# Teaching Communication Interestingly and Effectively

北海道高等学校英語教育研究会

第13回授業力向上ワークショッ

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9, August, 2019 Hokkaido Obihiro South Commercial High School Yuichi ISHIKAWA

ACTIVITY1: Choose six words which represent you, and introduce yourself to your partners. Also, please explain why you selected this class today.

## Purpose and Objectives of this seminar

This seminar aims to:

- 1. learn how communicative activities contribute to developing student's English ability
- 2. find a way to conduct interesting and effective communicative activities

At the end of this seminar, you will

 understand how communicative activities contribute to developing student's English ability.
 be able to plan communicative activities which develop your student's accuracy and fluency, and attract your students.

# ACTIVITY2-1: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following sentences?

1. Input (e.g. reading, listening, learning grammar feature) is enough for learning foreign languages.		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
2. Grammar focused explanation and drill practice should be eliminated from the lecture.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
3. Reading aloud practice and dictation should be repeated as many times as possible.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
4. Retelling is the most effective activity.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
5. Conversation practice in pair is waste of time.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
6. Free writing activity helps students focus on linguistic features such as grammar and vocabulary.		Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
7. The reason why so many schools introduced performance test is that is required by MEXT.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

ACTIVITY2-2: Now, swap the sheets with your partner. Ask your partner why he or she agrees or disagrees with each sentence. Remember, even when both of you agree or disagree, the reason might not be the same.

# 1. Input (e.g. reading, listening, learning grammar feature) is enough for learning foreign language.

## Input Hypothesis (Krashen)

"We acquire... only when we understand language that contains structure that is 'a little beyond' where we are now." His hypothesis is also known as comprehensible input, i+1.

## **Output Hypothesis (Swain)**

Comprehensive input is effective for developing comprehension skills. However, it is not enough to develop productive skills. The French immersion students' grammatical ability did not reach the level of native speakers.

## Is just speaking and writing enough to improve productive skills?

Just speaking and writing can improve fluency. As for accuracy, "pushed output" is needed. When learners confront communicative breakdown, they receive negative input. This input pushes learners to use different means to convey their messages. As a result, learners pay attention to the language form.

## **Collaborative Writing**

- Dictogloss task: Teacher read a short dense text. Meanwhile, learners jot down familiar words and phrases. After that, learners are asked to reconstruct the text with a peer student.
- Jigsaw task: students worked in pairs. They received several different pictures of a story. Then, they were asked to reconstruct and write it down collaboratively.

# 2. Grammar focused explanation and drill practice should be eliminated from the lecture.

## Four Strands (Nation 2009)

Principle to design a well-balanced language course. It should consists of four roughly equal strands.

1 Meaning-focused input:

Learning through listening and reading. It is called meaning focused because the main focus and interest should be on understanding.

2 Meaning-focused output:

Learning through speaking and writing. Learner's attention is on conveying ideas and messages to another person.

## 3 Fluency development

Use known language items and features over the four skills. Becoming fluent with what is already known.

4. Language focused-instruction

Learning through deliberate attention to language items and features. This strand includes vocabulary study, grammar exercises and explanation, sounds and spelling, attention to discourse features...

Language-focused learning activities can have a positive effect on learning and language use, but it is important that they are only a small part of the course.

# 3.Reading aloud practice and dictation should be repeated as many times as possible.

Reading aloud practice such as Read-And-Look-Up is a good preparation for dictation. Dictation makes learners focus on the language form. However, these are "intake" rather than output. Output activity is needed.

## 4. Retelling is the most effective activity.

What is the purpose of retelling? You can make it better

- Improving accuracy: Pushed output such as negative feedback is needed from both linguistic and content perspectives.
- Developing fluency: Time pressure is needed. 4/3/2 technique can be used.
- Learning language form: Dicto-comp is a useful activity. Learners listen to the text several times. They have to remember the ideas in the text. Then, they write the story in the words of the original or in their own words.

