

The Case for an Interactive Classroom

***Min Wang and Yvonne Pratt-Johnson, Presenters
St. John's University
USA***

Traditional ESL/EFL Classes



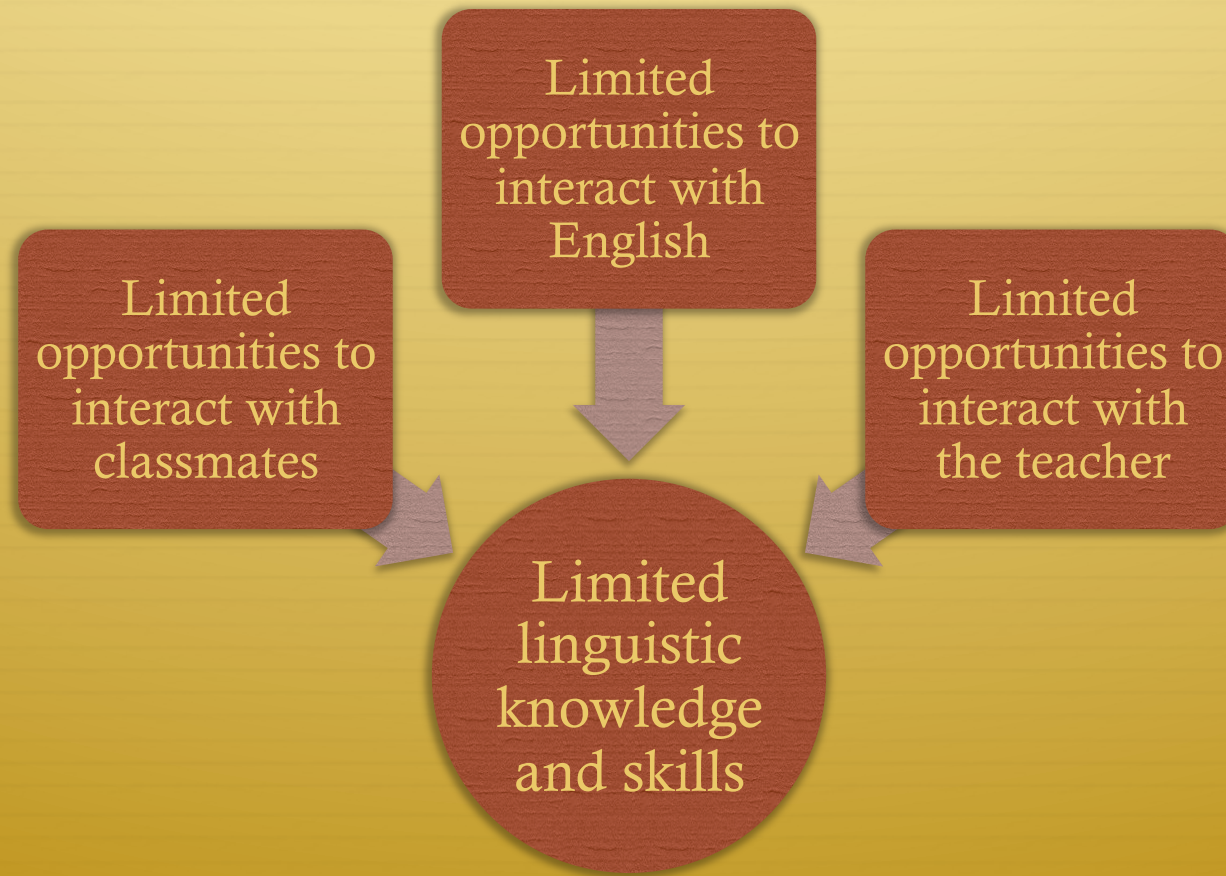
✦ Roles of teachers and students

- 1. Teachers as “sages on the stage”**
- 2. Students as passive recipients**

✦ The flow of information

- 1. Unidirectional**
- 2. Monologue**
- 3. Spoon-fed**

ESL/EFL Learning outcomes

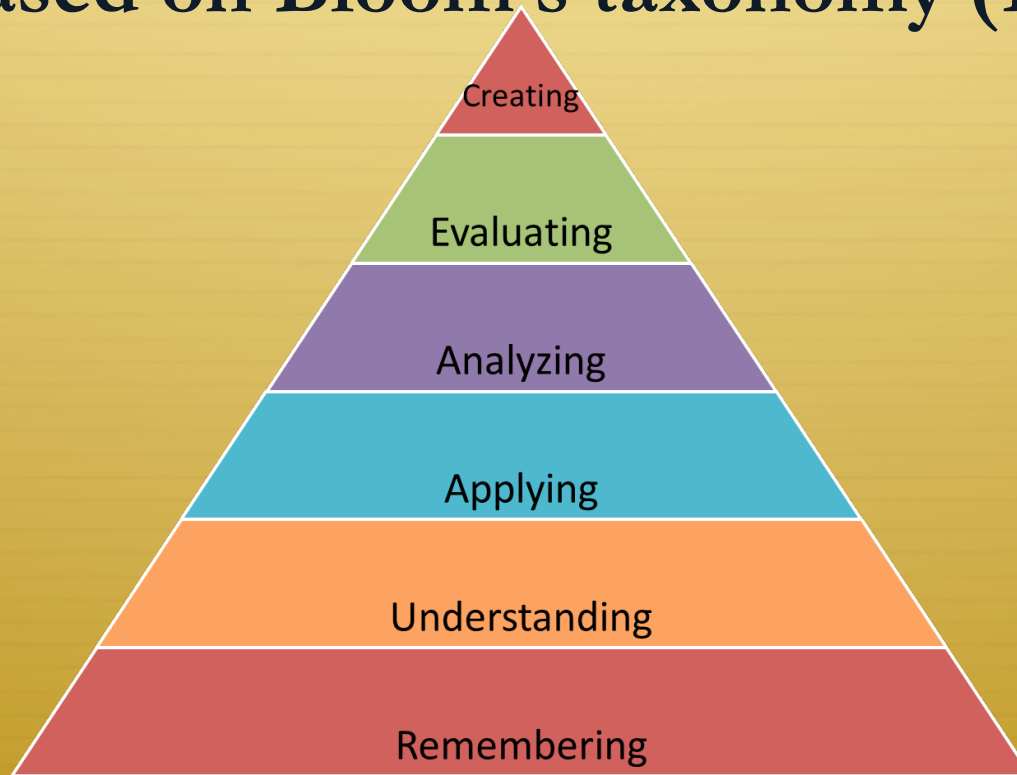


Teacher vs. Student Centered Learning

| Teacher - Centered | Student - Centered |
|---|--|
