

*Awake and Alive:  
Designing Creative and Effective Speaking Warm-up Exercises*



**Presenter:** Leanne Cameron B.A.

**Affiliation:** Graduate Student (California State University)  
2009-2010 Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (Poland)  
Jan Kochanowski University, Department of Modern Languages

**Workshop time:** 10:00-11:00

**Abstract:**

Reading teachers, in classroom warm-ups, often seek to expose students the themes to be presented in class in a variety of ways, including through a “writing to read” exercise in which students are given a topic and a few minutes to write. The activity serves as a preview of the day’s activities and a way to jump start thought processes. A similar tactic works just as well in the speaking and listening classroom. Creative, effective warm-up exercises that connect to the larger lesson and target both the vocabulary and themes presented in the coming class serve not only to prepare students but also to increase comfort and fluency in the language.

**Biodata:**

Leanne Cameron is a graduate student at California State University, Sacramento, pursuing a Master’s degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Foreign Languages. She has taught a variety of students, from English summer camp students in Russia, Italy, and Poland, to international students both at her home university and the University of California at Davis.

## *Preparing Your English Learners For “Life-Long Learning”*



**Presenter:** Althea Przybylo, J.D., M.A., M.A.

**Affiliation:** IATEFL Poland Learner Autonomy & Teacher Development SIG

**Workshop time:** 11:00-12:00

### **Abstract:**

The ability to learn and develop intellectually throughout life is essential for all Poles living in today's fast & ever-changing Global World. But such **“life-long learning”** (continuing to learn long after your students leave you) is impossible without the mastery of **“independent learning skills”**. These skills are especially important when trying to acquire – and then sustain – proficiency in English! Join us while we explore concepts such as **“autonomous learning,” “learning-to learn”** and **“classroom self-access centers”**. Learn ways you can incorporate these values into your teaching experience. **Remember: you have a profoundly important role to play in Poland's future!**

### **Biodata:**

Althea Przybylo, J.D., M.A., M.A. was born in Chicago, but her roots in Poland are deep: all four of her grandparents were born in “Galicia” (and immigrated to America when Poland was occupied by Austria, Prussia & Russia) From Babcia Paruch, Althea learned an important lesson: *Nigdy nie zapomnij o Polsce!*

From birth until 1999, Althea lived in the U.S. and was a lawyer, a judge and a politician (an elected State Senator). She has a Doctorate in Law, an M.A. in Political Science and an M.A. in Administration from Harvard University.

For the last 10 years, Althea has lived and worked in Poland as an English Teacher, Business Skills Trainer & Leadership Coach. She is currently co-owner of Przybylo's White Eagle Restaurant (a large Polish-American restaurant in Chicago) and the owner of “The Althea Institute” (in Debica). She is proud to be the Coordinator of IATEFL Poland's **Learner Autonomy & Teacher Development SIG**.



## *Exploiting your textbook*

**Presenter:** Iwona Rybak, M.A.  
**Affiliation:** Teacher Training College, Sandomierz  
**Workshop time:** 12:45-13:45

### **Abstract:**

It has been found out that using the same textbook teaching materials experienced teachers can fill in almost twice the amount of classroom time as their less experienced colleagues. How do they do it? This presentation will outline ways of exploiting the full potential of the textbook reading and listening texts, pictures and exercises. We will experiment with looking at the textbook from a different angle. The participants will have a chance to put some of the ideas into practice.

### **Biodata:**

Iwona Rybak is a graduate of the philology department in UAM Poznań, a teacher of English and methodology at the Sandomierz Teacher Training College as well as a textbook writer for Wydawnictwo Szkolne PWN. She has run training sessions for INSETT and CODN as a certified trainer for teachers of Young Learners.