



TACTics Journal

A Publication for and by TOC for Education Practitioners
MAY 2012

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14th TOC for Education International Conference

Dates: April 17-20, 2013

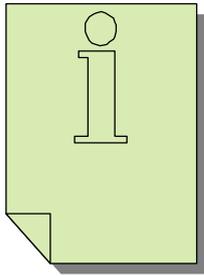
Location: Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Airport: Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI)

Venue: Embassy Suites Airport

(Venue is 30 minutes by train to downtown Washington D.C)





2012 TOCfE VIRTUAL Conference

October 17-19

Hosted by Saginaw Valley State University

Tentative times: 9 AM-1PM EST

(GMT: 14:00-18:00)

TOCfE AROUND THE WORLD



NETHERLANDS

“Using TOC in a Dutch School to Improve Comprehensive Reading Skills”

Petra Pouw-Legêne

Hi TOCfE friends

For quite a long time I have been too busy with my main job, using TOC only to keep my own job-POOGI going and as a TP with individual clients, but without any time left to be teaching TOCfE as a trainer.

But now I am back! Since early April I have spent many, many hours translating Kathy's workbooks on Branch and CLOUD in Curriculum into Dutch. I had promised a team of a primary school to teach them the TOC tools to improve the comprehensive reading skills of their students. The team is also working with my other love, the Davis learning strategies, in the lower grades and the combination with TOC turns out to be splendid! My Ambitious Target of many years has finally come true! First, teach children HOW to read (without getting into dyslexic problems) and then teach them to think about WHAT they read.

Last month I was happy and excited to be able to try out the Branch workbook with 9 teachers and, additionally, a student from a teacher college who is doing her practical training in this school. It has been a great experience! The teachers are really involved and eager to learn the TP. It was amazing to see how quickly most of them picked up the process and saw the benefit of it. Many remarks about that like: “Wow, now I can retell the chain of events without looking in the text.”

The workbook itself is a model of IF/THEN, which helps the teachers to follow the instructions very easily, explaining the BECAUSES all the time. Kathy, I thank you for your careful way of modeling to the teachers how they can model the TP for their students.

A week later we covered CLR's to teach them how to address any reservations they may have on their branches. Teachers were also asked to demonstrate examples of how they had applied the Branch in curriculum during the previous week. It went wonderfully! Every single teacher presented something they had done with the Branch during the week. They all mentioned that it turned out to be an improvement of what they usually would offer their class!

These included:

- Comprehensive reading lesson on archeological excavation and which steps are being taken.
- A social event that went wrong and was discussed afterwards on how and where to cut the negative branch
- Class planning of a musical song and dance
- What does photosynthesis mean?
- How it works teaching a child with learning problems
- How to collect main ideas in a text and how to process that
- in kindergarten the children made drawings of a story and put them in the right order

I want to share the joy of the teachers with the Branch. They said that TOC is so practical and does not require anything but their curriculum and their own logical thinking skills being directed in a proper way. And of course a lot of practice. They are going to send me more homework.

In late May we have planned two afternoon three hour sessions on the CLOUD. The AT sessions will be after the summer as a good start of the next school year.

I am including a translated example of 'homework' of one of the teachers. (Editor's Note: PDF file of this example is attached)



MEXICO

“TOC Comes to 400 Communities in Leon!”
Flavio Arias Sanchez and Rolando Serdio y Santos

In the city of Leon Guanajuato there are a little more than 400 settlers committees with their respective representatives who are usually formed by a minimum of 5 members (President, Secretary, Treasurer and vocals.).

We presented our project to authorities and finally they accepted it. We are offering 15 hours of training, divided into six sessions of two and 1/2 hours, and a special presentation of results. We are training a little over 400 representatives, divided into 21 groups.

We call our project: "Program of design and implementation of Process of On Going Improvement to the committees of colonists". We worked a lot to accomplish this project and overcoming the first obstacles. It began this month and already appears to be a great success!

For us, this is especially relevant since we will be teaching the methodology of Ambitious Target Tree with a special and personal touch that you know: to be able to design and implement continuous improvement projects. If we succeed, we'll have over 400 improvement projects in the various colonies in our city, made with very simple people, some of them illiterate, but will set the standard for how to achieve their best goals to transform themselves and transform their community. This program will conclude in late June and deliver shared results in late July.

I want to add that we continue to negotiate with some private institutions to offer continuous improvement projects as we did in the Tepeyac Institute. And we continue with the director and the Tepeyac Institute team to establish a counseling process and to give continuity to the project we initiated in their school as shared in July 2011 TACTics.

All this has been a difficult process for us because of the difficult social and economic situation of our country which is more concerned with the election of the new government.

We hope to soon have the pleasure to communicate the results of all this.



Poland

"A new TOCfE project for Nursery Schools"
Maciej Winiarek

I am creating program for the nursery school (5-7 years) with 3 education consultants from Elblag, one of whom is Alicja Gula, who attended the very first TOCfE Polish facilitator training in 2004. Alicja gave a workshop at the 2011 TOCfE International Conference in Plock.

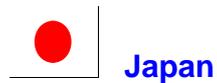
This program will contain:

- 5 stories (original) which will present everyday situation. Base on these stories:
- There will be 6 scenarios for each story-- 2 scenarios for each tool
- Together will be 30 scenarios for whole school year
- It will be only behavioral, communication, solving problems, etc
- Teacher will receive scenarios and resources
- Each child (and parent) will receive resources, some homework, etc
- There will be 2 days training on this

- There will be a web page with all information, testimonials but also: guide films from most of scenarios, library with examples

We have just completed the first marketing presentation that went very well. In second half of August we will start trainer's training and hope to have 40-60 people. During first year I plan to have 50 active trainers, 100 nurseries, 10.000 children

The program will be universal and I will be interested in making other languages (English, Spanish).



“A Math Student's Testimonial” *Motoi Tobita*

I did math home tutoring for a high school student and taught TOCfE tools in "stealth mode". He was the worst in Math in his class (got 4 out of 100). After 6 weeks of tutoring, his score went up to the class average. Enjoy his testimony video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSwywU4jWGY>

And Finally – from Alan ...

Once again ... fantastic work by all.

I have been asked on occasion what the purpose of the TACTics journal is; well, here are a couple of thoughts:

- It is our (approximately) monthly chance to bring you all up-to-date with the way that the thinking process is being introduced to teachers throughout the world.
- It is a way for you, as individuals or groups, to focus your own work given the experiences of others.

And, of course, it's my opportunity to join with you all - not in body then, at least, in spirit.

Gear yourselves up for the Virtual Conference in October as it promises to be a very interesting and informative event. Keep reading TAC Tics for further information

Best wishes to all of you,

Alan ...