The Effectiveness of the Usage of Up-to-date Authentic Materials in Teaching English

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The Aim

- to teach students natural English as it is spoken by the native users and to prepare them for the easier adaptation to the use of English outside the classroom.

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Authentic Materials – Bridges into the Real World

- "Authentic materials are created to fulfill some social purpose in the language community in which it was produced". (Matthew Peacock)

Realia

- Newspaper Materials;
- Literary Texts;
- Poetry;
- Music and songs, etc.

Tips When Selecting Authentic Materials

- interest
- background knowledge
- language
- text organization
- audio and video materials (Homolova, 2006)

Adaptation of Authentic Materials

- "teacher as a filter"
- successful simplification

Adapting Original Materials For Language Teaching

- semantic elements
- lexical elements
- syntactic elements
- discourse elements

Connotation

- **Original text:** One of the <u>keys</u> to total quality management is involving the employees.

- **Rewritten text:** One of the most important <u>factors</u> in total quality management is involving the employees.

Advantages and Disadvantages

- Real discourse;
- Intrinsic educational value
- Incidental English;
- Language styles, etc.

- Culturally biased;
- Irrelevant vocabulary;
- Mixed structures;
- Time consuming;
- Outdated material, etc.

21st Century Learning

- Meaningful projects;
- "base camp";
- Teachers = learners;
- Collaborating vs consuming, etc.

(http://www.innovationunit.org/knowledge/our-ideas/21st-century-learning)

21st Century Learners

- Digital literacy;
- Demand for creativity;
- Wish to be connected;
- Excellent collaboration;
- Multitasking;
- Learning in action;
- "Can do" attitude;
- Challenge;
- Multicultural awareness;

- Open to change;
- Increasing awareness;
- Know where to find information;
- Better educated;
- Meaningful knowledge.

(http://drsaraheaton.wordpress.com/ 2011/12/07/21st-century-learners/)

Learning Meaningful Knowledge

- The content must be potentially meaningful.
- The learner must relate it in a meaningful way to the prior knowledge (D.Ausubel)

Online Learning

- Must acquire meaningful knowledge;
- The computer as a vehicle;
- Flexibility of access;
- "Doing it right";
- High authenticity;
- The learner at a distance;
- Diversity of practice.

"Faceless communication environment"

- Limitless authentic materials;
- Websites – one of the easiest ways to get started;
- Instant feedback;
- Extra practice on grammar;
- Challenge for teachers.

Military English Communication

- Awareness according to specific purposes;
- Communicative situation;
- Understanding different kinds of texts;
- Meaningful communication;
- Communicative competence.

Thank You!