

The RCEI matrix

- **What it is:** a universal organising principle for the discussion section
- **What it consists of:** there are four elements:
 - **Restate the result(s),**
 - **Compare with literature,**
 - **Explain the results and potential differences with literature,**
 - **Interpret the findings**
- **How we use it:** we always start with restating the result we want to discuss, followed by comparison with literature, and then explanation and interpretation

Discussion together with results

Restate: Another finding that emerges from the data is that most participants view 'nativeness' as a fixed trait.

Compare: This finding is in contrast to some scholars' suggestion that being a 'native speaker' is something that one does, a performative act of sorts (Piller, 2002). It also contradicts some SLA studies which...

Explain: One explanation for this is that neither the teachers nor the students believe it is possible to become as proficient as a 'native speaker'.

Interpret: This is interesting as it might indicate that while the 'native speaker' is "safely ensconced in a lofty position of unassailable authority and absolute infallibility" (Rajagopalan, 2005, p. 285), the 'non-native speaker' forever remains a 'near-native', an incomplete copy of the 'native speaker' (Firth & Wagner, 1997; Valdés, 1998).

[adapted from Kiczowski, M. (2018). *Native Speakerism in ELT: Voices From Poland*. [PhD]. University of York.]