

JALT Matsuyama Presentation

Scheduled for July 21, 2024

Abstract

Developing an English speaking anxiety questionnaire: Face-to-face vs. Online

Speaking English as a foreign language is considered a priority, yet it is a daunting task for many English language learners (Wang, 2021; Maher & King, 2022). This induces speaking anxiety and hinders learners from performing in the classroom. Despite efforts to develop strategies to reduce anxiety levels, the diverse classroom formats pose challenges in identifying where students experience speaking anxiety. In Japan, the anxiety levels between face-to-face and online classes remain under-researched. Therefore, a questionnaire was developed to investigate Japanese undergraduates' speaking anxiety in face-to-face and online learning contexts. The presenter will share how the questionnaire was developed from past literature, how the questions were designed to focus on the learners' experiences, and the findings of the questionnaire. Educators who are interested in learning more about their students and how to create low-anxiety classroom environments are welcome to participate.

Bio

Emily Choong is a lecturer at Utsunomiya University and a Master's candidate. Her current research interests include foreign language anxiety, speaking skills, and language attitudes. She has been actively involved in JALT holding local and national-level membership positions, and volunteering at conferences. This year, she is one of the conference co-chairs for JALT2024 in Shizuoka. Emily is also originally from Malaysia, meaning her idea of treating herself when not working is having afternoon tea or a fun-filled foodie day out.