

The NCLRC Language Resource



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Visit our website at: <http://www.nclrc.org>

Fall is here, and we're happy to present our new [Teen Interview podcast](#) in Spanish from the Culture Club Hangout. Now you can both *listen to* and **read** the interview with your students. [Websites for Teachers](#) tells about **Press Display**, a fantastic source for authentic reading and listening materials. **Candice**, our study-abroad blogger, travelled to Paris, Prague, and Tuscany, and continues to post her insights on the experiences on [Candice al Dente](#). [The Culture Club](#) reviews a [nominee for the Latin Grammys](#) and presents a [cornucopia of reviews, interviews, and contests](#). Bored? See what [YANA says](#). [For your Classroom](#) is chock-full of [games to play in Spanish](#).

And the big news is, we announce our [Summer Institutes for 2008](#) and hope you find one that interests you!



★ Announcements:

- The [2007 ACTFL Conference](#) takes place in San Antonio this month. A [call for proposals is out now for the 2008 ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo](#) in Orlando, Florida, November 21-23, 2008. The theme is Opening Minds to the World Through Languages.
- NCLRC will be at ACTFL: If you're going, visit our booth, and [see our presentation schedule](#)
- Panels to discuss [Representing Foreign Language Education at the Federal Level in the United States](#) are being sponsored by editors of The Modern Language Journal, at major language conferences.
- Signed into law September 27 the ["College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007"](#) offers student loan forgiveness to borrowers who serve in areas of national need, including **foreign language specialists**.
- Also passed in August, the ["America Competes Act"](#) promises, among other things, to strengthen educational opportunities for critical foreign languages from elementary through graduate school.
- Check out our expanded [Teacher's Calendar](#) with **international conference listings** and all **state and language-specific language teacher conferences**.

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 by clicking this link www.nclrc.org/newsletter.html or copying and pasting the link into your browser address bar.

★ Feature article

★ Culture Club

Lend Me an Ear - Teaching Listening Strategies for World Language Learning

Jill Robbins



The National FL Standard for Interpretive Communication refers to the understanding of material that is read or heard. Often language teachers do not use recorded materials because students react with dismay;

"I can't understand a thing!" When a teacher gives support before the listening task through instruction in strategies, students are able to break down the flow of sound into comprehensible language. The strategies-based instruction (SBI) approach developed by Cohen (1998) guides students to apply strategies before, during and after a language task. [Read more...](#)

Teacher's Diary

Bill, teacher educator in Columbia, South Carolina, shares his reflections on teaching new language teachers.

Dear Diary: The past couple of weeks have been filled with excitement and wonderment. For me it has been very exciting to see my students bridging the new information about foreign language pedagogy to their existing knowledge. Many of my students are currently teaching in area schools with provisional certification, mainly due to the shortage of language educators in the state. Each class hour we are together, the opening minutes are devoted to positive comments and AHA! moments. [Read more...](#)

Teaching Heritage Learners: Root Words



Edited by Jamie Lepore Wright.

This column features an article on a topic related to heritage language learning and news for teachers of heritage learners.

How do I meet the Standards with my students who can't read, can't spell, and yet think they're fluent?

by Belinda Sauret, Ph.D., Oakwood, Georgia Did I just see what I wanted to see or was the woman in front of me mirroring all the notions that I had started out with in August, 2006, when I set out to found a Spanish for Native Speakers program at my high school?

"They don't know how to spell anything," she sighed, referring to her SNS students. "They say 'rompido' and 'escribido.' They don't know the

Edited by Christine Meloni

Visit the Culture Club! Please take [the mini-survey](#) (it will take about 3 seconds of your time) and let us know which room of the Culture Club is your favorite. [The Library](#) features reviews of two books in English about Italy (In Tuscany and The Cielo: A Novel of Wartime Tuscany) and four foreign-language novels: *Die verschwundene Miniatur* (German), *Testimone inconsapevole* (Italian), *Markens Grode* (Norwegian), and *Del amor y otros demonios* (Spanish). [The Speaker's Corner](#) presents an interview, reprinted from the Italian American, with an Italian who grew up in Fascist Italy. [The Screening Room](#) has reviews of *La Vie en Rose* (French), *Notti Bianche* (Italian), *Shi gan* (Korean), *Hamsun* (Norwegian), and *Shinj? Ten no Amijima, Umizaru, Rashomon*, and *Kwaidan* (Japanese). [The Photo Gallery](#) has launched a new **Where in the World? Mystery Photo Contest**. Will you be this month's winner? The winners of the August and September photo contests are announced. We hope that you will be happy about an innovation in [The Hangout](#). From now on the interviews will not be only paper interviews; they will also be podcasts. This month you can both read and listen to an interview with a teenager from Argentina.

