

A transition to Language Coach

Interview with Anna Strehl, English teacher, Germany



Can you describe your professional career before taking the language coaching certification (LCC)?

Before taking the LCC I had been working as an English teacher in Poland and Ireland. I had taught students from around the world, mainly from Italy, Spain, Brazil, South Korea. I had specialized in General English classes and exam preparation classes.

“I have gained more adequate knowledge than during my university studies or a CELTA course”

How did you find the course?

Taking the LCC was a great and rewarding experience. I am pleased to admit that during these one month-intensive workshops I have gained more adequate knowledge than during my university studies or a CELTA course. I think that the LCC is well structured and at the same time down-to-earth. The majority of the methodologies I had had a chance to study were quite superficial and only theoretical. LCC, however, has provided me with a practical knowledge. During the course, there were no unnecessary topics. I never felt that I was wasting my time or that we were repeating the material.

“LCC has been a great ‘eye opener’ regarding one of the most important, and perhaps underestimated topics in education, namely feedback”

Which highlights or insights did you gain from the LCC?

LCC has provided me with important insights regarding neuroscience. For example, I had never come across the idea of Social Pain. LCC has been a great ‘eye opener’ regarding one of the most important, and perhaps underestimated topics in education, namely feedback.

“I always knew Motivation was there, but I’d never known how to really bring it into the classroom”

What was the immediate impact on your way of teaching after taking the course?

After having taken the LCC, my way of teaching has been completely reorganized. For example, I had never really known how to come into Motivation. I always knew Motivation was there, but I’d never known how to really bring it into the classroom. With the LCC guidelines it is easier to incorporate Motivation and actually use it as a driving force for the future learning.

“I have been trying to eliminate a WHY-question from my ‘brain dictionary’”

Were there any impacts on your personal life during or after the course?

After the course I have started meditation ;) Also, I have been trying to eliminate a WHY-question from my ‘brain dictionary’, and I find correcting myself immediately after I have used it. It really makes a big difference.

“The LCC has finally taught me how to actually concentrate on the musician’s knowledge, which is, the music itself”

How do you describe your professional development after the course?

I feel that my experience with teaching has only just started. For instance, I had always been scared of ‘no-book’ courses simply because I had no idea how to create a non-existing syllabus. My past approach was like teaching a musician how to read notes. The LCC has finally taught me how to actually concentrate on the musician’s knowledge, which is, the music itself.

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