


Integrating Skills in Secondary Classrooms


1st National English Teachers Symposium

Janet Orr May 2008



Overview: Integrating Skills


- Shaping the Way We Teach English, Module 3
 - Segregated Skill Instruction
 - Strategies weave the instructional tapestry
- Integrated Skill Instruction
 - Content Based Instruction (CBI)
 - Task-Based Instruction
- CBI Surveys and Interviews
- Using what you learned



May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 2

A Tapestry - Reading 3A

- Characteristics of a teacher
 - The teaching style should address the learning style of the learner
- Characteristics of the learner
 - The learner must be motivated
- The setting
 - The setting must provide resources and values that support instruction
- The relevant language context



May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 3

Video Vocabulary:

- Discuss the video
 - What language or communication skills were visible in the video?
 - Were subject specific skills being taught? What were they?
 - Can you provide examples from your classroom?

Brainstorming - In a group, people suggest a lot of ideas quickly.

Communicative Competence - the ability to communicate in the target language for meaningful purposes.


Graphic Organizers - visual maps of information, diagrams, timelines, etc. that help learners organize information for better understanding and memory.

Tangible - can be touched

Total Physical Response (TPR) - a language teaching method that begins with listening followed by physically doing the task following instructions.

Receptive Skills - listening and reading


Productive Skills - speaking and writing



May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 4

Integrated Skills Instruction: 2 types

- **Content Based Instruction (CBI)**-the integration of content/subject and language learning (Oxford)
 - **Theme-based:** the teacher selects a theme or topic and builds learning activities using different subject areas and media to develop real life language skills (Enright & McCloskey)
 - **Adjunct:** language and content courses taught separately but coordinated
 - **Sheltered:** the subject matter is taught in simplified English (Scarcella & Oxford)




May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 5

Task Based Instructions (Nunan)

- Students participate in communicative tasks that require
 - Comprehending
 - Producing
 - Manipulating
 - Interacting using authentic language
 - Focus on meaning rather than form

Types of Activities increase collaboration and interaction

- Pair work
 - conversations
- Group work
 - Writing a newspaper
 - Producing a play
- Surveys and Interviews
- Adjust activity to learning styles of the class




Module 3 Video 2
May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 6

Using Surveys and Interviews for Integrated Skills Instruction

Read 3 B

- Why use surveys?
- Describe the instructions you will give your student to do a survey.
- How can students present the results of a survey?



May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 7

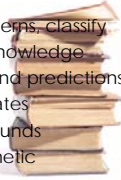
Surveys and Interviews

Cognitive Academic Language Learning Approach (CALLA) Strategies (Chamot & O'Malley)

Purpose:


- ❖ Provides students with real reason to communicate
- ❖ Learn to collaborate and work in groups
- ❖ Learn how to ask and answer questions-prepare a survey
- ❖ Learn to write different kinds of questions
- ❖ Learn how to calculate the results
- ❖ Learn how to present the results

- Cognitive-Social Learning Model
- Authentic Content
- Academic Language
- Learning Strategies
 - Organize, find patterns, classify
 - Use background knowledge
 - Make inferences and predictions
 - Transfer/use cognates
 - Use images and sounds
 - Use actions/kinesthetic



May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 8

- **Experience a CALLA Survey**
 1. Answer the questions about yourself
 2. Form 3 groups
 3. Follow the instructions for each group
 4. Select a group presenter to tell the results of the compilation.
- **Explain the benefits of using a survey**
 - What topic could work in your classroom?
 - What are the benefits of using an integrated skills approach in your classroom?



May 2008 Madagascar www.tealservices.net 9