



2025

TITLE

Tabletop Roleplaying Games in the University EFL Classroom

Speaker: Dax Thomas

Date: 19 August @11.45 – 12.30

Presentation Type: Workshop



Abstract

This workshop extols the virtues of using tabletop roleplaying games (TRPGs), such as Dungeons and Dragons, in the university EFL classroom. The first part of the talk will look at reasons to introduce TRPGs into the university EFL classroom (i.e. building creative thinking skills, problems-solving skills, social interaction skills, and overall language skills) and discuss some of the potential roadblocks one might come across in doing so. The second part of the workshop will include hands-on activities that illustrate actual TRPG use in the classroom with participants taking on the roles of characters in a fantasy/science-fiction story game.

Biography

Dax Thomas is an EFL instructor with over 25 years of teaching experience in Japan. His current research interests lie in the use of tabletop roleplaying games to promote collaborate language learning and vocabulary acquisition in the university ELF classroom. He holds MA degrees from the University of Toronto and the University of Birmingham.