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Vlog - Module 25, Unit 1, Activity 2

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VC Group Definitions:

Linguistics: The science of language including phonetics, phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, grammar, and history. The breaking of language, studying the systems.

Applied Linguistics: How we apply linguistics in the real world or how we face real problems. Elements under applied linguistics:

- 1) Centrality of language
- 2) How we ask the questions of how it's relevant to the real world to what we're teaching
- 3) Empirical methods, how we commit to using facts and challenge the given.

How we change the theory into the practice

Language

discussion forum points:

- Arts - dance, visual arts,
 - I add to that music, drama/theater
- Receptive vs Expressive
- Tone of voice
 - I'd like to add meter or tempo
- Written, non-verbal gestures
- Systemic within a community
- Externalizing thoughts and ideas

Group 2 Definition Language:

A body of **systems** for their use common to living things within the same community, nation, geographical area or culture. Normally associate with the spoken, it can extend to music, art, dance, physical contact. A Form of human communication words, gestures, etc.

Language

Wikipedia (2021) gave a wide variety of definitions, which closely relate to the points that our cohort brought up in our VC and discussion forum. “A structure system of communication used by humans consisting of speech and gestures.” They mentioned that language have a writing system, which might imply that language pertains more to audio and physical gestures. As I see it, this makes sense because audio language came before written words.

My own thoughts: I can't redefine language, but if I'm to put it in my own words using the ideas that have influenced me through our discussions and readings, then I would say that the purpose of language is to communicate what is inside to the outside world - typically to another human. Personally, I think the means of communicating through the different art forms counts as much as the written language, because it serves the purpose of communicating.

Language Learning

Group 2 Definition of Education

and Learning: any kind of information given and received - whether formal or informal. Can be institution giving and receiving information that someone needs to live in the adult world they will grow into. Text books, neighbors, parents, etc.

Ofelia García (2017) and Genesee and Nicoladis (2005) talk about “unitary language” where there is no differentiation between learning two separate languages.

Language Learning

Krashen and Terrell (1998) write about the different learning types of obtaining language: learning and acquisition. The difference in their definition, was that acquisition can be picked up along the way, whereas learning was a part of a formal systemic step by step process where someone actively sought out and/or received language lessons. I myself had experience with this - I took German in university for a year, but then had no real communication opportunity to use it. Then after my daughters were born in Germany, I was forced to use the skills I had learned (gladly!) so that I could interact with parents and other German speaking friends.

My own thoughts: Is language learning defined as learning a language that you didn't grow up with? If so, then what is the cut off from growing up with a language? Some people say that language acquisition is different from language learning, but isn't learning also a form of being exposed and absorbed in a language? I ended up with more questions than a definition.

Language Teaching

Dr. Lundgren (2012) explains that in order to teach language well, we need to have written objectives that pertain to the standards in our curriculum. Then identify the language that will be needed to meet those objectives. She also explains that language includes listening, responding, reading, and writing.

In Study.com's short video they explain that teaching language should involve "providing students with a variety of learning activities and methods that incorporate different content delivery styles and approaches."

Language Teaching

My own thoughts: Teaching language doesn't have to be clinical, though it does need to be thoughtful. There needs to be a purpose for the objectives one is teaching. It does need to be scaffolded so that learners can build off what they have previously learned, and of course it needs to try to reach everyone and meet them where they are on their journeys.

References

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