

First Tuesday
Dear Everybody,

All ↗

I apologise for this bizarre letter layout but I am doing it this way because my left hand margin has gone out of sight, so centering seems to be one solution, though possibly not the most elegant one. What Michael Rundell, editor in chief of the Macmillan Learner dictionary, says about the boundaries between word categories getting blurred is clearly true the more we learn about the way language really works. This is why I offered you that "verbifying" exercise ~~late~~ late yesterday afternoon. I don't think we dealt with these verbs: to cheek some one

to lip some one
to finger some one
to bottom out.....

I wonder what your state of mind is this morning. Have you played your ear into the language? How are you dealing with tiredness on what can be a very intensive programme? As Simon said On Sunday night we really don't want to be teaching the walking dead by Thursday next week. Zombies don't learn well!

We are a group of 12 and I collected in these sets of wishes from the barter activity yesterday pm:

Eight people said they wanted to enrich their vocabulary
Seven people want to learn activities for their own classrooms

Four want to improve fluency
Three want to gain confidence in using the language
Two want work on writing
Two want to have some fun

etc. -

It is clear to me that there are people in this group with a definite wish to work on techniques as well as language and I must take this into account. However, I also need to remember that some of you have not expressed a wish in this direction and all of you have signed up to a language course, maybe, in part, to get away from over-focus on teaching techniques.

This morning we will work on the most important exercise of the course which I call Stealing from Natives. This will be a staple activity we do each day.

It is late and "so to bed" as the Bard's characters would say.

Warmly yours,
Mario

Mario

** which I have put right.*