



Theories of learning



Before we start!



It is necessary to identify how people learn. The process of the mind and the understanding of the process.

In the 20th century, Psychology was recognized as a respectable subject of scientific inquiry. Until then, theories of learning emerged.



We can identify 5 main stages of development proposed by Littlewood (1984), which are relevant to the modern language teacher



1 BEHAVIOURISM

Learning is a mechanical process of bit formation and proceeds by means of the frequent reinforcement of stimulus-response sequence

2 MENTALISM



Chomsky (1964) states that thinking must be rule-governed. Learning consists not of forming habits, but of acquiring rules, a process in which the mind formulates a hypothesis.



3 COGNITIVE CODE

Learning happens when the learner makes sense of data. The learning took place when the learner has managed to impose an interpretation on the data.

4 AFFECTIVE FACTOR



Learners should feel motivated through enjoyment of learning.



5 LEARNING & ACQUISITION

Learning is seen as a conscious process; on the other hand, acquisition proceeds unconsciously. These two elements play a useful part when learning, and that is what an E.S.P. course will try to exploit.

DRINKS



1 water



2 coffee



3 tea



4 juice



5 milk



6 soda

FOODS



7 bread



8 pasta



9 rice



10 cheese



11 meat



12 chicken



13 fish



14 oil



15 butter



16 sugar



17 salt



18 pepper

Reference: Saslow, J., & Ascher, A. (2010). *Touchstone Fundamentals*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press. P.82