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◆研究キーワード / Keywords

EFL Teacher Identity / EFL Materials Development / EFLTeacher Education

◆主要業績

- Completed PhD dissertation in Applied Linguistics for Macquarie University

◆研究内容 / Research Pursuits

The professional identity of Japanese teachers of English in Japanese higher education

1. I investigated the professional identity of four Japanese university English teachers at the onset of their careers, and analyzed the narrative data obtained from interviews using Wenger's (1998) theory of identity as the analytical framework.
2. I investigated the impact of gender upon the professional identity of seven Japanese female teachers of English in Japanese higher education using Gee's (2000) perspectives of identity as the theoretical framework. A strong relationship between gender and English language study was established.
3. I investigated the teaching practices and beliefs of one Japanese teacher of English in Japanese higher education. Through a series of interviews and classroom observations it was found that her identity as a literature specialist was as the heart of her identity as an English language teacher.

◆教育内容 / Educational Pursuits

Through my teaching I hope to enable students to develop the skills they need to become life-long users of English. They should be able to read both for pleasure (novels, magazine articles, and so on) and for information (textbooks, newspapers, and so on). They should be able to write for a variety of purposes (reports, letters, diaries, business) both accurately and fluently. They will learn how to express themselves in English in a variety of situations and they should be able to listen and understand spoken English in a variety of situations.

◆メッセージ

One of the best ways to prepare for doing well in English is to read as much as you possibly can. Try to read books that are just a little bit more difficult than what you can read, and try to understand the whole of what is written rather than each word and each sentence. Try to guess the meaning of a word through the context of the sentence and through the grammatical placement of the word within the sentence. Reach for your dictionary AFTER you try to understand.

Remember, if you memorize long lists of English vocabulary words you will only remember the list. If you read a lot, you will learn a lot of vocabulary in context. You will also improve your understanding of natural English and you will learn to enjoy English as a language, and not just as a subject.

Good luck!