



# Inclusivity and Diversity in Language Teaching

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March 25<sup>th</sup> 2021



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# What is diversity?

- Race
- Religion
- Sexual orientation
- Gender
- Age
- Body type
- Disabilities
- Socio-economic status
- Languages



# Why is this important?

“Planning our teaching to display sensitive awareness of this diversity and to accommodate differences in a positive way may be a vital inroad for our learners to find a connection to the tasks in class.”

Mercer & Dörnyei. 2020. 104

Classrooms should be a “space for students to speak honestly as themselves, an affordance increasingly seen as crucial in the development of second language proficiency.”

Moore. 2014. 1



# Why is this important?

“Part of our job as English teachers will always be to help our students find the language to describe the world around them.”

Moore. 2020. 123

It is “imperative for students to be educated to become global citizens with regard to cross-cultural sensitivity, awareness of global issues, cultivation of universal values, development of critical thinking skills, and experiential learning... Students need to develop empathic understanding for people of other cultures and concern for what is happening around the world.”

Focho. 2010. 135



# How is this approached in resources?

## PARSNIP

- Politics
- Alcohol
- Religion
- Sex
- Narcotics
- -Isms
- Pork



# How is this approached in resources?

**Petra:** 'It <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ one night at our local nightclub. I was dancing, and suddenly I <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ the feeling that someone was watching me. I looked around and saw a boy on the other side of the room staring at me. I <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ to be brave and walked over to him. Hans was very shy but we had a drink and started talking. We just clicked and we quickly became friends.'

**Petra, 19 and Hans, 20 (Germany)**

**Simon, 42 and Ricardo, 46 (Argentina)**

**Ricardo:** 'It was New Year's Eve and I <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ some people around to my house to celebrate. I planned a quiet party but my friends brought other friends and by twelve o'clock there were lots of people. I was making some drinks in the kitchen when I noticed this guy on his own. He didn't seem to know anybody, so I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ over to him and <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ myself. He said, "So you're not Antonio, then?!" He was at the wrong party – he had made a mistake with the address! I asked him to stay and we got on really well ... and now we're together.'

*Framework Level 2 Student's Book. 2003. 16*



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**Simone, 42 and Ricardo, 46 (Argentina)**

*New Framework Level 2 Student's Book. 2008. 16*



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# How is this approached in resources?

“English teaching materials, such as textbooks, also play an important role in reinforcing cultural and ideological beliefs among learners. Some problems in the textbooks are the centrality of the ‘native speaker’, along with the erasing, stereotyping, and underrepresentation of minorities, and the overrepresentation of lifestyle, cultural elements, and communicative situations of white and socially elite characters.”

Santos & Passos. 2021. 104-5





# How is this approached in resources?

- Invisibility
- Othering
- Exceptional cases

“It is important not to set up tasks that ask students to evaluate or judge lesbian/gay people – that is, whether ‘they’ are moral, normal or natural”

Nelson. 2009. 213



# How is this approached in resources?

James M. Taylor  
Ilá Coimbra

**Raise Up!**

All proceeds go to benefit the Casa 1 project in São Paulo, Brazil

A diverse and inclusive view of English

**8 Be my eyes**  
Ilá Coimbra  
Illustrations by Danilo Vespa

Vocabulary: travelling vocabulary  
Grammar: Going to for future plans  
Skill: reading  
Group: blind people

**1** Look at the app review and discuss your opinion about it in small groups.

**2** Danny is a blind man who is going to travel to Guyana, in South America. He connected with a Guyanese local and wrote him an email introducing himself and describing his travel plans.

Read Danny's email quickly and put the drawings in the correct order according to his travelling plans.

**3** Read the email again. Decide if the following sentences are true or false. Underline the parts of the email that help you decide.

a) Danny works all day long.  
b) Danny is not very excited about his trip.  
c) In a hostel, you can choose the type of room you want to stay in.  
d) Danny prefers to have his own room.  
e) Danny is going around the city by car.  
f) On the third day, Danny is planning to do some exercise.  
g) Danny hopes he will be able to speak English on his trip.

**APPRISE**  
BE MY EYES-APP REVIEW  
By Jenu Hurts December 3, 2021  
This app allows blind and low-vision people to find help with both big and small tasks and to be more independent. Be My Eyes connects sighted volunteers and blind or low-vision people through a video call and they can then solve problems together. The tasks can be simple ones like reading the expiry dates on products or the blind person can get assistance to move around in a new place.

