



Webinar

Wordless Texts as a Tool for Foreign Language Teaching

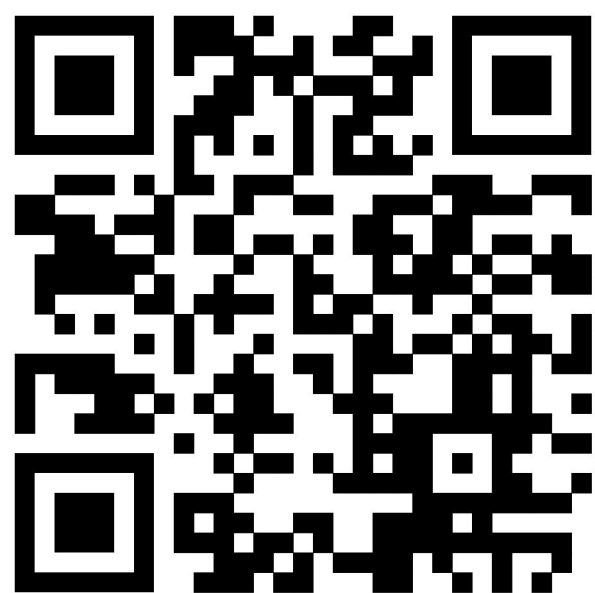


Abstract:

Wordless texts, or else picturebooks or short video clips that do not contain any language, are increasingly being acknowledged as a valuable tool for enhancing students' active engagement in classroom dialogue and developing their oral production. This talk will draw on a large-scale Horizon 2020 project called DIALLS ("Dialogue and Argumentation for Cultural Literacy Learning"), as well as follow-up studies, in order to explore the role of wordless texts further. This work supports teachers in enacting dialogic classroom interactions around a wordless text on a topic that promotes students' cultural literacy, namely their values of empathy, tolerance and inclusion. An important insight from these studies is that students with a different home language participated in lessons around wordless texts a lot more than in other lessons. The absence of the language barrier, therefore, seems to have enabled them to "read" the story and use their available language to narrate it. This talk aims to shed light on the potential of wordless texts for the language development of students of multiple linguistic identities.

Speaker:

Dr Maria Vrikki is a researcher and part-time lecturer at the University of Nicosia. Her research mainly focuses on creating dialogic environments in a range of classroom settings, as well as on collaborative teacher professional development models. Recently, her work has focused on the use of wordless texts (picturebooks, short videos) for promoting students' values of tolerance, empathy and inclusion. Maria has a PhD and an MSc in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition from the University of Oxford. She also holds a BA in English and Linguistics from Queen Mary, University of London. She has worked on numerous research projects at the University of Cambridge, the University of Cyprus and the University of Nicosia. She has over 30 publications in peer-reviewed journals and edited books, and has been presenting her work at international conferences since 2013.



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Saturday

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Microsoft Teams

Meeting ID: 391 308 852 426

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