ABSTRACT

Proposed poster session presentation:

"EFL Journal Writing: An Educational Tool for the 21st Century"

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In college EFL writing classes, journal writing can be used for several purposes:

1. To help develop fluency in a non-threatening environment and to shift the focus away from grammar and corrections.

2. To help establish positive relationships by encouraging dialogs between students and teacher, student to student, and students in groups.

3. To provide feedback on students' classroom experiences and the learning process which can be pedagogically useful for the teacher.

Examples of students' journal writing will be displayed as well as research results which indicate that students in a writing class enjoy interactive activities, such as peer-editing and follow-up (feedback). The presenters suggest that journal writing should be developed further as a productive technique and should be included in programs for teacher training.