THE NATURAL APPROACH

Krashen, Terrell

Exponents

- Stephan Krashen
- Linguist – University of Southern California
- *"Language acquisition does not require extensive use of conscious grammatical rules, and does not require tedious drill."*
- *"Acquisition requires meaningful interaction in the target language – natural communication - in which speakers are concerned not with the form of their utterances but with the messages they are conveying and understanding."*

Adults and L2

- Adults can acquire second languages.
- The ability to „pick up" languages does not disappear at puberty.
- Adults follow the same principles of Universal Grammar.
- Adults can acquire all by using their ever-active LAD. (but not the phonological aspect)

Adults and L2

* Adults have to paths to follow:

- **Acquisition**
- **Learning**: Adults have abstract probem solving skills
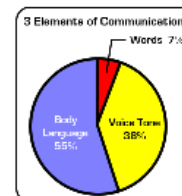
Children have only one (acquisition)

NATURAL

- This term emphasizes that the principles behind that approach are believed to conform to the naturalistic principles found in successful second language acquisition.
- NA focuses on exposure to input instead of grammar practice.

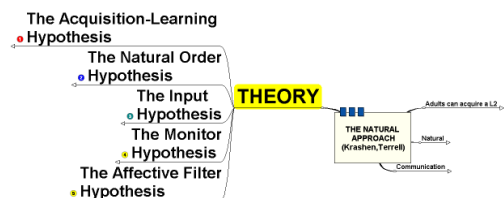## Communication

Means to pass on meaning

Communication

- Communication is the main function of language
- The focus is on teaching communicative abilities.
- The superiority of „meaning" is emphasized.
- Language is a vehicle for „communicating meaning and messages".

THEORY

The Acquisition-Learning Hypothesis
The Natural Order Hypothesis
The Input Hypothesis
The Monitor Hypothesis
The Affective Filter Hypothesis

THEORY

THE NATURAL APPROACH (Krashen,Terrell)

Adults can acquire a L2
Natural
Communication

1) The Acquisition-Learning Hypothesis

- There are two independent systems of second language performance:
- A) the acquired system
- B) the learned system

Acquisition

- Subconscious
- Intuitive

- Acquisition is a subconscious process identical in all important ways to the process children utilize in acquiring the first language.
- It's a process that produces functional skills in the spoken language without theoratical knowledge.

Learning

- Conscious
- Knowing about rules

- Learning the grammar rules of a second languagew does not result in subconscious acquisition.
- What you consciously learn does not necessarily become subconsciously acquired through conscious practice, grammar exercises and the like.

Interrelationship between acquisition and learning

- To understand the functioning of a language as a system and to understand its irregularities is a function of familiarity with it.
- It is important to explore the degrees of irregularity and difficulty of the target language.

The Natural Order Hypothesis

- Acquisition of grammatical structures proceeds in a predicted progression
- Certain grammatical structures are acquired before others in first language acquisition and there is a similar natural order in SLA.

- -ing -> Aux ->Irregular ->Regular Past
- Plural -> article -> past - 3rd Sing.

The Input Hypothesis

- Comprehensible input i+1 should be provided
- Input should be not grammatically sequenced

- People acquire language best by understanding input that is a little above their present level of competence.
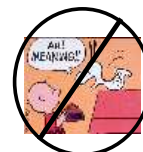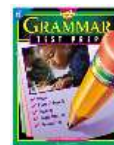
The Monitor Hypothesis

- Grammar rules
- Use monitor
  - If enough time
  - Focus on form not meaning
  - Learner must know the rule

Use monitor

- If enough time
- Focus on form not meaning
- Learner must know the rule

The Affective Filter Hypothesis

- Affective filter freely passes or hinders input
- Input in a low-anxiety contexts
- Factors
  - Self-confidence
  - Motivation
  - Anxiety state

Factors

- Self-confidence
- Motivation
- Anxiety state