## 5. Conversation practice in pair is waste of time.

## Fluency Development (4/3/2 technique)

- (1) learners are given time to prepare to give a talk about a given topic without making notes.
- (2) They are told to make pairs with other learners. One of the learners talk for four minutes and another learner listen.
- (3) They change their partners. This time they are allowed to talk for three minutes but they are expected to give the same information.
- (4) Learners are given two minutes and require to talk about the same topic again.

# 6.Free writing activity helps students focus on linguistic features such as grammar and vocabulary.

Free writing activity can be effective to improve fluency, and a good opportunity for input. For example, during writing, you can provide input by giving sample essay. Then, students find out phrases they need to write their own essay. As for accuracy, collaborative writing is more appropriate.

# 7. The reason why so many schools introduced performance test is that is required by MEXT.

From my experience, performance test has two benefits. First, it leads students to learning speaking. Assessing and evaluating speaking skill signals that speaking practice is required. Second, it motivates students because what they study during the class is directly tested. The correlation of the performance tests and number of students who have Eiken is displayed below. Thanks to the performance tests, number of students who take Eiken dramatically increased.

## Eiken(Hokkaido Oumu High School)



## **Summary of Activity 2**

- Input is essential. However, speaking and writing activity is necessary to improve productive skills.
- · Just speaking and writing are not enough to improve accuracy.
- Fluency development activity is needed.
- Language focused instruction can be efficient.

## ACTIVITY3: How can we design an activity which attracts students, and drives

## them to active engagement?

## Competence

sense of confidence, experiencing opportunities to exercise and express one's capacities. People seek challenges that are optimal for their capacities.

Is the task challenging? Do you provide them with scaffolding if needed? Do they feel achievement?

## Relatedness

feeling connected to others, to caring for and being cared for by those others, to having a sense of belongingness.

Do students have a chance to talk with others? Do they deepen the friendship through the activity?

## Autonomy

sense of having a control on one's action. Autonomy is filled when people act from interest and integrated values.

Do students have a choice? How much can they decided what to talk/write about?

## Personalization

sense of relatedness with one's self. People are interested in things which are related with themselves.

To what extent is the topic related with students?

ACTIVITY3-1: Design a activity which involves speaking/writing. Also, it should fulfill the elements influencing on student's motivation.

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Objectives: accuracy / fluency / (

Name of Activity:

Procedure:

# ACTIVITY3-2: Explain your activity to your partners. For listeners, ask the questions below after your partner's explanation.

- Do they feel achievement? Please explain. [competence]
- How can they deepen the friendship through the activity? [relatedness]
- How much can they decided what to talk/write about? [autonomy]
- In what way is the topic related with students? [personalization]

Reference:

Deci, E. L. & Ryan, R. M. (2002) *Handbook of Self-Determination Research*. University of Rochester Press

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## Welcome to the seminar Yuichi ISHIKAWA 6 **Obihiro** Leicester **Memories** Once in a instead of India lifetime things

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## **Objectives of this seminar**

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# What do you do in your class?

For undergraduates, what did you do in your high school English class?

## What activity do you think the most effective?

## Why do you think so?

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## **Collaborative Writing**

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- Jigsaw task: students worked in pairs. They received several different pictures of a story. Then, they were asked to reconstruct and write it down collaboratively.

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Principle to design a well-balanced language course. It should consists of four roughly equal strands.

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## **2.** Grammar focused explanation and drill practice should be eliminated from the lecture.

2 Meaning-focused output:

Learning through speaking and writing. Learner's attention is on conveying ideas and messages to another person.

#### 3 Fluency development

Use known language items and features over the four skills. Becoming fluent with what is already known.

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## 2. Grammar focused explanation and drill practice should be eliminated from the lecture.

#### 4. Language focused-instruction

Learning through deliberate attention to language items and features. This strand includes vocabulary study, grammar exercises and explanation, sounds and spelling, attention to discourse features...