| Knowledge transmitted from teacher to students | Students construct knowledge through gathering, synthesizing & integrating info |
| Students passively receive | Students actively involved |
| Teacher is primary info-giver & evaluator | Teacher coaches & facilitates; evaluates learning with students |
| Culture is individualistic | Culture is cooperative & collaborative |

THE INTERACTIVE CLASSROOM

based on Bloom's taxonomy (1956)

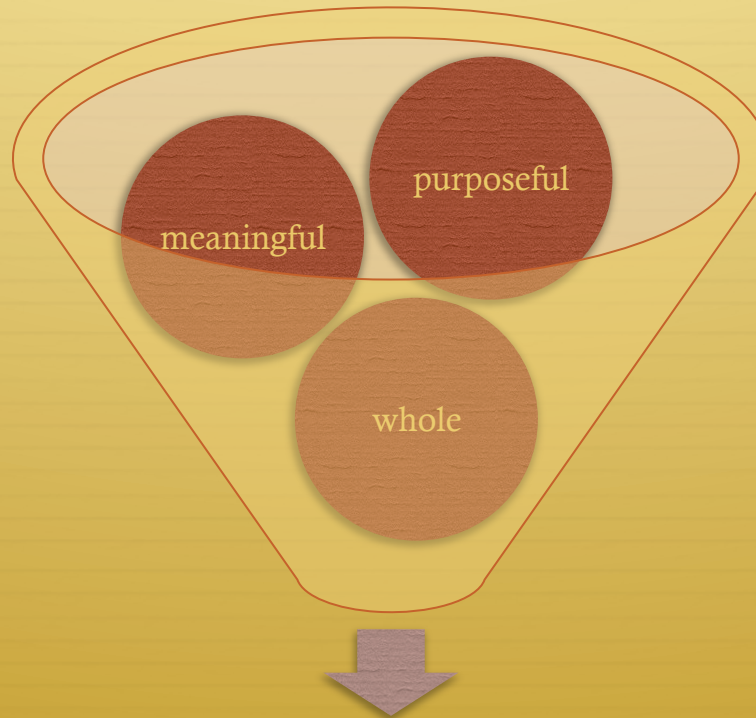


Successful English Learning Classes

Seven Conditions for Success:

