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## **Bilingualism SIG Forum: From ESL Learner to ESL Educator: Changing Identities of a TESOL Practitioner**

*Sunday 18 May 2025 10:05 (1 hour)*

### **TITLE**

### **RELEVANT SIG**

Bilingualism

### **FORMAT**

### **Short English description**

### **KEYWORDS**

### **First-time presenter?**

### **ABSTRACT**

Some people view language learning as a practical gain, and others consider it as selftransformation; in the recent view of Second Language Acquisition (SLA) and sociolinguistics, the identities of language learners and teachers have been a focal topic. This autoethnography illustrates my own journey as an English as a Second Language (ESL) student and how my identity has changed from a monolingual Japanese teenager to a multilingual and multicultural Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) practitioner. My experience of wanting to escape the first language ( L1) community and being marginalized in an Englishs-speaking community made me reject my L1 culture to belong to the target community. Not until I learned the significance of my identity as Japanese did I realize my multilingual and multicultural self. This article also

discusses how it affects my teaching philosophy, emphasizing the importance of noticing changing identities in language acquisition.

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**Session Classification:** B3-201 Forum (60) SAT: Material Writers SIG Forum; ALL SIG Forum; ER SIG Forum; Teacher Development SIG Forum; SUN: Bilingualism SIG Forum; LD SIG Forum; CUE SIG Forum