

Monday, 7 July 2008

Morning	
1. Admin Stuff	We met to look at the plan for the next few days. Cheryl and Franz introduced themselves presented the overall timetable. We also talked about the idea of creating a banner of creativity , which means that work written during the course will be glued on a long roll of brown paper and we'll check out how long we can make this banner
2. Name Placards Game	The first activity involved writing on a placard to be hung around our necks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the name • an explanation, either of the meaning or why we were given this name (true or made-up) • and on the back our favourite word of the day
3. Sociometry exercises I	In order to get to know each other a bit better we played a number of games that meant lining ourselves up according to certain criteria such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shoe sizes • place of where they are from east to west • birthdays • age group taught
4. Sociometry II: Expectations hopes and fears	On small pieces of paper we wrote what we expected from the course (yellow), what we hoped the course would bring beyond the expectations (green) and what we were afraid of (red). These were collected in a paper bag and then redistributed. We formed groups according to the themes on the little pieces of paper and presented the points for a brief discussion.
5. "Name Sheets"	Around the room there were large sheets of paper with the initial letters of our first names. We wrote down nouns, verbs and adjectives that either started with same letter or with the same sound.
6. Name poems	In groups of three or four, we write a poem for every member of the group, using the words from the "name sheets" either starting with the same letter or sound. The poem was composed as follows: 1 st line: Name 2 nd line: adjective + adjective (conjunction like <i>and</i> or <i>but</i>) 3 rd line: verb + noun (as object or prepositional construction) 4 th line: and ... (to complete as you like) 5 th line: adjective + adjective 6 th line: Name

Lunch	
7. read-back	After lunch all the poems were read out in plenum and we paid special attention to read them with feeling / in a lively manner
8. Group work	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheryl 	We looked at picture books and explored ways of bringing them to life and delivering them with text and off-text presentations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franz 	<p>We sang the beginnings of three songs and tried to complete them with further verses. Franz then played the original versions and we realised that many of our ideas went in very similar directions. The songs were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rattling Bog • Herrings' Heads • On Top of Spaghetti
Break	
9. Round-up	<p>We ended up with a brief discussion of how best to structure the remainder of the course and what to prioritise in the way of content. Some of the suggestions made were; finding ways to encourage pupils to speak more in English during lessons, learning how to set activities with clear instructions and make them suitable for beginners, exploring more ways to get pupils writing 'beautifully' and looking for more performance possibilities (playscripts, role play etcetera). Franz and Cheryl stressed that their key concern was to give teachers an experience of doing for themselves rather than concentrating on formulating ideas for immediate use in the classroom however they agreed to have a "Didactics Session" tomorrow where such adaptations would be discussed.</p>

Tuesday, 8 July 2008

1. Warm-up: objects in a suitcase
2. List poems in larger groups