

# A transition to Language Coach

Interview with Bianca Oliveira Mela Furlan, ESL teacher, Brazil

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

*I’ve been teaching ESL since 2008. At the beginning, I’d teach in private language schools. However, in 2013 I envisaged the possibility of teaching privately online English learners and that was when I founded my small online language school called Showtime – Ensino Online de Idiomas. Nowadays I count on 4 more professionals who work with me and we not only teach, but also translate, review texts in English, train people to perform well in job interviews in English and apply level assessment tests in companies. In order to provide clients with different and more personalized approaches to learning, I’ve been taking courses such as the Neurolanguage Coaching, Mindfulness and NLP.*

## **How did you find the course?**

*Personally, the LCC came to me at the right moment. I took the course while we were facing the COVID19 partial lockdown in Brazil and as the course was a marathon (we used to have*



*sessions with Rachel every day for 18 days), our brains were bombarded with new information. The feeling of “new doors are opening” was present and it was crucial to go through the lockdown keeping a positive attitude. I had some personal and professional insights which I’ll bring with me for the rest of my life.*

## **Which highlights or insights did you gain from the LCC?**

*The main insight LCC gave me was the possibility to transfer Portuguese Language knowledge. Although Portuguese is my native language, I had never imagined that I could be able to help English speakers with my Portuguese, but considering how the coaching sessions happen, how we deal with the learner’s objectives and with the contents that we should deliver, I realized that coaching Portuguese is indeed possible and that I could perform a good job.*

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

*Certainly the neuroscience knowledge. Learners can improve their attention, their sense of autonomy and responsibility and their self-confidence during the learning process. The sessions are stress-free and brain-friendly, so it looks perfect to adults!*

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

*I can say I'm a happier person at the moment. Seeing my learners proud of themselves, learning in an easy way and knowing that I could contribute to this make me really happy and fulfilled.*

### **How has the course changed the way you deliver a language course?**

*The first session with the client is really one of the process highlights. We get to know them deeply and we align motivation and goals in a full-of-dopamine way! Moreover, the way grammar is delivered is also a differential. Coach and coachee go through this step in a very brain-friendly learning way, which provides the client with understanding and autonomy to apply the knowledge in real-life situations.*

### **Were there any impacts on your learners?**

*It's lovely to see how individuals can advance in language learning without receiving that conventional “teacher-student” model of teaching. Being a Neurolanguage Coach shows me that everyone has a high potential to acquire a language. Everything is inside themselves and we are here as the intermediates, or the GPSs, while they are the drivers of the whole process. It's highly gratifying!*

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