BRYAN MIMS

EAL / ELA Educator

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PROFILE

EAL/ELA educator based in Busan, South Korea since 2008, with 18 years of international teaching experience. Currently teaches Grades 2, 4, and 6 EAL and ELA at Dongsung Elementary School while co-leading Banhana English, a literacy and test-prep academy since 2016. Uses evidence-informed approaches, including retrieval practice, spaced repetition, cognitive load management, and Kagan Cooperative Learning, to structure instruction and classroom culture. Designs the instructional frameworks behind custom curriculum, assessment, and classroom-management tools. Holds a Washington DC K-6 teaching license and an M.Ed. in TESOL; pursuing a Secondary Mathematics endorsement.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

English Teacher
April 2026 – Present

Dongsung Elementary School, Busan, South Korea

- Teaches EAL and ELA across Grades 2, 4, and 6, ranging from foundational language instruction to textual analysis and formal essay composition.
- Designs interactive lesson materials, games, review activities, and test-prep tools; 24+ custom web-based resources created for classroom use.
- Cooperative learning enthusiast who uses Kagan Cooperative Learning structures and a team-based positive reinforcement system, where teams earn and spend points together, to support collaboration and classroom culture.
- Develops custom tools for lesson planning, classroom management, and formative assessment, including Ribbon, the adaptive lesson planner, and Growth Spiral (in progress).

Co-Founder and Head Teacher
2016 – Present

Banhana English, Busan, South Korea

- Co-founded and co-leads an English literacy and test-prep academy delivering small-group instruction to EFL learners ages 9 to 14.
- Delivered TOEIC Bridge, TOEFL Primary, and TOEFL Junior test preparation; the academy was an authorized test center and proctored these exams on-site.
- Designed and directed a modular literature curriculum for private tutoring, using an AI-assisted workflow to build and refine materials covering thematic analysis, character tracking, and tiered comprehension.
- Completed Washington DC K-6 teaching licensure practicum on-site.

Assistant Professor, English Literacy and Communication
2016 – March 2026

Dong-A University, Busan, South Korea

- Delivered EFL coursework and TOEIC test preparation instruction over a nine-and-a-half-year appointment.

Instructor, COLAL Department
2015 – 2016

INTI International University, Nilai, Malaysia

Delivered university-level EFL instruction in 8-week terms.

Guest Professor, Foreign Language Department
2010 – 2015

Pukyong National University, Busan, South Korea

Delivered university-level EFL instruction across 15-week semesters and summer camps; received the Outstanding Teacher Award in 2013 and 2014.

EFL Educator
2008 – 2010

Maple College and KJC Academy, Busan, South Korea

Delivered basic English instruction to elementary-age EFL learners at two Busan hagwons early in his teaching career.

SELECTED PROJECTS

bryanmims.com
A personal portfolio site with my teaching philosophy, classroom systems, a Grade 4 math unit, and playable classroom tools.

Grade 4 Business-Math Unit
A four-lesson Grade 4 unit on revenue, expenses, profit, discounts, and growth over time. Students designed businesses, advertisements, and pitches. Playable lesson hub, lesson plans, and student work on bryanmims.com.

Growth Spiral
A formative feedback system that turns photographed student work into instructional data: skills are automatically assessed and logged in a database tracking individual progression over time, informing targeted review, micro-lessons, extension activities, and flexible grouping. Currently under construction.

Ribbon
A standalone classroom management application developed for daily classroom use. Displays and logs daily and monthly team points, attendance, and behavioral data, and includes a timer and other functions used throughout live instruction.

Vocabulary Assessment System
Developed an 800-word vocabulary curriculum across five grades and four proficiency tiers using a six-factor word-selection model that weighs corpus frequency, CEFR level, age of acquisition, morphological generativity, concreteness, and curriculum fit. Paired with an AI-assisted process that generates print-ready tests and answer keys directly from the word lists.

Full-Novel Interactive Unit
An EAL-focused, multi-part interactive lesson series built around a complete novel, covering theme analysis, character development, comprehension, vocabulary development, and more, chapter by chapter across the full book.

Adaptive Weekly Lesson Planner
Tracks grade-level lesson progression against the school schedule. When a lesson is skipped, cut short, or interrupted, the tool recalculates the class's position in the curriculum automatically, and a built-in AI advisor recommends whether unfinished content should carry into the next session, fold into a later review, or be dropped, weighing retrieval-practice and pacing tradeoffs. Tracks holidays and recurring events, and surfaces how many free days remain for games, review, or extra instruction. Currently configured for Dongsung's own schedule. The underlying template could be adapted to another teacher's schedule with modification.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lead Counselor, *Talisman Summer Programs, North Carolina* **Summers 2000, 2002, 2005**
Summer camp for children and adolescents with ADHD, autism, and other cognitive and behavioral challenges.

EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

- Elementary Education Teacher License (K-6), Washington, DC (OSSE), 2025
- M.Ed., TESOL, Framingham State University, Massachusetts, 2013
- TESOL Certificate (160 hours), University of Wisconsin-River Falls, 2010
- B.S., Communications, Appalachian State University, North Carolina, 2006
- Pursuing Secondary Mathematics Endorsement (Praxis)
- Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America

CORE COMPETENCIES

Science of Learning-Informed Instructional Design	**Kagan Cooperative Learning**
AI-Assisted Curriculum & Tool Development	**Data-Informed Differentiation**
EAL/ELA Curriculum Design, Grades 2-6	**Formative Assessment System Design**