

The Silent Way

Reviewing the Principles

The goals of teachers

- Using the language for self-expression
- Developing independence from the teacher
- Developing inner criteria for correctness

The role of the teacher

- A technician or engineer
- Respects the autonomy of learners

The role of students

- Actively engage in exploring the language
- Learning is their personal responsibility

Reviewing the Principles

Characteristics of teaching/learning process

- Studying language through its basic building blocks , sounds
- Learn how to read and pronounce words properly
- Focus on the structures of the language
- A great deal of practice without repetition for its own sake
- Students gain autonomy by exploring it and making choices
- They take responsibility for their learning

Reviewing the Principles

S-T interaction

- The teacher is silent
- “Force awareness”
- Listening attentively and silently working with students on their pronunciation
- Speaks to give clue not to model the language

S-S interaction

- Desirable
- Encouraged

The feelings of students

- Self-expression
- Overcome negative feelings
- To cooperate with one another
- Relaxed, enjoyable learning environment

Reviewing the Principles

The language

- Each language has its own unique reality

The culture

- Inseparable from the language

Areas of language

- Pronunciation- the greatest importance
- Focus on grammar structures but no explicit rules are given
- Vocabulary is restricted at first
- No fixed, linear, structural syllabus

Language skills

- All four skills but reading and writing is based on oral work

Reviewing the Principles

Native language

- No translation
- Used when necessary
- Used in feedback sessions
- If possible, positive transfer

Evaluation

- No formal test, but assessment all the time
- No praise or criticism of student behaviour
- Looking for steady progress, not perfection

Student Errors

- Natural, indispensable part of learning process
- Exploring the language from errors

Reviewing the Techniques

Sound-color
chart

Teacher's
silence

Peer
correction

Rods

Self-correction
gestures

Word chart

Field charts

Structured
feedback

References

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