

by Jędrrek Stępień

Unlocking The Potential of Conversations

Introduction

Hi, my name is **Jędrek**

I'm in ELT since (at least) 2010. An ex-brick-and-mortar school owner, teaching online since 2016 (mostly 1-on-1 adults). Conversations are the apple of my eye.

studiomentals.com



Jędrek Stępień

**I believe that 50 years
from now, education will
be as short and sweet as
Twitter is today. It will be
like an evening talk.**

— Sebastian Thrun

Conversations: The Pariah of ELT

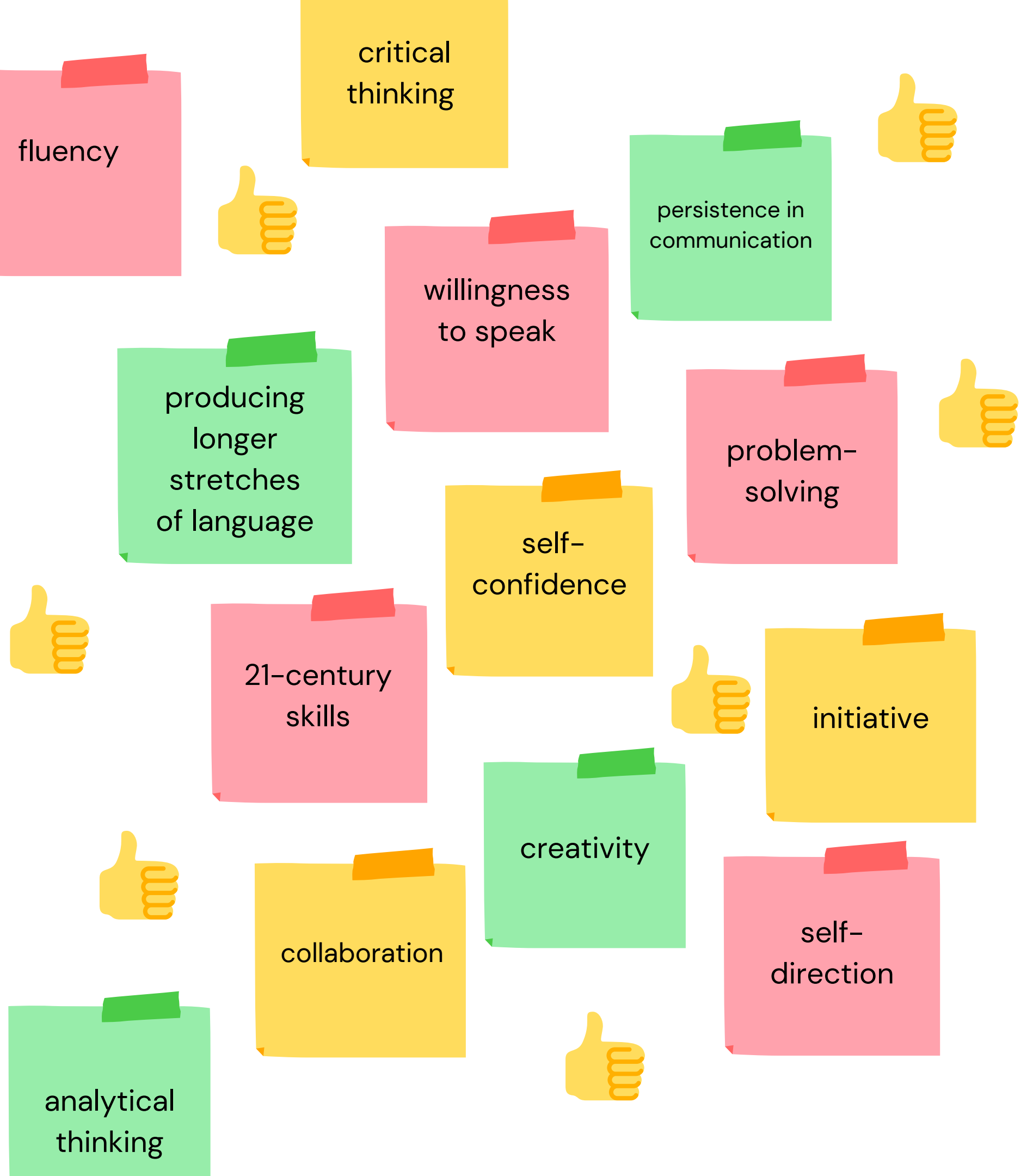
1 The easiest type of class

2 Everybody can run it

3 Hazy goals

4 Shallow

A vehicle of infinite plasticity



Conversation questions: One ring to rule them all (goals)



The case against personal questions

1

Invasive



damage self-confidence

2

Unreflective



favor introspection over reflection

3

Unprofessional



Establish unhealthy rapport with students

4

Myopic



breaks the Deweyan chain of experiences

De-personalizing questions

What is your favorite Netflix series?

