

The NCLRC Language Resource



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This month's theme is Reaching Out to Community. Our [feature story](#) tells of a teacher's experiences and advice for her first international conference, AATSP in Salamanca, Spain. In [For Your Classroom](#), an expert teacher describes the use of TPRS for teaching Narrative Structures in the World Language Classroom. [Websites for Teachers](#) links a useful set of materials from our sister LRC at Michigan State: CLEAR's Internet Sourcebooks for Business in a Foreign Language. Be sure you let your voice be heard by responding to our [reader poll](#) or the [monthly question](#) on teaching content topics. And the heat is on in our [Critical Languages](#) column, where scholarships, exchanges, and institutes abound for teachers and students.



Summer Institutes are coming sooner than you think! Stipends and scholarships are available for our Arabic teachers' institutes funded under STARTalk. [The application form is here](#) All of [NCLRC's Summer Institutes](#) are open for registration. Register now and reserve your space.

★ Announcements:

- [STARTalk US Government-funded summer institutes](#) have been announced. See list of all the [Arabic](#) and [Chinese](#) institutes around the country. Ours are included in this list, or you can see [them here](#).
- [US Department of State Critical Languages scholarship applications](#) are now available for intensive overseas study in the critical need foreign languages of Arabic, Bangla/Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, and Urdu for Summer 2007.
- US Department of Education announces [International Research and Studies Program \(IRS\) grants](#) to conduct research and studies to improve and strengthen instruction in modern foreign languages, area studies, and other international fields.
- [Chinese Bridge for American Schools Delegation](#) educational tour is sponsored by the Office of Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) in collaboration with the Chinese Language Association of Secondary and Elementary Schools (CLASS) and the College Board
- [Language Resource Centers around the US](#) offer a wide range of summer institutes for foreign language teachers of various languages and levels
- Click on the [CALENDAR](#) to review conferences, calls for papers, and grant, proposal and scholarship deadlines.

Troubleshooting:

If your email client does not recognize the links in this webzine, or the links do not work, you can go straight to the NCLRC newsletter online page clicking this link www.nclrc.org/newsletter/english_newsletter.html or copying and pasting the link into your browser address bar.

★ Feature article

★ Culture Club

From Alexandria to Salamanca: La Profesora va a su primera conferencia. *Janet Beckmann, Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria, Virginia*



Last July I went to Salamanca, Spain for my first American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese 88th Annual Conference. I teach high school Spanish here in Virginia, and this was my first AATSP conference. Spending a week in Salamanca is wonderful, any month of the year, but I wanted to finish these six conference days energized, eager to implement in the classroom what I had learned. And that I did. So here are some [strategies to make a conference work for you...](#)

★ Teacher's Diary

Sofia is a second-year Spanish teacher at a charter school in the Baltimore area. Each month she shares her journal of reflections on teaching.

Dear Diary,

My students came back to class last week after completing their work internship period. Every February for two weeks, students volunteer at local businesses and organizations. The idea behind it is that the students develop important life skills at the same time that they are learning about career opportunities in interest areas they have identified. While the students are away, we teachers have the joy of meeting with their parents. One question that seemed to keep coming up during my parent-teacher conferences was [How can we, as parents and teachers, encourage our students to take responsibility for their own learning?](#)

★ Readers' Corner & Poll

Here's where you, our dear readers, can TALK BACK! This month we ask about teaching culture.

