

# Best Strategies for Strengthening Your Students' COMMUNICATIVE PROFICIENCY in the Target Language (Grades 6-12)



A Unique One-Day Live Online Seminar Presented by

**Tracy Rucker**

Award-Winning World Language Teacher and Presenter

**Specifically Designed for World Language Educators Serving Grades 6-12: Classroom Teachers, Department Heads, Curriculum Specialists, and Administrators**

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**Engaging, innovative, time-saving techniques to increase communicative proficiency** in the target language learning environments

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**Ready-to-use activities, tools and resources** that promote time in the target language and active negotiation of meaning

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**Proven strategies for using technology** to enhance target language proficiency

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**Practical strategies to leverage ACTFL's core practices**, integrated performance assessments and oral proficiency strategies

## LIVE ONLINE SEMINARS

**December 8**

**9 AM Eastern**, 8 AM Central,  
7 AM Mountain, 6 AM Pacific

**January 6**

**9 AM Central**, 8 AM Mountain,  
7 AM Pacific, 10 AM Eastern

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CEUs and Graduate Credit Available  
See page 6 for details

### CAN'T ATTEND?

Order the recorded version  
and take the seminar online at  
your convenience (see page 6)

*'Tracy was very high energy  
and had great resources. I  
have a few ideas I can't wait  
to try.'*

JACQUELINE HEITLINGER,  
SPANISH TEACHER

# Ten Key Benefits of Attending

*“Mr. Rucker provided with a variety of tips and tools to use in our classroom. Very useful and innovative strategies.”*

– IBIS LO,  
SPANISH TEACHER



## Who Should Attend

World Language Educators Serving Grades 6-12: Classroom Teachers, Department Heads, Curriculum Specialists, and Administrators

- 1. Increase Effective Communication in the Target Language**  
Discover innovative, highly effective activities and tools that develop communicative proficiency in meaningful and culturally-relevant ways
- 2. Develop Cultural Competency Through Authentic Resources and Multi-modes of Authentic Communication**  
Discover highly effective strategies for exposing learners to diverse practices, products, and perspectives to address cultural competency
- 3. Cultivate an Engaging, Inclusive Language Learning Environment**  
Explore practical strategies that build upon student strengths and fosters inclusion ... Help all language learners feel safe, connected and supported in the learning process
- 4. Maximize Comprehensible Input Strategies to Hook Students**  
Learn how to weave comprehensible input, oral circumlocution practices and the most effective tech tools in ways that immerse your students in language that is comprehensible, compelling, and relevant
- 5. Leverage Differentiation to Reach All Learners**  
Empower students to thrive by focusing on what they can do ... Differentiating tasks motivate students to use resources and tech tools that help them communicate more effectively ... Here's how
- 6. Focus Student-Centered Activities on Cultures and Choice**  
Discover a variety of strategies to increase global awareness by focusing on interculturality and purposeful diversification of student-centered tasks
- 7. Enhance Interpretive, Interpersonal and Presentational Skills**  
Communicative proficiency comes from exposure and practice ... Experience a wealth of compelling and relevant efficient strategies to maximize use of the target language in personalized ways
- 8. Learn Classroom-Proven Ways to Increase Exposure to the Target Language**  
Align practical strategies with ACTFL's Core Practices ... Discover engaging community building activities to optimize interpretive communication skills and accountability for your students
- 9. Incorporate Effective and Engaging Assessment Tools to Advance Language Acquisition**  
Learn how to effectively incorporate circling and circumlocution as powerful scaffolding tools so that students of all levels can demonstrate communicative skills as they learn to fill gaps with rejoinders and connector phrases
- 10. Receive an Extensive Digital World Language Resource Handbook**  
Participants will receive an extensive digital world language resource handbook specifically created for this seminar containing all of the strategies and high quality resources presented in this seminar ... Bonus downloads that can be modified for your own classroom use will also be shared

