

Bringing Pragmatics to the Classroom

Call for contributions

(Editors: Jim Ronald, Kenneth Fordyce, Carol Rinnert) Deadline: End March, 2012

This is a call for contributions to a teacher resource book, the third in the JALT Pragmatics SIG *Pragmatics Resources* series, focusing on improving communication by paying attention to the pragmatics of a second language. It will cover a full range of pragmatic features, aim to be for language teachers at all levels, and give learners input and practice to help them become better at using language in context. This book will include activities which:

- raise learners' awareness of the importance of the appropriate use of language
- enable learners to use language in context
- provide the language needed to function effectively in the L2
- make textbook materials more authentic and relevant for students
- help teachers convey the intrigue and enjoyment of pragmatics to learners

We imagine that many of you have developed or adapted classroom activities that help learners gain a better understanding of how pragmatic components of language work, that help them use language more naturally, or that address specific problems or weaknesses in textbooks or classroom activities. We want this book to be a way to share your activities to benefit other teachers. Please consider submitting teaching ideas on any of the topics or areas listed below (or others which you feel to be relevant) – and please pass on this call to anyone you think might be interested.

Conversational style	Irony; humour; laughter; “loaded” words
Cooperative principle and maxims	Politeness
Discourse markers	Referring expressions, distancing
Email/Messaging/Social media interaction: smileys, punctuation, font choices	Speech acts, and parts of speech acts: invitations; offers; greetings; apologies;
Expressing and responding to opinions	requests; compliments; refusals; complaints
Eye contact; body language; <i>aizuchi</i> ; gestures; silence	Telephone conversation openings, closings Turn-taking: IRF sequences; topic shifting;
Formality: titles, nicknames; slang, dialect use	interruptions
Indirectness	Vague language; hedging; hesitation;
Intonation; stress; repetition	softening

Contributions should not exceed 1,000 words of text and be no longer than 4 pages long in total, including any references, appendices or materials. They may be as short as one page. For each contribution, you should include the following (see the two sample activities, which can be used as templates):

- Activity name
- Learner level
- Length of the activity (in minutes)
- Resources used
- Goals (objectives of the activity)
- Procedure (numbered)
- Caveats and Options
- Rationale
- (Suggested answer key/ examples)

For sample activity templates and submission details, see the JALT Pragmatics SIG website: <http://www.pragsig.org/> If you have any questions, contact us at pragactivities@gmail.com