

Peer filming in task-based language teacher education

3. Design briefs and critical incidents

This activity was designed for first year students in our Masters in Teaching English programme at the University of Nice. It involves peer filming, where student teachers watch each other teach an activity in a secondary school EFL class and make video recordings using their smartphones. They then select an episode for discussion in their university class, and write up their analysis in a reflective paper.

The peer filming process is presented in three short videos:

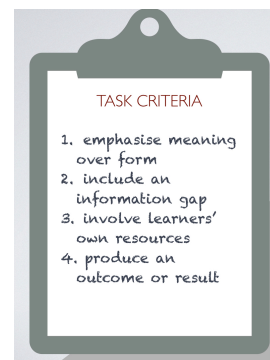
1. Background to peer filming
2. Peer filming in the EFL classroom: how it works
3. **Design briefs and critical incidents**

This video builds on the three main stages of peer filming:

1. the use of a design brief to create classroom tasks,
2. the recording of a 'quick and dirty' record of the activity,
3. the discussion of critical incidents to consolidate student teacher learning.

It presents

- criteria for assessing language tasks from a TBLT perspective (Erlam 2013, 2015)
- ways of selecting critical incidents (Breen et al 2001).



We conclude with some recommendations for this aspect of peer filming in language teacher education.

Further reading

- Breen, M. P., Hird, B., Milton, M., Oliver, R., & Thwaite, A. (2001). Making sense of language teaching: Teachers' principles and classroom practices. *Applied linguistics*, 22(4): 470-501.
- Erlam, R. (2015). 'I'm still not sure what a task is': Teachers designing language tasks. *Language Teaching Research*.
- Erlam, R. (2013). Listing and comparing tasks in the language classroom: Examples of Willis and Willis's (2007) taxonomy in practice. *The New Zealand Language Teacher*, 39: 7-14.
- Samuda, V. 2005. *Expertise in second language pedagogic task design*. In Johnson, K. *Expertise in language teaching*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Shona Whyte

<https://wp.me/p28EmH-16z>