METHODS OF ENGLISH TEACHING

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ABSTRACT

There are several methods of teaching English to students who are learning the language for the first time, each with their own unique pros and cons. Depending on the teaching situation, setting, and resources available, any one of these English teaching methods could be right for you and your students. In this guide, we'll go over the basics of each method and determine what kind of English language student it would work best on. If you or someone you know are trying to learn English for the first time, or improve a current English speaking skill level, starters. In the late 1800s and most of the 1900s, language teaching was usually conceived in terms of method. In seeking to improve teaching practices, teachers and researchers would typically try to find out which method was the most effective However, method is an ambiguous concept in language teaching, and has been used in many different ways. According to Bell, this variety in use offers a challenge for anyone wishing to enter into the analysis or deconstruction of methods Throughout the history of teaching languages a number of different teaching approaches and methodologies have been tried and tested with some being more popular and effective than others.

Key Words : , ELC teachers, Direct Method, The Structural Approach and . Suggestopedia

Introduction

 All ELC teachers are native speakers of American English and have a university degree and specialized training in Teaching English as a Second Language. Teachers create highly-structured lesson plans that provide warm-up exercises, an explanation of the lesson objectives, some form of student production, and a listing of the activities used to reach the objective. Teachers allow ELC students to "discover" the objective, to give them ample opportunity to practice the objective, and then provide an assessment in order to ascertain that the objective has been understood and met. All ELC teachers have had experience studying a second language and many have spent time living abroad. In addition to being highly qualified academically, ELC teachers are warm, friendly, and supportive to all students.

1. The Direct Method

In this method the teaching is done entirely in the target language. The learner is not allowed to use his or her mother tongue. Grammar rules are avoided and there is emphasis on good pronunciation. If you've ever heard the Direct Method being taught, you may have rightly mistaken it for some sort of military drill, which is not far off as it was first established in France and Germany in the early 1900's to assist soldiers to communicate in a second language quickly.

The direct method of teaching English is also known as the Natural Method. It's used to teach a number of different languages not just English, and the main idea of the Direct Method is that it only uses the target language that the students are trying to learn. Its main focus is oral skill and it is taught via repetitive drilling. Grammar is taught using an inductive way and students need to.

2. The Grammar Translation Method

Just like its name suggests, this method of teaching English is grammar heavy and relies a lot on translation. This is the traditional or 'classical' way of learning a language and it's still commonly used when learning some languages. Some countries prefer this style of teaching and the main idea behind this method is that the students learn all grammar rules, so they're able to translate a number of sentences. This is particularly common for those students who wish to study literature at a deeper level.

3. The Audio Lingual Method

The Audio Lingual Method otherwise known as the New Key Method or Army Method is based on a behavirourist theory that things are able to be learned by constant reinforcement. However, just like in the army when someone behaves badly (or in this case bad use of English), the learner receives negative feedback and the contrary happens when a student demonstrates good use of English.This is related to the Direct Method and just like its predecessor it only uses the target language. The biggest difference between the Audio Lingual Method and the Direct Method is its focus of teaching. The Direct Methods focuses on the teaching of vocabulary whereas the Audio Lingual Method focuses on specific grammar teachings.

4. The Structural Approach

As the name suggests, the method is all about structure. The idea is that any language is made up of complex grammar rules. These rules, according to this approach need to be learnt in a specific order, for example the logical thing would be to teach the verb "to be" prior to teaching the present continuous which requires using the auxiliary form of the verb "to be."

5. Suggestopedia

This is a behaviorist theory and related to pseudoscience. This method relies heavily on students' belief about the method's effectiveness. This theory is intended to offer learners various choices, which in turn helps them become more responsible for their learning.

It relies a lot on the atmosphere and the physical surroundings of the class. It's essential that all learners feel equally comfortable and confident. When teachers are training to use the Suggestopedia method, there's a lot of art and music involved. Each Suggestopedia lesson is divided into three different phases – 1. Deciphering 2. Concert Session 3. Elaboration.

6. Total Physical Response

Total Physical Response, otherwise known as TPR is an approach that follows the idea of 'learning by doing'. Beginners will learn English through a series of repetitive actions such as "Stand up", "Open your book", "Close the door", and "Walk to the window and open it." With TPR, the most important skill is aural comprehension and everything else will follow naturally later.

7. Communicative Language Teaching (CLT)

The idea behind this approach is to help learners communicate more effectively and correctly in realistic situations that they may find themselves in. This type of teaching involves focusing on important functions like suggesting, thanking, inviting, complaining, and asking for directions to name but a few.

8. The Silent Way

The Silent Way emphasizes learner autonomy. The teacher acts merely as a facilitator trying to encourage students to be more active in their learning. The main of this way of teaching is for the teacher to say very little,

so students can take control of their learning. There's a big emphasis on pronunciation and a large chunk of the lesson focuses on it. This method of learning English follows a structural syllabus and grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation are constantly drilled and recycled for reinforcement. The teacher evaluates their students through careful observation, and it's even possible that they may never set a formal test as learners are encouraged to correct their own language errors.

9. Community Language Learning

This is probably one of the English teaching methods where the student feels the safest as there's a great emphasis on the relationship and bond between the student and teacher. Unlike a lot of the other methods and approaches of teaching English as a Second Language, a lot of the L1 (mother tongue) is used for translation purposes.

10. The Lexical Approach

The Lexical syllabus or approach is based on computer studies that have previously identified the most commonly used words. This approach in teaching focuses on vocabulary acquisition and teaching lexical chunks in order of their frequency and use. Teachers of the Lexical Approach place a great emphasis on authentic materials and realistic scenarios for more valuable learning.

11.The structural approach

This method sees language as a complex of grammatical rules which are to be learned one at a time in a set order. So for example the verb "to be" is introduced and practiced before the present continuous tense which uses "to be" as an auxiliary.

12. Immersion

This corresponds to a great extent to the situation we have at our school. ESL students are immersed in the English language for the whole of the school day and expected to learn math, science, humanities etc. through the medium of the target language, English.Immigrant students who attend local schools find themselves in an immersion situation; for example refugee children from Bosnia attending German schools, or Puerto Ricans in American schools. .

13. Task-based language learning

The focus of the teaching is on the completion of a task which in itself is interesting to the learners. Learners use the language they already have to complete the task and there is little correction of errors.(This is the predominant method in middle school ESL teaching at Frankfurt International School. The tasks are subsumed in a major topic that is studied for a number of weeks. In the topic of ecology, for example, students are engaged in a number of tasks culminating in a poster presentation to the rest of the class. The tasks include reading, searching the internet, listening to taped material, selecting important vocabulary to teach other students

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