

FONDAZZJONI GĦAL SERVIZZI EDUKATTIVI

Foundation for Educational Services



Workshop Number 11

Sandro Spiteri

Saturday

Language: English

Assessment of writing / Assessment for Writing

Workshop Description

For many teachers, assessing writing is a lonely, thankless task, which students hardly appreciate and that does not seem to lead to improved writing. For many students, the assessment of their writing 'awards' them with a grade or general comment that has little meaning, or points out the usual spelling and grammar errors that recur time after time. It does not show them what they have done well, and how to improve their writing. For many parents, assessing writing is something teachers do, and in which they do not seem to have a role.

This workshop will show how to transform the assessment of writing into a positive learning tool, that:

- parents can participate in to help their children
- students look forward to and learn from
- changes teachers from judges of writers to partners in writing.

Bio-Note

Sandro Spiteri taught for 13 years in state and non-state schools. As head of department he was in charge of staff training, and syllabus design and development for Maltese and Religion in an independent secondary school. He has a Masters degree in the teaching of writing and is a pre-service and in-service teacher trainer in Maltese methodology and lecturer in Maltese for Specific Purposes. From 2001 as the National Co-ordinator of the Institute for Child and Parent Learning Support in the Foundation for Educational Services (FES), he led national programmes to establish and expand family literacy and parent empowerment provision as well as to assist schools to develop in-house basic skills provision. He was also the Project Co-ordinator for the P.E.Fa.L. EU-funded project, which was the first Grundtvig thematic project co-ordinated by a Maltese institution. Sandro is also the founder and Head of the Malta Writing Programme that is now within the FES, and has led and participated in Writing workshops for student teachers, teachers, school administrators and parents. He is now Senior Executive within the FES, with responsibility for training, research, development and international projects.