This seminar will illustrate teaching methodologies and activities designed for both Secondary High School and University learners. The focus is on the learning and use of strategies, techniques, skills and competences that may turn out to be useful not just when studying, but also in life at large. They are cross-curricular, match theory and practice, and can be exploited any time students face a problem, whatever the subject or the situation.

The activities presented try to answer the need to offer learners authentic stimuli, while guiding them, at the same time, to overcome some of the most widespread morpho-syntactic language problems. Capitalizing on the psychological principle that everyone prefers to speak about her/himself rather than about other people, however great they might be, and also on the principle that Learning through effort lasts longer the activities aim at fostering both receptive and productive language skills through integrated tasks. Some activities are based on the problem solving principle, on the diverging thought, on Bloom’s taxonomies, on ‘chunks’ and not isolated words whenever possible, exploiting both learning and acquisition principles.

The activities suggested give special relevance to: pronunciation, presented through the symbols of the International Phonetic Association; translation from Italian into English, considering that Italian students, who live in a context of English as a foreign language, think in Italian and then translate their ideas into the target language, English; contemporary issues, for instance communication, a crucial aspect of today’s life.

Erricoberto Pepicelli teaches English at the University of Sannio. He is the author of many publications in Italian and English, a journalist, a teacher trainer and an expert in linguistics and glottodidactics. He studied at many foreign universities, both in the UK (University of Leeds) and in the USA as a Fulbrighter (University of California, Los Angeles and University of New York). He runs English language courses in Italy and Italian language courses abroad. At the moment his interest is focused on the contribution of neurolinguistics to foreign language teaching.

Elena Intorcia teaches English at Secondary High School level and at the University of Sannio. She participated in various teaching experiences abroad and in many national and international conventions about English language teaching. She studied as a Fulbrighter in the USA (University of Illinois, Chicago) and has contributed to experimental projects focused on the teaching of English as a foreign language to deaf students. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Naples “L’Orientale”.

The event is open to TESOL-Italy members (readers and principals). For who are not TESOL-Italy members for the current year, a free promotional membership card will be issued. Conditions of this card will be explained on site by the local group coordinator.