

Jo Tomlinson and Fiona Aish

Your favourite website:

Jo: At the moment, Twitter. Just to keep up to date with news, TEFL news and also it has its uses in class.

Fiona: Any site with cat videos or animal pictures.

A gadget you can't live without:

Jo: Undoubtedly my phone.

Fiona: Coffee bean grinder. I love freshly ground coffee.

Something you'd never throw away:

Jo: I am quite a hoarder and I tend not to throw things away. So... everything?

Fiona: The necklace my parents gave me on my 18th birthday.

Who or what inspires you?

Jo: I get inspired by people who are passionate about what they do and also by buildings, students, art, books, TV programmes, quotes, films... I'm easily inspired

Fiona: Nature.

Useful teaching tool:

Jo: I've got a handful of go-to activities which can be adapted a variety of situations.

Fiona: The students themselves. Whatever students bring to class in terms of their life experience or personality can help teachers in so many ways.

Your favourite lesson:

Jo: I've got a modal verbs of deduction activity which I love because the students enjoy it and it makes the language useful. It makes for a great (half) lesson!

Fiona: I like lessons that involve songs and I often use them for pronunciation. I think those are my favourite lessons.

Your favourite bit about your talk:

Jo: I think the audience interaction will be good.

Fiona: Hearing all of the ideas from the participants.

A lesson you've learnt while teaching:

Jo: I would say to have a democratic classroom where you work with your students on how they can and should progress.

Fiona: Less is more – by making sure we get the most out of materials and helping students explore things thoroughly rather than rushing into the next thing.

