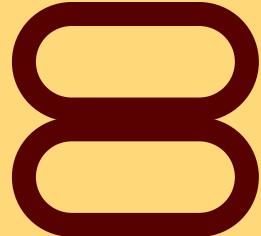
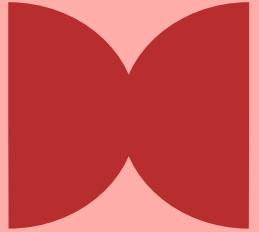




Cat got your student's tongue?

LVCA Mini Conference
June 28, 2025



Charlotte Harmon



After graduating from UVA with a degree in Classics, I taught English in Turkey for two years.

Volunteer

I am a fellow tutor at LVCA and teach a civics class for the citizenship program.

Work

I have worked with Cville Tulips and now teach an ESOL class at PVCC.

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Why is speaking difficult for some students?

- Limited opportunities outside of class
- It's humbling and they will make mistakes
- Bad experiences
- Some people are just nervous or shy
- Are there any other reasons you have experienced?



Limited opportunities outside of class

- Practice a scenario and then go on a field trip
- Encourage your student to set aside one night a week to practice speaking English with their friends or family
- Don't forget about LVCA conversation groups!



It's humbling and they will make mistakes

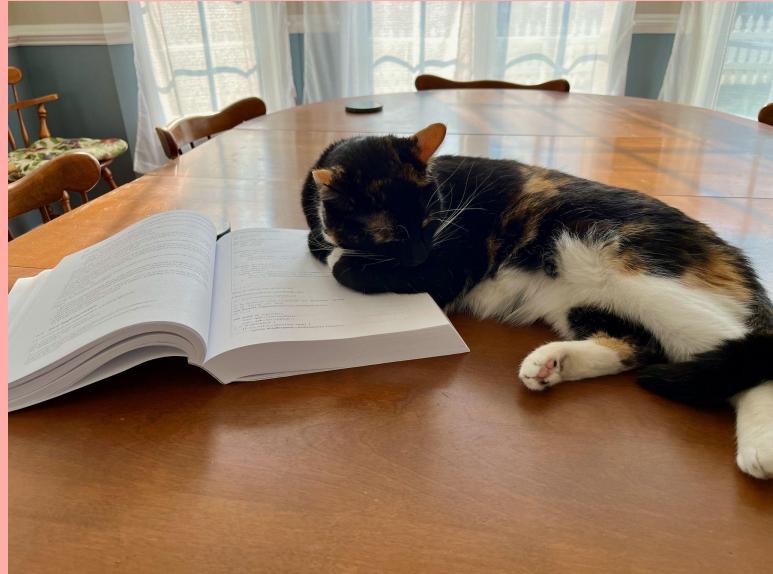
- Talk about having a **growth mindset** with your student

“How to Develop a Growth Mindset to learn English”



Bad experiences/some people are just nervous or shy

- Try learning some words from your student in their first language
- A kind, encouraging presence in someone's life can mean more to them than the material you teach them



Set your student up for success

- Learning is a skill
- Slow down! I mean really sloooow doowwnn when learning new words or concepts
- *“Before we own a word, we need multiple exposures – for recognition around 20 times; for production, nearly 60 times. To provide that exposure to their students, teachers need a variety of activities.”*
- Paul Nation, Teaching and Learning Vocabulary



Let's try speaking!



Break yourself
into groups based
on your student's
level

Beginner

- What do you see?
- What is happening?

*use only the present progressive tense

Intermediate

- What do you see?
- What is happening?

