

Vietnam Teacher Personas Project

Tim Moore

British Council Ho Chi Minh City

SEAMEO HCMC

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Workshop aims

- To raise awareness of what adult Vietnamese learners perceive to be the ideal foreign EFL teacher in Vietnam
- To introduce the methodology, stages and aims of the Personas research project
- To feedback the research results
- To provide an opportunity for EFL practitioners in Vietnam to reflect on their classroom practice and whether they are addressing learner requirements

Discussion

What is a personas?

What do you think makes an ideal teacher?

Key Objectives

To identify the persona of the ideal EFL teacher of adult learners in Vietnam as perceived by Vietnamese adult learners

To get a deeper understanding of the needs and expectations of Vietnamese students in order to:

- inform teachers about what students want and expect in terms of behaviour, lesson and activity types
- find out more about the local cultural context in which we teach
- give valuable insights to managers about what customers and looking for
- inform and influence the INSETT training programme
- help teachers adapt the courses to better meet the needs of students
- give teachers new to Vietnam background information about the local learning context

Research

Qualitative research

Anecdote circles training by AC Nielsen for British Council staff in HCM/HN

6 x anecdotes circles run in HN/HCMC in 3 age groups in each centre

Translation of scripts(outsourced)

Key themes from circles drawn out (Project Team)



Research

Quantitative Research

Survey drawn up and conducted with 180 adult learners GE, BE, IELTS prep Int + from HCM/HN

Findings ranked and grouped according to British Council teaching competencies

Commentary to explain comments written



Teaching Competencies

Classroom management

The ability to plan, control and facilitate interaction in the classroom that is appropriate to the activity and promotes learning and takes into account different needs and abilities of learners and demonstrates an awareness of EO&D

Course and Lesson planning

The ability to prepare courses and individual lessons that fulfil course needs, employ appropriate methodology and meet learners needs. In addition, lessons demonstrate cultural awareness and reflect the diversity of host country and UK

Teaching Competencies

Subject Knowledge

This refers to the ability to analyse and describe language systems (lexis, discourse, grammar and phonology) and language use (through spoken and written text) and the ability to communicate this knowledge effectively and in ways appropriate to the learners

Understanding Your Learners

This refers to the understanding that a teacher demonstrates towards their learners and the learning process

Your thoughts

In groups write 4 or 5 sentences related to your given competency

An ideal teacher is/does/has

.....

Ranking activity

- 1) Look at the quotes from learners for your group's competency. Are any of their ideas the same?
- 2) Now rank them according to importance.

Findings and Self-reflection

Walk around and read the data and analysis by British Council Vietnam teachers.

As you do, complete the handout the trainer will give you, the aim of which is to encourage you to become more reflective practitioners.

Conclusions from Triangulation

Be experienced and well qualified

Be enthusiastic and friendly and know how to motivate students.
Friendly is being able to connect to all students in class & appropriate games which foster a fun study environment.

Be dedicated, which means understanding the strengths & weaknesses of each student and provide constructive & open feedback frequently.

Have a good understanding of, and be well adapted to, Vietnamese culture.

Provide, encourage and enforce an English speaking environment

Conclusions from Triangulation

Set up and manage a classroom environment that is active where all students are eager to learn

Motivate and help students to be confident in using English

Teach courses that incorporate a range of skills lessons, with a particular focus on developing speaking and listening skills.

Be able to supplement and adapt the course book appropriately to the needs of the learners, incorporating a variety of activities suitable for the age group being taught

Teach in a way that is easy to understand through planning, signposting and executing lessons that are logical and meet the needs of the learners

Future Projects

The Ideal Vietnamese Learner: student and teacher perspectives

Aim: to allow teachers to engineer an approach that best fits the Vietnamese context, exceeds customer expectations while adhering to sound pedagogical principles



Questions and Feedback

Please complete the feedback form

If you have any specific enquiries regarding this project or the British Council's work in Vietnam please contact

tim.moore@britishcouncil.org.vn