

# quick tips >

## ROLE-PLAY

If you would like to contribute to quick tips, please e-mail your ideas to: [tcquicktips@e-mesh.com](mailto:tcquicktips@e-mesh.com)

Lozanov, the Bulgarian psychotherapist who developed the Suggestopedic Approach, advocates alter-egos as the solution to low learner self-concept in specific subjects. In language classes, his participants assume another name, occupation (with full character) from the first day. The advantage is that this character can then take risks, make mistakes and have fun in a way that they (their other real character) can never do.

Monique Latreille, Canada

Role-play can be put to effective use in the review stage of a lesson. One learner plays the role of a famous reporter for a famous newspaper. The other learner plays the role of a famous expert on the subject that has been studied e.g. the difference between the Simple Past and the Present Perfect. The reporter spends time preparing quality questions and the expert spends time preparing for the interview.

Monique Latreille, Canada

The use of alter-egos can also be applied to classroom debates. Ask learners to sit facing each other in two rows of chairs. Row A will be "for" the issue and Row B "against" it. Each learner chooses a character from the past, present or future and in the debate they play the part of this person. Give learners a few minutes to decide upon a character, to think about the points they'd like to make and the questions they'd like to ask the other side.

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