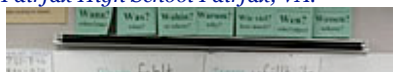
How often do you incorporate specific content area lessons in your teaching? Answer our [Poll](#)

What other subjects do you include in your teaching? Click here to answer the [Question](#)

Last month we asked What have you had your students do in the community? [See the results here...](#)

★ For your Classroom

Narrative Structures in the World Language Classroom using TPRS by *Robert Williams, High School German Teacher Fairfax High School Fairfax, VA.*



Teaching Proficiency

Edited by Christine Meloni

Visit the Culture Club! We have renovated three rooms and have launched a new Photo Contest in the [Photo Gallery](#). The [Speaker's Corner](#) features an article on French Writers of Louisiana. [The Library](#) offers four French reviews (three of them review books by Louisiana authors), two Italian, and one each German, Norwegian, Russian, and Spanish. [The Screening Room](#) includes reviews of one French, one Italian, one Japanese, and three Spanish films. Take a look at the new Where in the World? Mystery Photo Contest in the Gallery. If you recognize the building, respond immediately!

★ Dear YANA

Edited by Sheila Cockey. YANA stands for "You are Not Alone." Your questions on challenges in your classrooms are answered by an expert on languages and culture teaching. This month's questions:

- Many of my students belong to organizations and clubs that have a service learning component. Do you have any ideas about how I can help my students use their language to meet their requirements?

[Read YANA's answers...](#)

★ Websites for Teachers

CLEAR's Internet Sourcebooks for Business in a Foreign Language

by *Laura Blythe Liu* Is one of your goals to prepare your students for authentic language use beyond the classroom? Perhaps a unit on developing foreign language use for the business world would help. Michigan State University's Center for Language Education and Research (CLEAR) offers FREE "Internet Sourcebooks" for developing business foreign language in French, German, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish. These sites are composed almost entirely in the target language. They are clearly intended for the more advanced learner who is ready to venture into a new field with a base of already developed language skills. [Read about all the sourcebooks...](#)

★ Professional Development, Conferences and Funding Opportunities

We've compiled the conference announcements in one easy-to-access place, the Teachers' Calendar Find out what conferences are coming your way this year [here...](#)

Looking forward to a very active summer, we list many new teacher exchanges, grants and fellowships are being announced [see them all here](#)

★ Ask Dora

Dora Johnson is a Program Associate at Center for Applied Linguistics, and answers reader's questions related to languages. This month's questions:

- Where can I study Dari in the Washington, DC area?
- I'm looking for someone who teaches Zulu.

[Read Dora's answers.](#)



through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS) is taking the language teaching world by storm because it addresses many of the challenges facing the world language teaching profession. TPRS helps students

to communicate in the target language, much like the way they learned their first language. TPRS can help jumpstart a language program, give new enthusiasm to the teacher, and most of all help more of today's students learn the target language and stay in the program. [Read how Williams teaches German through TPRS...](#)

★ Critical Languages

Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and more

There are tons of new scholarships and summer institutes for teachers and learners of the critical languages this month. [Read it all here...](#)

★ Language at Work

Give your students real-life examples of "what you can do with foreign language." This month we talk to Jennifer Carey, a teacher of English who uses Spanish and French often at work, and relies on her own experience as the daughter of an immigrant. [Read more...](#)

★ NCLRC Staff

It's conference season

again! We're gearing up for NECTFL in New York City and NEALLT in Ithaca in the coming month. Here are Jill and Sheila at ACTFL 06 in Nashville. If you're going to NECTFL in April, look for our booth and stop by to say hello.



The Language Resource is a monthly publication of the National Capital Language Resource Center <http://www.nclrc.org> to provide practical teaching strategies, share insights from research, and announce professional development opportunities for all foreign language educators.

Funded by the US Department of Education through Title VI, we are a consortium of Georgetown University, The George Washington University, and the Center for Applied Linguistics.

Also available on our website

[Culture Club](#)

[Arabic K-12 Teachers' newsletter](#)

[Sailing the 5 Cs with Learning Strategies](#)

A Resource Guide for Secondary Foreign Language Educators

[Portfolio Assessment in the Foreign Language Classroom](#) [Russian for Russians](#)

[Elementary Immersion Learning Strategies Resource Guide](#)

[The Essentials of Language Teaching](#)

[Developing Autonomy in Language Learners](#) Learning Strategies Instruction in Higher Education

[Back to Top](#)

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