What makes a good Netflix series?



De-personalizing conversation questions

1 Find the key concept

2 Remove 'you' or 'your'

3 Ask about the concept

impersonal questions

1 Respect privacy



2 Reflective



3 Professional



4 Educative



mentals.app

100 educative
questions

Easy Speaking is Hard Thinking

Jedrek Stepien Jan 26, 2020 · 8 min read

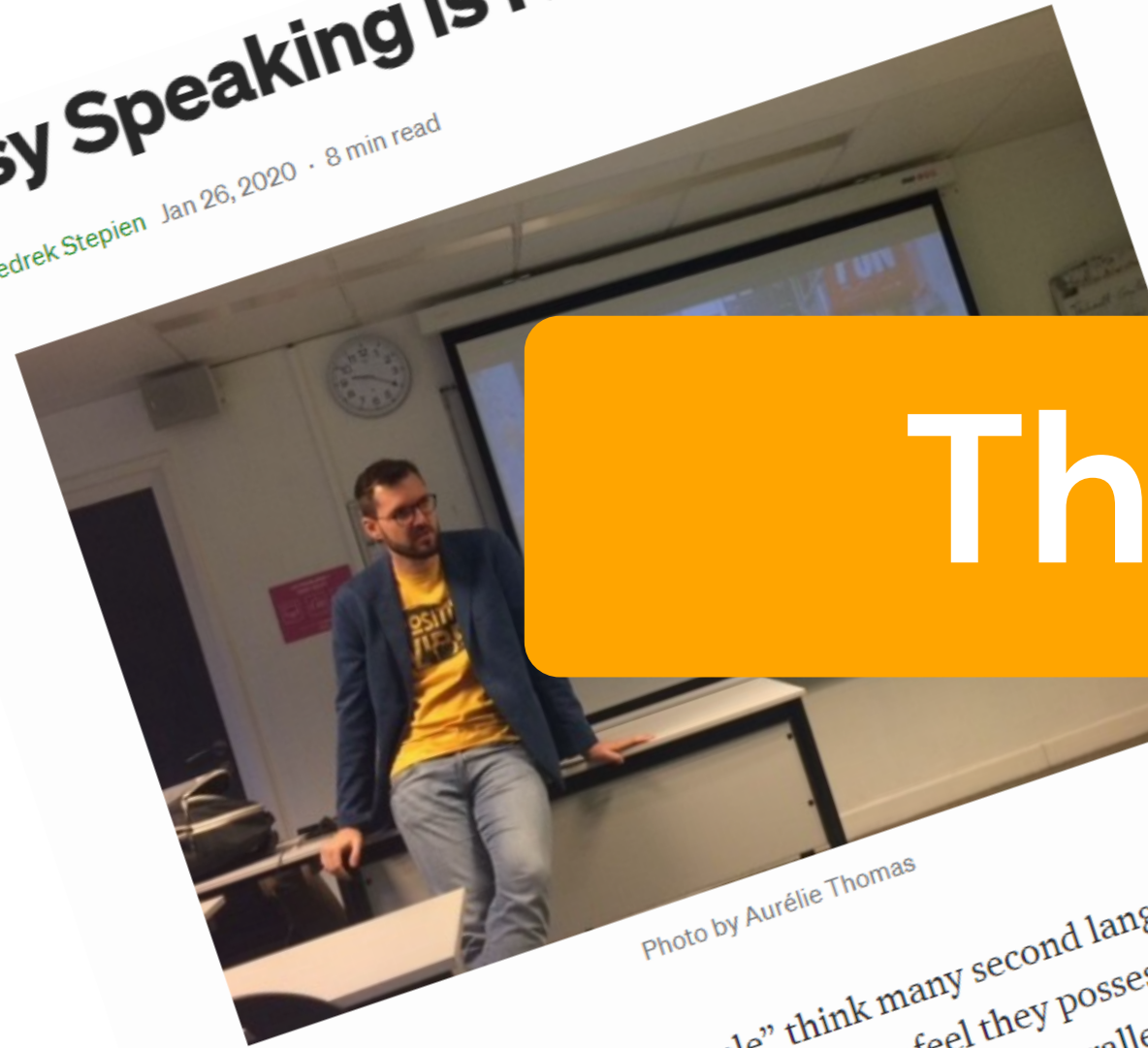


Photo by Aurélie Thomas

“I wish my language was so simple” think many second language learners listening to more advanced speakers. They feel they possess the language necessary for a similar performance, but they lack parallel light