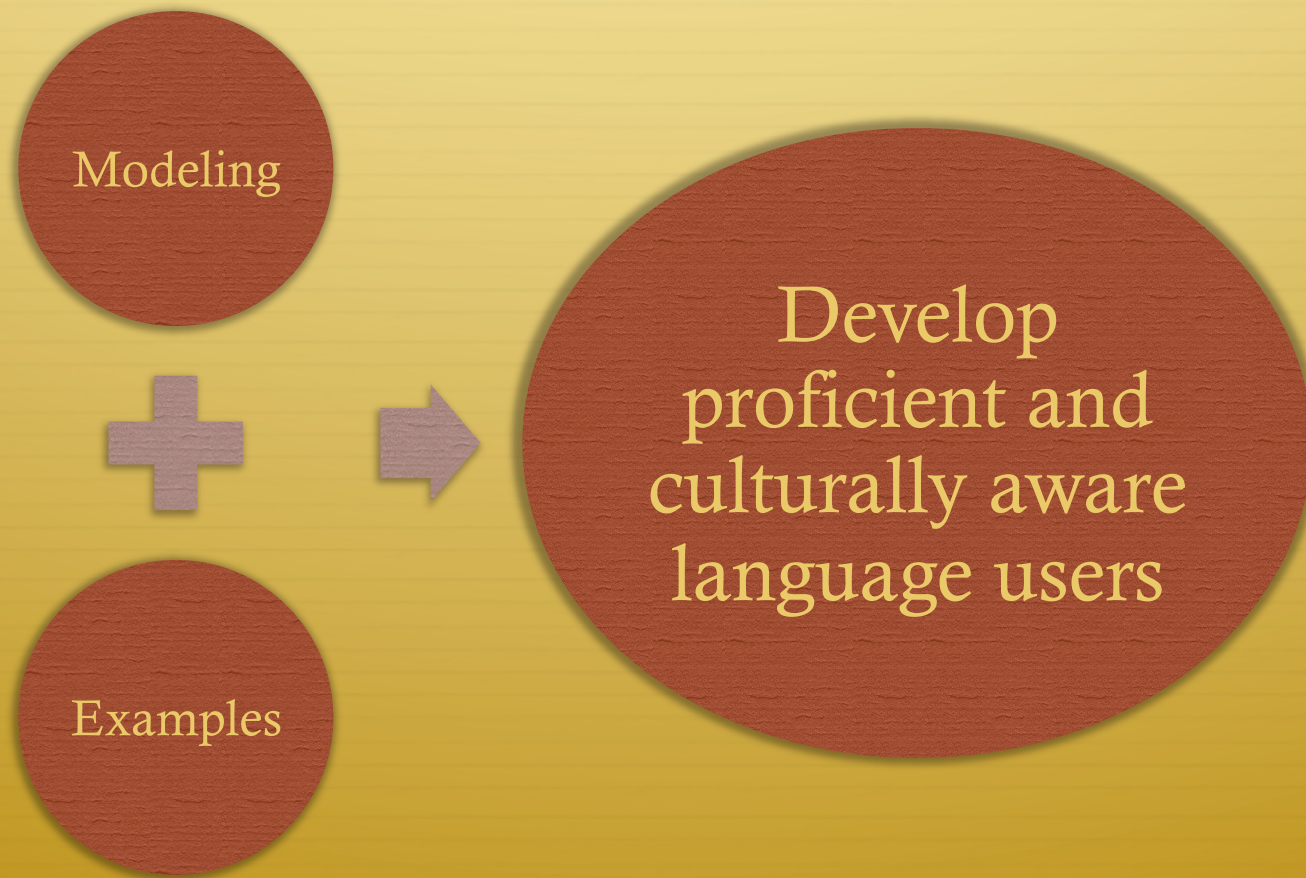
- ✦ **Immersion**
- ✦ **Demonstration**
- ✦ **Expectations**
- ✦ **Responsibility**
- ✦ **Approximation**
- ✦ **Employment**
- ✦ **Feedback**

