A Few Principles

Demonstration: Student Experience

TPRS Skill 1: Circling/Adding Details

TPRS Skill 2: Triangling

Variety: Picture Talk and Movie Talk

Reading and Discussing

Transitioning to TPRS

With a neighbor, define communication

"Communication is the expression, interpretation, and sometimes negotiation of meaning in a given context... Communication has a purpose."

—Sandra Savignon

There are 4 keys to Input

(they must be RICH)

- Repetitive
- Interesting
- Comprehensible
- High-Frequency words
Ultimately we have to decide as language teachers what the goals of our program are.

If we want high levels of proficiency we must feed the “acquisition monster.”

We must provide linguistic data to the brains of our students.

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The 3 Steps of TPRS®

Step #1: Establish Meaning
Some might use:
- TPR (Total Physical Response)
- PQA (Personalized Questions and Answers)
- Direct translation

Remember our definition of Communication

Pre-teaching guide words

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The 3 Steps of TPRS®

Step #2: Ask-a-Story

*Ask for names and places
*Create multiple characters
*Use high frequency language
*Compare and contrast details
*Verify details with actors and class

Co-creating a story with students

Classroom Tip
Post question words!
"Nothing could be more interactive than co-constructing a story, even if the students are not speaking."
—Dr. Bill VanPatten
NTPRS 2017

Step #3: Read

Students should be reading input that they have heard.

- Volleyball reading (mini-stories)
- Read aloud with teacher as narrator
- Reader's theatre (students dramatize story)
- Reading and discussing key topics and themes in the target language
- Choral translations (small sections)
- Free Voluntary Reading Libraries

LISTEN

- Look at me
- Involve yourself in the story
- Show me when you get it or don't get it
- Tune back in (when your mind wanders aimlessly)
- Español only
- No talking over me
Circling is the core of TPRS
✓ start with a **statement**
  statement should include structure
✓ ask yes/no question where answer is **YES**
  repeat answer: "yes, ..."
✓ ask **either/or** question
  repeat answer: "that's correct, ..."
✓ ask yes/no question where answer is **NO**
  repeat answer: "no, ..."
✓ restate correct statement
✓ ask **question-word** question
  For beginners point to the question word.
✓ **Verify** the detail

Transitioning to TPRS?
✓ Classroom rules
✓ Syllabus
✓ Rubrics
✓ Assessments
✓ Scope and sequence (curriculum)
✓ Balancing textbooks and TPRS
✓ Students moving to next level
TPRS and School

- Backwards plan for your end goal.
- Decide on novels for each semester.
- Decide on short stories for each quarter.
- Decide on Movie Talks stories for each quarter.
- Plan Brain Breaks with a purpose.

Assessment

- Interpretive
- Interpersonal
- Presentational
- Culture

Why focus on mini-stories and novels?

- Builds vocabulary
- Shows how the languages “works”
- Shows features of phonetics
- Conditions the child’s brain to associate reading with pleasure
- Creates background knowledge
- Provides a reading role model
- Plants the desire to read and extends interest
Why focus on mini-stories and novels

TPRS Teachers share A LOT
  • TPRSbooks.com
  • iFLT NTPRS CI Facebook group
  • Mike Coxon-Optimizingimmersion.com
  • BryceHedstrom.com
  • Fluency Fast
  • Fluency Matters
  • Tea with BVP- podcast about language teaching
  • Yahoo more TPRS list serve