*use the past progressive tense, or mix tenses

Advanced

- What do you see?
- Make up a story

*include transition words

As a warm up



For a longer activity

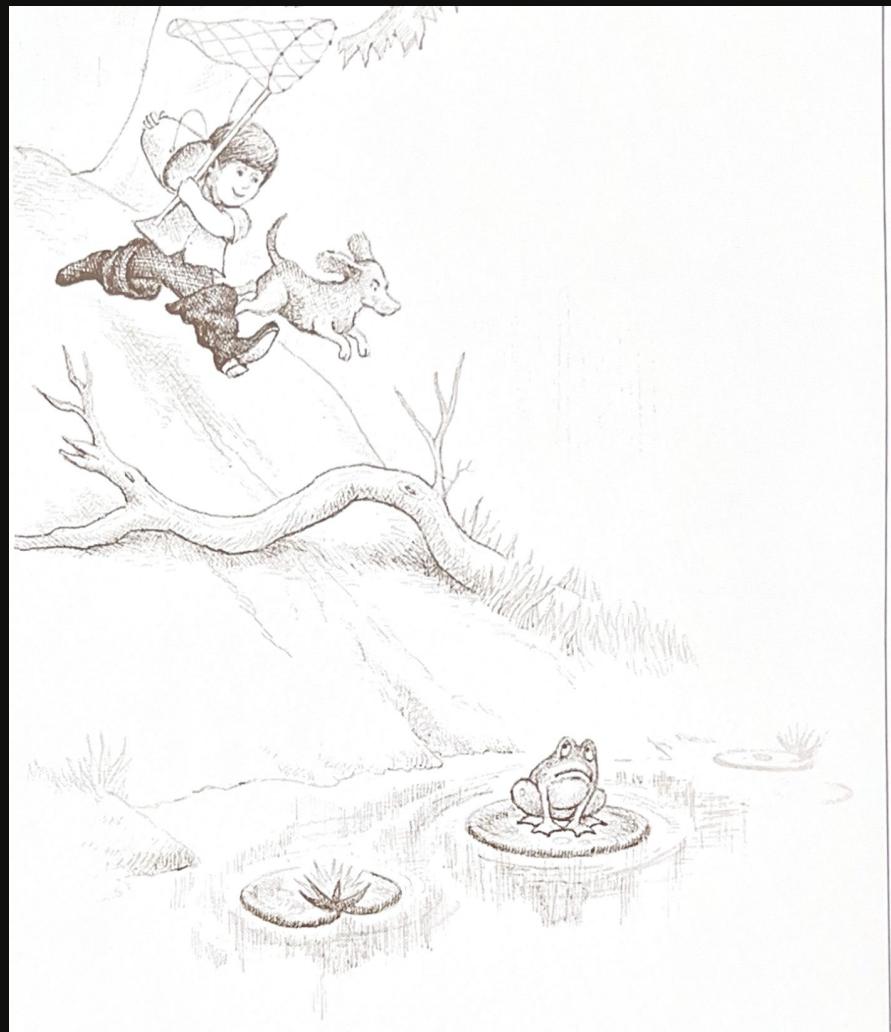


“A Boy, a Dog, and a Frog” by Mercer Mayer





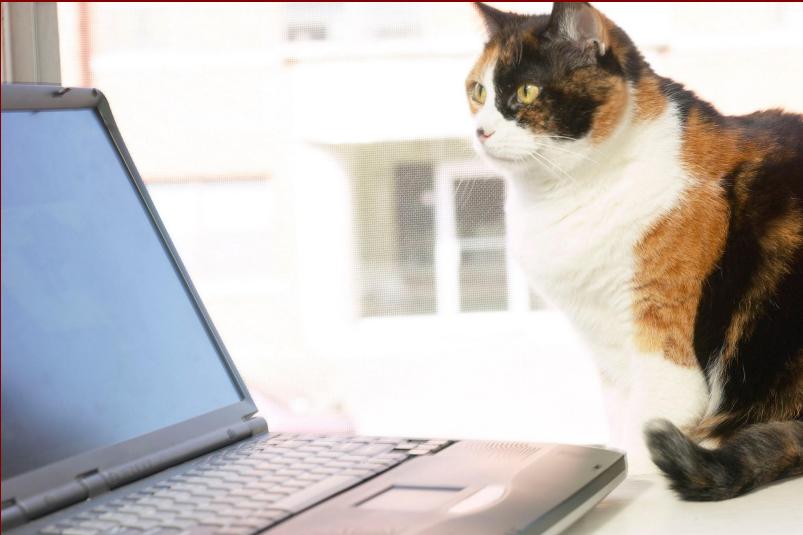
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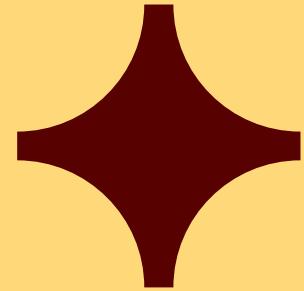


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Questions?





Before you go...