# Outstanding Strategies You Can Use Immediately

## What You Will Learn ...

- **Meaningful activities and engaging learning scenarios that help students develop communicative proficiency** by interpreting and exchanging information, negotiating meaning, and expressing ideas with confidence
- **Highly effective ways to adapt and implement impactful language instruction** in learning environments
- **Differentiation techniques** that contribute to building student confidence while appropriately challenging all students to focus on meaning and communicative proficiency
- **Purposeful questioning strategies** to hone interpretive reading and listening skills while engaging with authentic materials
- **Innovative strategies for leveraging ACTFL's core practices** to promote communicative proficiency and interculturality for learning environments
- **Engaging interpersonal tasks** that promote real exchange of information and a true purpose for communication
- **How to move from interpersonal to presentational communication modes in ways** that promote real exchange of information and a true purpose for communication
- **Proven strategies to accelerate communication** by focusing on culturally-rich receptive variables – reading and listening
- **Highly practical classroom-vetted strategies** that will motivate students to want to use the target language
- **Innovative ways to foster can-do mindsets** ... Scaffolding vocabulary and grammar that challenges students to listen with the intent to understand
- **Hands-on strategies and tips** that encourage students to take risks and demonstrate proficiency skills
- **Technology tools and authentic resources** that allow students to travel the world virtually and interact in impactful ways with people, language, and culture
- **Timesaving tips and tools** to provide meaningful and consistent feedback that contributes to student engagement and growth in proficiency



*'Best training I've ever had for language acquisition'*

– HILARY TURNBULL, DIRECTOR OF WORLD LANGUAGE HS

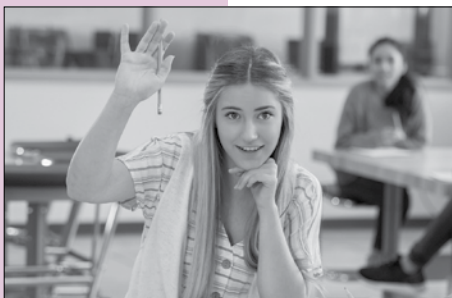
## Practical Ideas and Strategies

This outstanding **NEW** and engaging seminar by award-winning world language teacher, **Tracy Rucker**, has been specifically designed to help increase your students' communicative proficiency in the target language. The seminar focuses on practical ways to foster authentic, communication, student-centered tasks, interculturality, and effective differentiation. Each strategy and idea will be thoughtfully considered in terms of how it can be leveraged or adapted in a learning environment.

Tracy will share numerous authentic resources that reflect identity and multiple perspectives from target cultures. Throughout the day, you will receive a wealth of "right back to the classroom" strategies and learning scenarios that will help your students develop vocabulary and grammar contextually and expand their ability speak in the interpersonal and presentational modes of communication. Tracy will present and model activities and techniques that are classroom-proven to be effective and fun. **You will leave this seminar with numerous practical strategies and effective tools to increase your students' communicative proficiency.**



# A Message From Seminar Leader, Tracy Rucker



## Uniquely Qualified Instructor

**TRACY RUCKER** is an outstanding, award-winning world language teacher with more than 25 years of teaching experience. A frequent regional and state conference presenter, he is known for helping world language teachers enhance their existing programs by incorporating many effective strategies that incorporate interpersonal communication and global awareness techniques into the classroom. Tracy emphasizes practical strategies that accelerate the use of target language, cultural connections, and contextualized grammar in the world language classroom. Tracy brings to his seminars a high level of understanding of proficiency and how to train students to spiral through performance levels while honing skills. He also brings a high energy level and a wealth of expertise along with a keen sense of humor and down-to-earth realism about what works in today's world language classroom. Tracy is well known for his enthusiastic, lively seminars that leave participants rejuvenated and eager to implement new strategies and ideas in their own classrooms.

