

**Mario Rinvoluceri**

**From:** "Mario Rinvoluceri" <marioinvoluceri@freeola.com>  
**To:** "Renata Fernandes" <r[REDACTED]@[REDACTED].br>  
**Sent:** 26 February 2003 11:09  
**Subject:** E Talk

Dear Everybody,

I guess I was not clear enough about the concrete proposals I am making when I wrote the opening few words in this "chat".

Maybe the quickest way to get you into the sort of mindset I am coming from is to ask you to go and have a look at an article written by some people in Barcelona : **Using L 1 in the EFL Classroom**, by Clanfield and Foord. You will find this under Major article in **Humansing Language Teaching**, at [www.hlomag.co.uk](http://www.hlomag.co.uk).

. You need to go to the current issue, January 2003.

These two authors offer a set of really neat L1/L2 exercises that they use with their classes in Barcelona.

What Sheelagh Deller and I are offering you in our book **Using the Mother Tongue** is a wide range of L1/L2 activities.

Take, for instance, vocabulary revision:

You have a set of items you want the students to revise, maybe from the coursebook.

Get the students in pairs and standing up. ( more energy)

Suppose one of the new words that needs fixing in their minds is *butterfly*, then get each pair to have a contrastive dialogue like this:

St 1: *Borboleta?*

St 2: *Butterfly! Butterfly!*

St 1: *Butterfly, borboleta, borboleta, butterfly, butterfly.*

St 2: ( shouting) **Borboleta, borboleta, borboleta!!!**

St 1: ( whispering) butterfly, butterfly, borboleta?

etc....

This contrastive revision activity does these things:

- it gives the students voice and allows them to use their energy
- It fixes the meaning of "butterfly" in a once and for all way.
- it helps them to contrast the phonologies of English and Portuguese.
- It allows fidgetty students to up and move.

Try this easy exercise in your class and let us know how it worked.

Yeah and by the way, if you go to [www.hlomag.co.uk](http://www.hlomag.co.uk)

have a look at another of the main articles:

**Where's the Treason in Translation?**

**I'd love to hear more voices from that huge place called Brasil. I like this chat room experience.**

Mario

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