Language-focused learning activities can have a positive effect on learning and language use, but it is important that they are only a small part of the course.

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#### 3. Reading aloud practice and dictation should be repeated as many times as possible. · Reading aloud practice such as LISTENING Read-And-Look-Up Dictation Delayed Repetition is a good preparation for dictation. SHORT-TERM MEMORY Dictation makes WRITING SPEAKING learners focus on the language form. These are "intake" rather than output. Output Delayed Copying Look-Up activity is needed. READING Nation & Newton (2009)

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4. Retelling is the most effective activity.

### What is the purpose of retelling? You can make it better

- Improving accuracy: Pushed output such as negative feedback is needed from both linguistic and content perspectives.
- Developing fluency: Time pressure is needed. 4/3/2 technique can be used.
- Learning language form: Dicto-comp is a useful activity. Learners listen to the text several times. They have to remember the ideas in the text. Then, they write the story in the words of the original or in their own words.



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#### 5. Conversation practice in pair is waste of time.

#### **Fluency Development**

4/3/2 technique: (1) learners are given time to prepare to give a talk about a given topic without making notes. (2) They are told to make pairs with other learners. One of the learners talk for four minutes and another learner listen. (3) They change their partners. This time they are allowed to talk for three minutes but they are expected to give the same information. (4) Learners are given two minutes and require to talk about the same topic again.

Nation (2009)

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linguistic features such as grammar and vocabulary.



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# Writing Dryon agree or disagree with "No friends, No life": (50 words-) Fluency & Input 34

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#### **Beneficial roles of Output (Free Writing)**

Learners notice the gap between what they can do by using the targeted language and what they can not

## ← input Scaffolding, Dictionary, Grammar Book, Pair work…

Learners gain new linguistic knowledge, or consolidate their existing knowledge

Writing: Do you agree or disagree with "No friends, No life." I think friends are essential for our life for the following two reasons. First, friends plays an important role in our lives because they make our lives richer. For example, if you go shopping with your friend, you can enjoy not only the shopping itself, but also the conversation with them. Besides that, they may give you a useful advice for your ...

> Sample Writing Do you agree or disagree with "No music, No life" (50 words~)

I think music is essential for our life for the following two reasons.

First, music plays an important role in our lives because music makes it possible for us to relax. These days, people are surrounded by stressful situations. Therefore, depression and other kinds of mental illness are social problem. However, music can protect us from them.



6. Free writing activity helps students focus on linguistic features such as grammar and vocabulary.

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## **Summary of Activity 2**

- Input is essential. However, speaking and writing activity is necessary to improve productive skills.
- Just speaking and writing are not enough to improve accuracy.
- Fluency development activity is needed.
- Language focused instruction can be efficient.

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## ACTIVITY3

How can we design an activity which attracts students, and drives them to active engagement?



ACTIVITY3: How can we design a class which attracts students, and drives them to active engagement?				
Autonomy	<ul> <li>sense of having a control on one's action. Autonomy is filled when people act from interest and integrated values.</li> <li>Do students have a choice?</li> <li>How much can they decided what to talk/write about?</li> </ul>			
Personalization	Deci & Ryan (2002) sense of relatedness with one's self. People are interested in things which are related with themselves. • To what extent is the topic related with students?			

#### ACTIVITY3-1: Design a activity which involves speaking/ writing. Also, it should fulfill the elements influencing on student's motivation.

)

Objectives: accuracy / fluency / (

Name of Activity:

Procedure:

#### Assumed Questions:

- Do they feel achievement? Please explain. [competence]
- How can they deepen the friendship through the activity? [relatedness]

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- How much can they decided what to talk/write about? [autonomy]
- In what way is the topic related with students? [personalization]

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ACTIVITY3-2: Explain your activity to your partners. For listeners, ask the questions below after your partners explanation.

- Do they feel achievement? Please explain. [competence]
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