Hi Collins,  
Thank you for volunteering to be my eyes during my trip to your country. I'm sure it will be great to do this with you.  
First, let me tell you a little about myself. I work part-time in a store, so I don't really have much money to travel, but every month I try to save up for my vacation and next month I'm going to visit your city, Georgetown. I couldn't be more excited! I love to travel on a low budget and meet a lot of interesting travellers. I'm going to stay in a hostel there. I'm going to stay in a dorm because it is easier to meet people then. I didn't even consider staying in an en suite room, since my goal is also to make friends! :)  
On my first day in Georgetown, I'm going to take a hop-on hop-off bus. This will help me to get a good idea of what the city is like and get out of the bus to take pictures of the most interesting things. As I love coffee and trying local food, I'm going to try to explore local cafes and restaurants as well.  
On the second day, I'm going to go on a hike. There are lots of trails in the area, with different levels of difficulties, but a hike is always a nice challenge and a good way to get some exercise. It's always so surrounded by nature, feel the fresh air, listen to the birds singing... definitely one of my favourite things to do! I was really happy to learn that hiking is cheap or even free in Guyana!  
Finally, on my last day there, I'm going to take a free walking tour around the most important tourist sites. It will be a great opportunity to practise my English and to also get to know some history about Georgetown. Your city seems a very historical place! This is going to be an amazing trip! Please tell me which activities you can assist with and we can then fix the days and times to meet. I can't wait to meet you!  
Best,  
Danny

**2** George's Menu

1

**4** Discuss the following questions with a partner:

a) Would you like to travel on a low budget like Danny does? Why or why not?  
b) Which of the activities he mentions would you like to try?

**5** Can you describe a trip you've made recently using some words from the text? Discuss with your partner.

**6** Take a look at the highlighted words from the text. Match them to the following definitions:

a) \_\_\_\_\_: a room that has more than one bed and is shared with other guests.  
b) \_\_\_\_\_: room that has a toilet inside.  
c) \_\_\_\_\_: to take a long walk, normally for pleasure or exercise.  
d) \_\_\_\_\_: a type of accommodation that offers inexpensive food and rooms.  
e) \_\_\_\_\_: accumulate money to use in the future.  
f) \_\_\_\_\_: a tourist bus. Passengers can get off at any stop and continue later.  
g) \_\_\_\_\_: appropriate for people that don't have much money.  
h) \_\_\_\_\_: a guided tour made on foot and free of charge.  
i) \_\_\_\_\_: to be in a place that is not urban, like beaches, parks, mountains, etc.  
j) \_\_\_\_\_: a bathroom that guests share with other guests.

**7** Using as many words as possible from activity 4, discuss in pairs:

a) Is it possible to travel on a low budget in your city/country? Why? / Why not?  
b) What are the advantages and disadvantages of low-budget travelling?

**8** Complete the first sentence using the email that Danny wrote. Then, find 3 examples in the text of sentences that have the same structure:

a) I \_\_\_\_\_ in a hostel there.  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_  
d) \_\_\_\_\_

**9** Based on the examples from 8, complete the rules below:

a) We use to be + \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_ = main verb to describe our plans and decisions for the future.  
b) For the interrogative form, we put the verb \_\_\_\_\_ in front of the subject. Eg: Are you going to travel?  
c) For the negative form, we put \_\_\_\_\_ after the verb \_\_\_\_\_. Eg: She is not going to travel by plane.

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# How can we approach this?

- Explore
- Adapt
- Create
- Integrate
- Use
- Reflect
- Share





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golf



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water polo



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You have to be fast and strong  
to be in a chair and play good.



Maria A2  
Russia



Misha A2  
Russia

I don't play basketball because  
I'm not too tall.





# What shall we watch?

Look at the schedule for the [Lido Cinema](#) in New Zealand.

Which do you think would be the best film for...

- a young family
- a group of teenage boys
- an older couple
- a group of teenage girls
- you?



*I think the best film for... would be... because...*



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Pasha A2  
Russia

The grandma will not like the horror because it's scary.

Why not? I watch these with my grandma sometimes. And my mum. We very like it.



Masha A2  
Russia



## Podcast of the week

Listen to an episode of *Africa Daily* (there are lots to choose from, you only need to listen to one).

Next week, we will discuss these questions in groups:

- Why did you choose this episode?
- What did you learn?
- What further questions do you have?
- Would you like to listen to more episodes? Why (not)?



# How can we approach this?

Same or Different?

1. He's been living with his husband for 5 years.
2. He's lived with his husband for 5 years.
3. He lived with his husband for 5 years.



# How can we approach this?



Flora B2  
China

There's a mistake, because 'his husband'? Look.

No. He has married. He have a husband. Its ok like this in Spain.



