

May 6, 2012

Dear *FLENJ*,

My name is Angela Caruso and I am a 6th year high school Spanish teacher in Barnegat, New Jersey. First and foremost, I would like to thank FLENJ, the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL), and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) for the opportunity to attend the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) Workshop at the NECTFL conference in Baltimore. The OPI workshop was informative, interactive, and fun. From the historical background of the OPI to the video sample interviews, each and every component of the workshop was well planned and delivered.

For every professional development session I attend, my personal goal is to use one or two things the first day back to work, and in this case, I found myself sharing facts with my students about the various levels of speaking a language, and what to expect after a certain number of years. I enjoyed greatly the simple explanation of the levels, the parrot, the survivor, the reporter, and the thinker. It really solidifies the idea, and was a clever representation of the levels. It was a great opportunity to network and discuss foreign language programs, not only in high schools, but also in universities in the Northeast. I hope more teachers take advantage of free professional development opportunities such as this in the future. I know I will surely be checking the FLENJ Facebook page for updates.

Thanks,

Angela Caruso