Dear Colleague:

As a world language teacher myself, I know the need for practical, proven tools and ideas that engage students in meaningful, authentic learning situations. As I reflected on designing this seminar to highlight our shared goals as language educators, ACTFL's position statement on using the target language at least 90% resonated with me. It focuses on planning and emphasizes the importance of language and culture. The resources you will encounter during this seminar are grounded in research, but proven effective in the classroom. I am excited to share with you the very best ways I have found to address this statement in the world language classroom that encourages students talk to each other in meaningful, organic ways. It's been my experience that focusing on receptive variables leads to more confident learners that seek to hone their productive skills of speaking and writing.

My foremost goal is to share strategies on how to focus on communicative proficiency through active participation and negotiation. To reach this goal, the guiding impetus continues to be making meaning through personal communication. I will share proven strategies for delivering compelling, comprehensible input through multiple formats and instructional models. Together, we will explore language learning and cultural literacy through the lenses of global awareness. I also plan to share many ideas on how to build in and scaffold activities that get students talking, using circumlocution and creating with the target language. I invite you to join me for an engaging day of learning proven techniques that contribute to language acquisition and student language proficiency growth. You will leave with numerous ideas you can use immediately!

Sincerely,

Tracy Rucker

P.S. This seminar is designed to be **highly practical and readily applicable** so that you leave with new and innovative tools, strategies and techniques to try out immediately! You will leave this seminar with ideas on how to foster a nurturing learning environment that focuses on students.

*"I will share proven strategies for delivering compelling, comprehensible input through multiple formats and instructional models."*

# What Your Colleagues Say About Tracy Rucker

*"Tracy's seminar was **chockfull of information and effective teaching strategies**, all presented in a dynamic fashion"*

Julie Sillings, Italian Teacher

*"**Tracy is nothing short of inspirational!** He brought a fantastic approach and manner of interacting with each person in the room."*

Ellen Crittenden, World Language Teacher

*"Tracy is **an energetic, engaging and kind presenter**. He offered many tools and strategies for a language classroom. He modeled passion and compassion through personal anecdotes and interactions."*

Rachel Myhre, Spanish Teacher

*"**Tracy presents many creative ideas!** I especially like his proficiency portfolio."*

Angela Guliemetti, German Teacher

*"Mr. Rucker is **a very energetic, professional, and eloquent speaker**. It is evident that he knows his content and pedagogy. Everything that he presents is something that he has used in his own classroom."*

Aracelis Perez, Spanish Teacher



## About BER Seminars

### Outstanding Instructors

All programs are led by outstanding, top-rated BER national trainers

### Extensive Digital Resource Handbook

You'll receive an extensive digital Resource Handbook full of practical strategies and resources.

### Highly Interactive

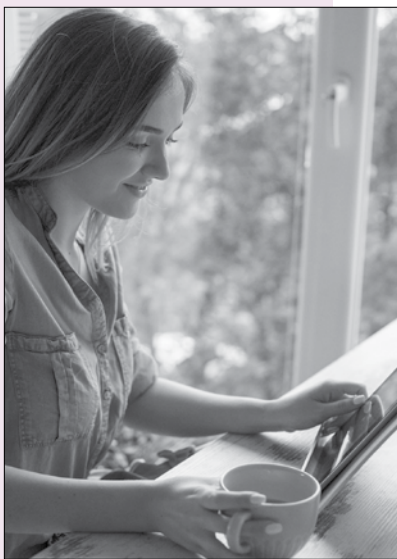
You'll be able to ask questions, consult with the instructor, and share ideas with other participants

### Program Guarantee

As we have for 45 years, we guarantee the high quality of our programs. If you are not satisfied, we'll give you a 100% refund.



# Special Benefits of Attending



'Tracy's presentation was engaging and super relevant.'

CAROLYN CARREGUI,  
FRENCH, ELD TEACHER

## On-Site Training

Most BER seminars can be brought to your school or district in-person or online. See the options at [www.ber.org/onsite](http://www.ber.org/onsite) or call 877-857-8964 to speak to one of our On-Site Training Consultants.

