

Tuesday 29th of July

Dear Second-Day People,

You remember we did an expectations barter exercise yesterday morning?

There were 8 slips with *I want to improve my English*. This means that half the people in the group have this as an aim.

There were 5 slips which spoke of *sharing ideas within the group, learning from each other*.

There were 6 slips that spoke of *learning new approaches, of hearing about recent research, "I want to hear about teaching concepts which were not covered during my teacher training"....*

There were 14 slips that declared a wish to *learn nitty-gritty classroom techniques that can be practically applied* in this and that kind of class, ranging from small kids to adults.

There were nearly a dozen slips which do not fall into large blocks, though some of them are really interesting:

*I find my ways of teaching old-fashioned and boring for myself and for the pupils*

*I'd like to feel freer in my teaching* (free from what, I wonder)

*I would like to overcome my shyness*

From the above exercise, I guess practicality is high on your expectation lists- nearly all of you want stuff you can use. This, of course, does not mean ignoring someone like Sebastian's chunked <sup>up</sup> overview needs and wishes.

I enjoyed our first day: you gave me a lot of energy which was just as well as I had 3 hours more teaching to after 3.30 pm. (one session here and one session for staff on our children's courses at Kent College. Thank you for your energy.

By the way tomorrow evening we eat together at the Beckett Pub down in town. This is a way of being together a bit differently, with food and drink. It is good, too, for you to escape from the ghetto for a couple of hours.

Warmly yours, Mario

