ESAP Conference
Ruhr-Universität Bochum on 13 May 2017

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Name: **Rheanne Anderson**

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Institution:
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Biography

Rheanne Anderson is currently teaching in the Foundations program at Nazarbayev University in Kazakhstan. She is from Canada, but has spent 17 years teaching English in Japan, Korea, Poland, China, Canada, Vietnam and was a teacher trainer in Dubai, UAE. Her research interests lie in structural scaffolding of English writing, in the applied teaching of pronunciation as well as motivation and general teaching at lower levels. Rheanne holds a Master's Degree in Second Language Acquisition through the University of Toronto.

Workshop:
Structuring ideas: explicit instruction to achieve an essay

Abstract:

Writing in English is a difficult skill for many EAP students. There are many contributing factors to this problem, but one of the biggest is that English writing comes with a culture-specific view of idea organization and evidence-based argumentation that can be very different from students' first language's cultural writing practices. Furthering previous work undertaken by the presenter on explicit instruction of the unique writing practices in English, this presentation presents cooperative learning activities that help students to organize their ideas and reduce their anxiety when writing in English. It outlines the steps to move from basic paragraph construction to the larger task of essay construction. Participants will discuss how to support students of any L1 through explicit instruction to help them engage in EAP writing practices. Through an example curriculum on structured writing (Horn, 1968), attendees will learn how to approach writing instruction for teaching the basics of English writing that need to be present at any level of language. The presentation will use worksheets that outline the drafting steps for process writing, which build student awareness of structure. Feedback that reinforces organization and structural requirements will also be discussed.