Study Abroad Blog: Candice al Dente



Candice is a student friend of ours on a program in Rome, who is corresponding with our own Christine Meloni. Follow her adventures throughout this semester as she learns all about Rome. You can comment or give her suggestions, too.

Sunday, November 4, 2007

Under the Tuscan "Sun"

Over all, Tuscany is the perfect get-away from city life. I would love to spend a summer in the Tuscan hills roaming around on a bicycle. However, I thought Sienna was beautiful, but lacked personality. [Read Candice's Blog](#)

Dear YANA

Classroom Solutions: Teaching in the Target Language

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 question:



names of any of the verb tenses. They confuse Spanish phonetics with English. The textbook the district uses is awful." [Read more...](#)

★ Readers' Corner

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

What type of presentations work best for your students? Answer our [Poll](#)

How do you have students prepare for giving presentations in class? Click here to answer the [Question](#)

October's Monthly Question was: **What is the best listening material that you have found for your language?** [See the responses ...](#)

★ Language Policy Update

MLJ Perspectives Panels: Institutionalizing Foreign Language Education

You are invited to attend a series of four moderated panel discussions that have been organized by Leo van Lier, Editor of The Modern Language Journal, and Heidi Byrnes, Associate Editor of Perspectives, in order to lay the ground work for Perspectives 92,4 (December 2008). The topic for that issue of Perspectives and the panels is: "Representing Foreign Language Education at the Federal Level in the United States."

[Read more...](#)

★ For Your Classroom

Juegos para el aprendizaje de español by [Karelia Pallan](#)



For a memorable lesson, instructors can utilize an effective strategy for students to reinforce what they are learning in class: use games! Students not only have fun, but also remember key words and phrases because they are using the language actively.

[Read more...](#) (Note: this article is in Spanish)

★ Languages...? 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:

- Which books would you recommend for beginning level English-speaking Arabic high school students?

- This is my 10th year and all I have ever taught is levels one and two. I am getting very bored doing the same thing year after year. My chances for reassignment to other levels are slim to non-existent. I love teaching! I love working with my students! I love my language! But, I'm really tired of present and past tense and the same cultural things year after year. Do you have any suggestions?

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

★ Websites for Teachers

Press Display: Around the World with just a Click by [Ben Redmond](#), [George Washington University](#)



Locating engaging, yet relevant foreign language reading materials for use in the classroom often proves

challenging, as teachers are limited by cost and availability of resources. Library.PressDisplay.com boasts access to "500 newspapers from 70 countries in 37 languages" and emphatically delivers it with a visually engaging, easy to navigate interface. The site offers full graphical, digital editions of major newspapers, accessible on the actual date of publication. [Read more ...](#)

★ Professional Development, Conferences and Funding Opportunities

We've compiled the conference announcements in one easy-to-access place, the [Teachers' Calendar](#).

Find out which conferences are coming your way this year [here...](#)

Also, see grants and scholarships [here](#)

★ Critical Languages

Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and more

The National Security Internship is an intensive eight-week, full immersion summer program that combines Arabic language, Homeland Security, Intelligence and Area Studies, and On-the-Job-Training experience at U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) or FBI Headquarters. This program aims to develop the capacity of high-achieving undergraduate and graduate college students with critical skills and direct them toward potential careers at the DHS or FBI. [Read more...](#)

[Read it all here...](#)

★NCLRC Staff

- I am a professional simultaneous interpreter from Arabic to English and vice versa working on a thesis for a Masters degree in Applied Linguistics. The topic-bilingualism and simultaneous interpreters. Can you help me find a claim?

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

Happy Halloween from the NCLRC staff!

Hope you had fun in your classes!

Jill Robbins, editor



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](#)

[Elementary Immersion Learning Strategies Resource Guide](#)

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

[The Essentials of Language Teaching](#)

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

A Resource Guide for Secondary Foreign Language Educators

[Developing Autonomy in Language](#)

[Learners:](#) Learning Strategies Instruction in Higher Education

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

[Russian for Russians](#)

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