Professional and Nonprofessional Conversation Classes

Jedrek Stepien Jan 28, 2019 · 7 min read

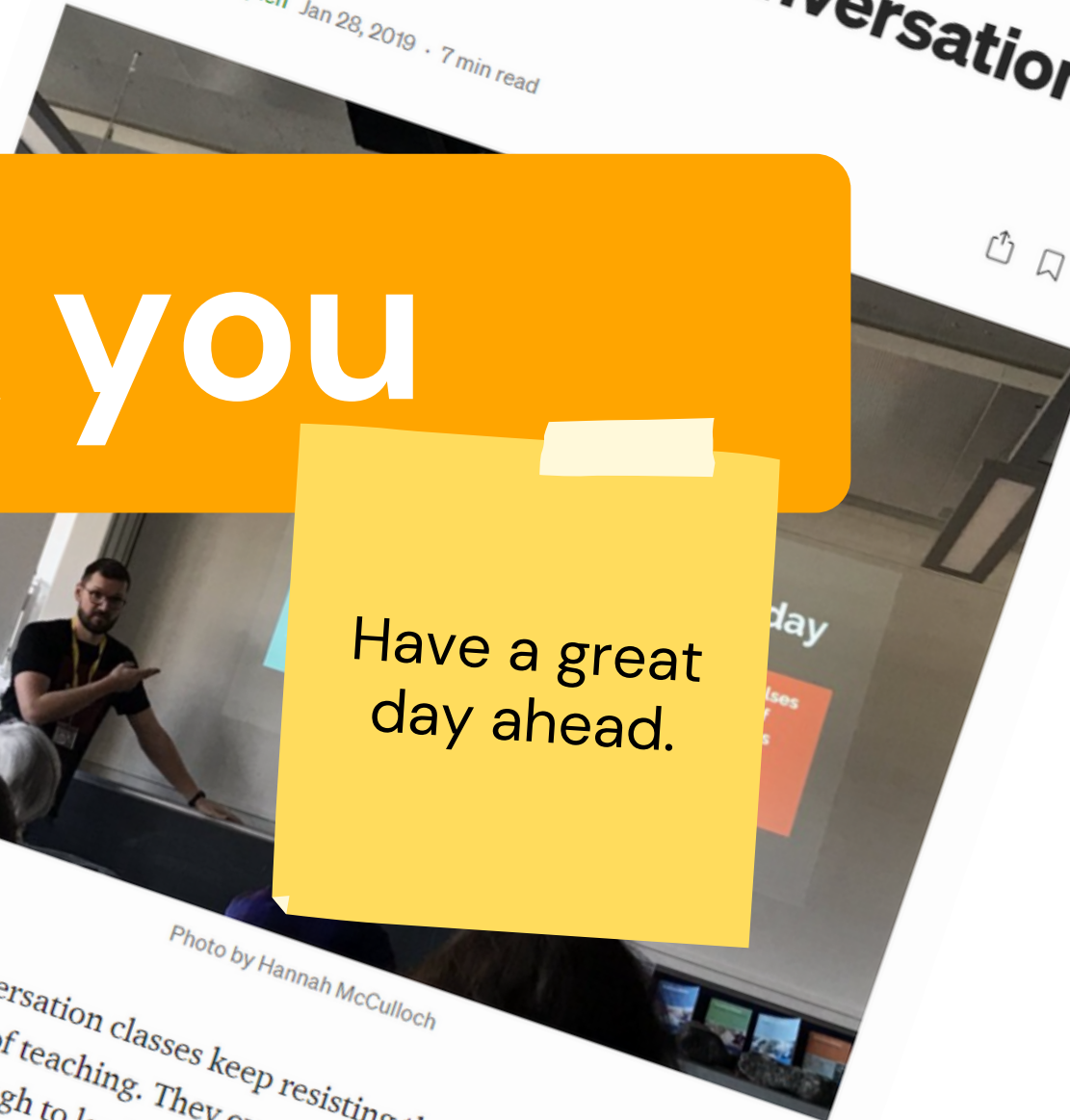


Photo by Hannah McCulloch

Good news! Conversation classes keep resisting the progressing automation and digitalization of teaching. They owe it to the fact that, as of yet, there is no AI powerful enough to lead a spontaneous conversation with another

Thank you

Have a great day ahead.



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My website: studiomentals.com

Blog: medium.com/@mentals