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MODERN METHODOLOGIES AND BEST CLASSROOM PRACTICES

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Abstract: This article deals with the significance of using modern methodologies during the lesson. Clarified various approaches such as behaviourism, audiolingualism, and humanistic approaches, proved the best way of teaching language to students with the help of different activities and techniques.

Keywords: teaching system, learner's interests, learning profile, teaching activities, methodology, encouraging students, humanistic approaches.

INTRODUCTION

As far as I am concerned, methodology makes an essential role in teaching system. During the lesson we may face various kinds of learners. All learners have different characters, abilities, and opinions. In this case, teachers have several ways of teaching students according to learner's readiness, interests, learning profile or environment. Visual, auditory, kinesthetic and reading/writing learners exist. How can we choose their preferences? Below I try to share my point of view according to methodology that I often use during my lesson. There are different methodologies that are used in classrooms. Some include behaviourism, audiolingualism, the "natural way", and humanistic approaches. Each is a different approach of how to teach language to students, using various activities and techniques. They all have their pros and cons, which will be analyzed in this article.

Firstly, behaviourism is used by teachers to motivate students to learn and show them how they should react in certain situations. For example, for getting a question correct, the teacher would give the student a reward, or use positive reinforcement so the student continues to try to get questions correct. This method is strong in that it emphasizes good behaviour and hard work and encourages students to improve their learning. However, this method is simple, and doesn't include many situations into it. Emotions, and other complex factors aren't incorporated in this method, which is a weakness in behaviourism. The next methodology, audiolingualism, is based on behaviourism, but with a greater emphasis on repetition of grammatical and phonological structures. The strengths in this method include students learning how to pronounce words better, and since it is based on behaviourism, the strengths from behaviourism are also strengths in audiolingualism. However, some weaknesses are that it does not give as much importance to the meaning of the language, and other skills. The "natural way" method addresses mostly the communicative angle of language. Language is seen as a way to communicate, and vocabulary is given a lot of importance in this

method. Some weaknesses in this method are that it takes a lot of time to learn the language this way, and for someone who wants to learn a language at a faster pace, this would be a problem. It also doesn't take into account many factors besides vocabulary and visuals in order to learn the language. Some strengths are that students learn the language in a natural and easy way, and the teaching materials used help most students learn a language better. Lastly, humanistic approaches say that learners bring out the best in themselves, and rather than rewards or punishments, they are driven by their feelings. And in this method, teachers are encouraged to create a safe learning environment, motivate students, provide choices for students in class, and acknowledge students' feelings. Some disadvantages of this method are that it is not very scientific, and it assumes that students will choose to be good, hence the free will and choice. However, certain students can take advantage of this system for the worse. On the other hand, some advantages of humanistic approaches are that it promotes the idea of personal responsibility and gives students a more active role in how they learn.

Students have different capabilities of learning the subject. Through a variety of instructional strategies and methods, teachers should conduct the lesson efficiently in order to achieve expected result. I should mention that four main types of learners are characterized according to learning styles. These are visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and reading/ writing learners. Visual learners can learn subjects easily with their eyes. Auditory pupils can understand through some lectures and speeches. Kinesthetic learners prefer to learn with some kinds of games because they desire to act as much as possible. Reading/writing learners are fun of reading and writing owing to the fact that themes can be more comprehensible for them than other methods. What should we do to clarify their interests, and why is it vital? A lot of researches have shown that matching teaching and learning styles help to inspire students process of learning. Moreover, there are several methods that ought to be learned. For example, multiple approaches, communication in various ways, reflection questions, useful resources, and so on. Indeed, defining multiple intelligence of the students in advance is indispensable. If the student is interpersonal, he/she likes group work. As long as the learner is intrapersonal, he/she wants to study individually. So it is impossible to teach students without matching methodology to learner needs. Due to the fact that classrooms are usually assembled with learners who have different needs and various language abilities. They may come from different educational and cultural backgrounds. Some of them have different attention spans and interests. That's why first of all, teachers are required to distinguish students in small groups according to their learning styles.

To sum up, there are many philosophies on how to teach language in classrooms. They all focus on different aspects of students, language, and how to learn. Some include behaviourism, audiolingualism, the "natural way", and humanistic approaches. They all have advantages and disadvantages, as there isn't one right way to teach language to students. Using fundamental practices and methods gives the chance to know learners needs better and adapt our teaching strategies to students need more successfully than we expected. By understanding what kind of

learner we or our students are, we can now gain a better perspective on how to implement these learning styles into our lesson plans and study techniques.

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