



World and Native Languages Newsletter

UPCOMING TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

- 11/2—[TPRS Workshop by Von Ray](#)
- 11/16—[LaTes: Genre Matters in Contextualized World Language—CERCLL](#)
- 11/22-24—[ACTFL National Conference](#)
- 1/23-26—[Intercultural Competence Conference](#)
- 4/2-5—[Southwest Conference on Language Teaching](#)

EXTRA! EXTRA! ASL ABROAD!!

Tamara Scott, ASL teacher in Mesa Public Schools at Mt. View High School, is teaching ASL to teachers of hearing-impaired students in Kuwait. Tamara is also conducting workshops to train Kuwaiti Ministry of Education supervisors, heads of department, and teachers how to use American Sign Language (ASL), in addition to other modern ELT techniques, to improve English as a Foreign Language (EFL) education among hearing-impaired students in Kuwaiti K-12 public schools. Tamara went through an rigorous application process that included a list of her contributions to ASL and Mesa Public Schools. We are very proud of Tamara and are enjoying her stories. Thank you Tamara Scott for spreading the love of World Languages teaching across borders.

FUN FRIDAY ROUTINE

Ever need a good low-tech vocabulary game that suits any language? Try Matamoscas (fly swatter). This can be done with a whole class or done in paired groups. Either way works well to review vocabulary. Write a bunch of vocabulary on a board. The teacher then calls out a term. The first student to swat the term wins. Look at [Srta. Spanish's site](#) for further explanation and adaptations.

ICC K-12 Teacher Scholarship

Apply for a teacher scholarship to pay for the expenses of visiting the Intercultural Competence Conference. Deadline is SOON!

[NSLI-Y](#), [Kennedy-Lugar](#), and [Congress Bundestag](#) high school student study abroad programs applications close soon!! Encourage your students to apply!!

TIP OF THE MONTH

What is proficiency? With the focus of our Arizona state standards on proficiency it is good to define what that means in a K-12 language classroom. [Stephanie Knight from the Center for Applied Second Language Studies](#) writes a [great article](#) explaining the proficiency.

- She recommends that to plan lessons with proficiency in mind, you must consider the following:
1. Define language functions as your learning targets, then focus on the critical content to engage students. By focusing on the critical content, like apologizing, rather than on all imperatives will lead to a better and deeper understanding.
 2. Scaffold learning experiences that move students through increasingly more active levels of cognition. Begin lessons with gathering information of what they know and don't know. Have students analyze texts to induce meaning and a model to use as they acquire new skills and vocabulary. Last have student dive deeper and then use fewer scaffolds.
 3. Don't neglect the critical nature of social interaction. Students are social beings and learning a language for proficiency should be done in the same way. Have student analyze and inspect target language functions and cultural nuances. Group work, modeling, and practicing are all good ways to accomplish this.
 4. Finally leave time for reflection. Students need to evaluate their work consistently and also set goals for themselves. Protect this time and make it available to students.

Ms. Knight also includes a [lesson plan template](#) that is geared specifically towards proficiency-based lessons.

RESOURCES

- [Educandy](#)—Simple vocabulary games or multiple choice trivia. Create a vocabulary list and have different games that can use that same list. Watch the following [video](#) to see how to use Educandy.
- [Tofugu](#)—Japanese learning resources with videos, quizzes, writing practices all geared specifically toward learning Japanese.

[The French Corner](#)—This site is a blog about teaching French. The best part is how it suggests ways to integrate French with other subjects. Check out the article about reinforcing geography skills using French.

[Authentic Spanish Language and Cultures](#)—This is a video archive of native speaker video clips of 1-3 minutes on a variety of topics. Content is searchable and best geared toward beginning and intermediate Spanish students.

November is Native American Heritage month and we wanted to highlight some lesson ideas and resources for your classrooms. The [Native American National Museum](#) has a webcast on Nov. 1st along with lessons and some resources. [PBS](#) has an interesting lesson on the image of Native Americans. Last here is a [great resource](#) that culls together many resources all geared toward Native American Heritage month.



Native American Heritage Month