## Extensive Digital World Language Resource Handbook

Each participant will receive an extensive digital world language instruction resource handbook giving you access to countless strategies. The handbook includes:

- Numerous resources, technology tools and activities that are focused on world language instruction and communicative proficiency!
- Ways to adapt each strategy in a learning environment
- Detailed descriptions of practical activities presented during the seminar so that you can easily take them back to your classroom and implement them
- Reproducible activities and techniques to help students increase their use of the target language
- Links to impactful blogs, websites and other recourses that impact learning outcomes

## Share Ideas with Other Educators

This seminar provides a wonderful opportunity for participants to share ideas with other educators interested in increasing the behavior and learning of their students.

## Consultation Available

Tracy Rucker will be available to answer your specific questions and the unique needs of your own program.

## Meet Inservice Requirements / Earn State CEUs

Participants of Live Online Seminars and those completing the Recorded Version online can receive a certificate of participation that may be used to verify five continuing education hours. For details about state CEUs available, visit [www.ber.org/ceus](http://www.ber.org/ceus)

## Earn One to Four Graduate Semester Credits



University of  
Massachusetts  
Global  
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Up to four graduate level professional development credits are available with an additional fee and completion of follow up practicum activities. Details may be found at [www.ber.org/credit](http://www.ber.org/credit)

## Can't Attend?

### Other Professional Development Options:



#### Recorded Version of the Seminar

Order the recorded version of this seminar to take online at your convenience. You'll have access to the entire course and to the extensive digital resource handbook. To enroll, see registration form on page 7, and for optional CEUs and graduate credit, please visit [www.ber.org/credit](http://www.ber.org/credit)



#### Related On-Demand Online Courses

Two related On Demand Video-Based Online Learning courses, *Enhancing Spanish Language Instruction: Practical Activities to Strengthen Your Students' Proficiency in Spanish*, for Grades 6-12, *101 Best Strategies for Teaching World Languages*, for Grades 4-12, and other related courses, are available for immediate registration. To enroll, visit [www.ber.org/online](http://www.ber.org/online)

# Best Strategies for Strengthening Your Students' COMMUNICATIVE PROFICIENCY in the Target Language (Grades 6-12)

## Registration (FPY3F1)

1. **December 8, 2022** (Start time: 9 AM Eastern)
2. **January 6, 2023** (Start time: 9 AM Central)
- or —
3. **I'd like to order the recorded version of this seminar**

FIRST NAME	M.I.	LAST NAME
<hr/>		
POSITION, SUBJECT TAUGHT	GRADE LEVEL	
<hr/>		
SEMINAR NUMBER: _____ (Please see list above)		

*List additional registrants on a copy of this form*

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**Registration confirmations and login details are sent via e-mail**

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CITY & STATE	ZIP CODE
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**IMPORTANT: PRIORITY ID CODE**   
**Fill in the six digit number on the mail label next to the word "ID" or on your email**

## METHOD OF PAYMENT – Team Discount Available

**The registration fee is \$279 per person;**


for teams of three or more registering at the same time, the fee is \$259 per person. **Payment is due prior to the program.** No cash, please.


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## Program Hours

All **Live Online Seminars** are scheduled 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM in the time zone indicated. Check in 15 minutes prior. Registrants will be sent login information by email four days before their Live Online Seminar.

## Fee

The registration fee is \$279 per person, \$259 per person for groups of three or more registering at the same time. Call us at 1-800-735-3503 for groups of ten or more. **Payment is due prior to the program.**

Fee includes seminar registration, a certificate of participation and an extensive digital resource handbook. The fee is the same for Live Online Seminars or Recorded Seminars.

## Cancellation/Substitutions

100% of your paid registration fee will be refunded if you can't attend and notify us at least 10 days before the seminar. Late cancellations made prior to the event date will be refunded less a \$15 service fee. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge.

## Program Guarantee

We stand behind the high quality of our programs by providing the following unconditional guarantee: If you are not satisfied with this program, we'll give you a 100% refund of your registration fee.

## Further Questions

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Includes an extensive digital Resource Handbook

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to access online at your convenience

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