“Dime Bag”, a simple game meant to help students differentiate between counting in years (2001, two thousand one) and counting normally (1,997, one thousand, nine hundred and ninety seven). The materials needed—coins, a white/black board and marker. It’s rather simple. Students guess the year on a coin that’s in the teachers’ hand. The teacher writes the year down on the board and says “higher” or “lower”. The next team guesses and the game continues until there is a winner.

We ended the day, thankful for the doubly treat of refreshments provided by our Jeju Chapter president, Stephanie as well at the presentation by Tory. We introduced newly elected Vice President, Rachel Nickson, Events Coordinator, Christine Gallagher, and Webmaster and EPIK Teacher Representative, Nailah Rivers. We also welcomed Eric Reyes, Tony Manoa, Kat Gerthe, and James Budd to the Jeju Chapter KOTESOL.

We are really excited to be a part of the Jeju Chapter KOTESOL team. Our aim to give new life to teaching English in South Korea, by bringing you fun and engaging workshops that will help you meet the growing needs of English language learners. We know that depending on your situation (hagwon, EPIK, TALK, Fullbright and others), you may already be jam packed with other things going on in and around your work life, but with so much advancement with technology in the classroom and strategies for total engagement, you’ll definitely want to keep abreast of ways to improve your teaching.

-All are welcomed-

What is KOTESOL anyway?

KOTESOL is an organization that provides professional development to people who teach English as a second language in Korea. The Jeju Chapter organizes four workshops a year, March, June, September and December. Financial members have the option to attend international and regional conferences and keep up with the latest teaching ideas that will give them practical, but innovative tools in the classroom. On the island you will also be able to attend group BBQs and other social activities at either a low cost or no cost. The membership fee is 40,000 won per year, which is quite cheap, spread over the twelve months.

Alister Martin, Events Coordinator, 2013