



Contemporaneity of Language and Literature in the Robotized Millennium

Vol: 1(3), 2019

REST Publisher

ISBN: 978-81-936097-3-6

Website: <http://restpublisher.com/books/cllrm/>

Using Direct Method of Teaching a Foreign Languages

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Abstract:

The objective of the present study is to try out the direct method of teaching a foreign language as a second language. The direct method of teaching languages aims to build a direct way into the world of the target language making a relation between the languages, developed as a Grammar-Translation method. All teaching is done in the target language, grammar is taught inductively, there is a focus on speaking and listening, and only useful 'everyday' language is taught. This method is based on the assumption that the learner should experience the new language is exactly the same way as a first, when in fact the conditions under which a second language is learnt are very different.

Key Words: Dictation, paragraph writing, conversation practice, student self-correction.

Introduction

Foreign Language learning and teaching provide an engaging, student friendly guide to the field of Foreign Language learning and teaching. Aimed at the students with no background in the area and taking task-based approach which introduce the theoretical and practical aspects of learning and teaching. The Direct method is also called as Natural Method, was established in Germany and France around 1900 and appeared as Grammar translation method. The Idea of using the direct method in teaching foreign language is carried out in the same way people learn their mother tongue.

Methodology used in direct method teaching

Teaching through modelling and practice. Grammar is taught inductively (i.e. having learners find out rules through the presentation). Emphasis is put on correct pronunciation and grammar. Oral teaching comes before any other kind of reading and writing activities. Language is primarily spoken, not written. Learning how to use a foreign language to communicate. No translation is allowed. The following methods are mainly focused and applied in teaching a Foreign Language in our class room. Reading aloud. Question answer method. Focused conversation method. Oral method. Writing method. Audio lingual method

Reading method: The instructional goal is learning how to use a foreign language to communicate. It strengthens speaking, listening and comprehension skills. It increases their vocabulary and helps them to appreciate the rhythm of language. It also enhances imagination and observation skills.

Question answer method: This method helps to stimulate the students to think, diagnose the difficulties and also helps to organise and evaluate the drills. The students will be encouraged through the application of concepts.

Focused Conversation method: This method is a structured process that helps a group journey through a conversation together. This process is intentional in seeking full participation from everyone and provides a strong framework on which many things can be built.

Oral method: This procedure by which lexical and grammatical content were chosen. This method begins with spoken language once a sufficient lexical and grammatical basis is established in reading and writing. It mainly focuses on vocabulary and reading is the one of the most salient traits.

Writing method: This method is used to become familiar with common writing mistakes and to gain insights that improves all. This method aims to capture a thought or idea to transfer into a permanent format.

Audio lingual method: The audio – lingual method is a method of foreign language teaching which emphasizes the teaching of listening and speaking before reading and writing. An Audio-lingual method is a behavioural psychology which is an empirically based approach to the study of human behaviour. It emphasizes on certain practice techniques like memorization, pattern drills and mainly use of dialogues as the chief means of presenting the language.

Conclusion

Teaching language in direct method is an attempt to have the students to learn the language practicable and to make them comfortable as learning as his own language. In order to proceed this method successfully in teaching a foreign language, one should use a text book in which the material is presented in the Foreign Language itself rather than in other language. If this method is successful it must be thoroughly systematic. This method, of course, not always easy to do at first, because it is only through experience that a teacher learns the effect of his/her personality and his/her methods upon the students.