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Elements in Language Teaching

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REFLECTIVE PRACTICE IN LANGUAGE TEACHING

Thomas S. C. Farrell Brock University





CAMBRIDGEUNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia 314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009013901 DOI: 10.1017/9781009028783

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First published 2022

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-009-01390-1 Paperback ISSN 2632-4415 (online) ISSN 2632-4407 (print)

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Reflective Practice in Language Teaching

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DOI: 10.1017/9781009028783 First published online: April 2022

> Thomas S. C. Farrell Brock University

Author for correspondence: Thomas S. C. Farrell, tfarrell@brocku.ca

Abstract: This Element examines the concept of reflective practice in language teaching, reconsidering a framework for a holistic approach to language teacher reflection and reflective practice. It includes a brief description of reflective practice and how it is operationalized by two of its main protagonists, John Dewey and Donald Schön, as well as some of the limitations of their conceptions. This Element is used as an introduction to how the author developed Dewey and Schön's ideas when creating a five-stage framework of reflective practice for language teachers. The author then presents an in-depth case study of the reflections of an English as a foreign language (EFL) teacher working in Costa Rica as he moved through the five stages of the framework. The author then outlines and discusses how reflective practice may be moved forward and calls attention to the importance of emotions in the process of reflection for language teachers.

Keywords: reflective teaching, language teaching, language teachers, John Dewey, Donald Schön

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ISBNs: 9781009013901 (PB), 9781009028783 (OC) ISSNs: 2632-4415 (online), 2632-4407 (print)



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