Maria B1  
Spain



## Meet my friend



This is Dave.

He's from America, but he's live in London.

I first met him in a bar.

He is an only child.

He has a boyfriend.

He is very happy person.

Manuela A2  
Colombia



# How can we approach this?

Why do you say 'partner', not 'girlfriend' or 'boyfriend'? It's confusing, no?



Ana B2  
Spain



My boyfriend, she told me I can't to do it.

Vittoria B1  
Italy



# How can we approach this?

I met up with my friend

She met her <sup>x</sup> girlfriend. friend / partner

He met his <sup>x</sup> girlfriend. / partner

He met his <sup>x</sup> boyfriend. / partner







Veronica S. to Veronica's diary



This weekend was quite normal also if saturday I went to work, But fortunately I went out at 12pm.

After that I went to English Speaking lessons and when it's finished my partner and I travelled around the centre of city.

The weather was great, there was sun and since was black Friday there were a very lot of people.

So after about 2,3 hours we returned home.

In the evening I went to my colleague's birthday but I was a little bit sad because I can't saw harry potter.

I went to bed quite late.

While Sunday I got up very late. In the afternoon I did some housework and then I repeat something for my English test.

When I finished prepared some foods for the dinner and then I saw some tv on the coach with my partner. I went to bed around 10pm because today I get up early for go to work. [Less...](#)

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Nov 28, 2016, 1:53 PM

Veronica A2  
Italy



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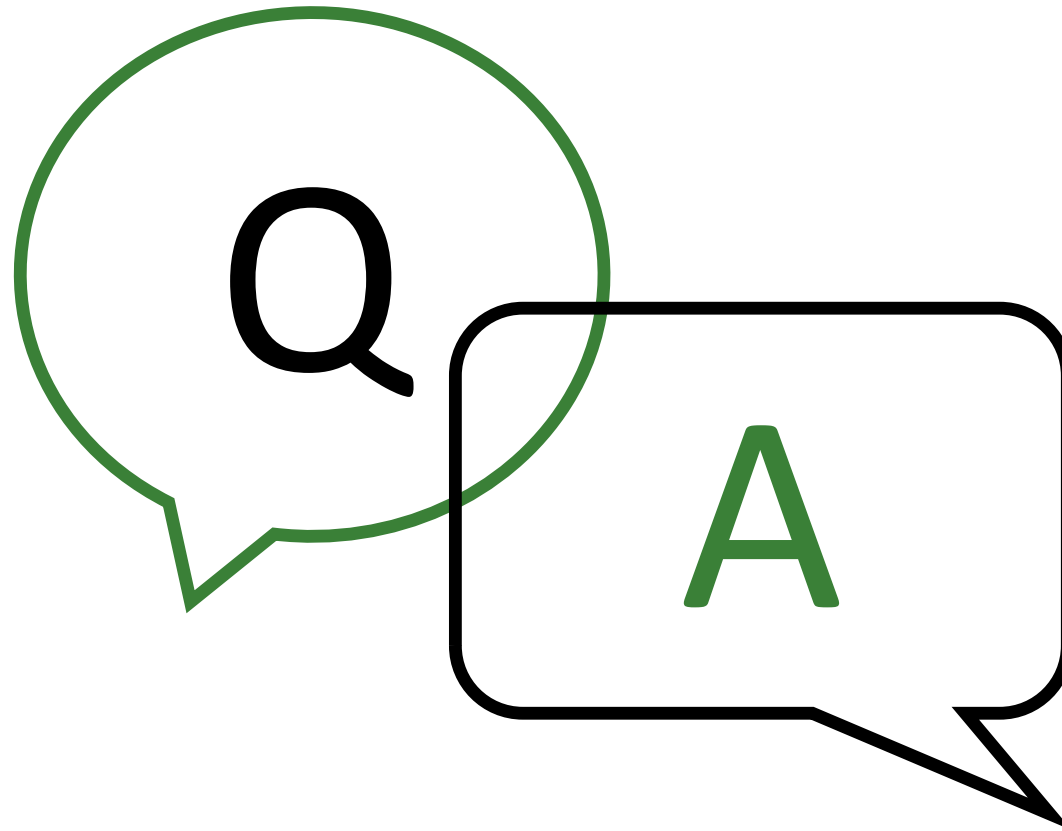


# Summary

- Acknowledge the importance of inclusivity and diversity in language learning
- Notice any invisibility, othering or exceptional cases in language learning resources
- Create, adapt, use and reflect on inclusive resources
- Explore inclusive language with learners
- Share ideas and resources



# Thank you



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