Immersion

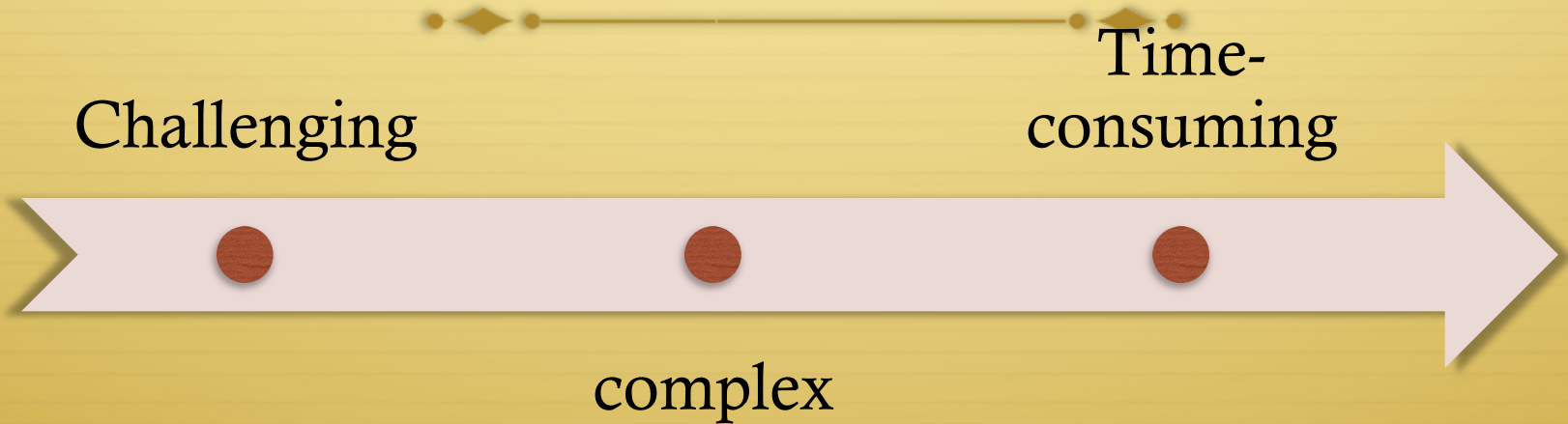


Language

Demonstrations

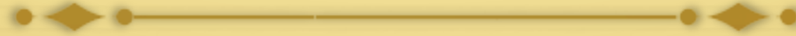


Expectations

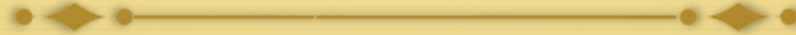


But, L2 learners can and will learn the language.

Responsibility



Approximation

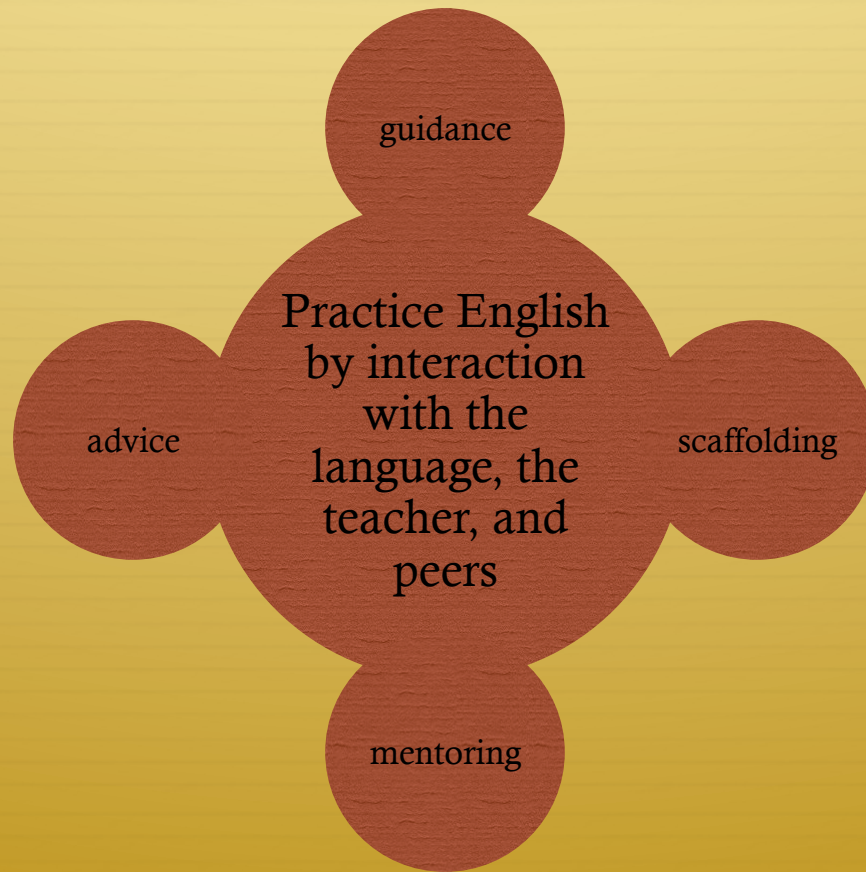


**Not Just
for Being
Right**

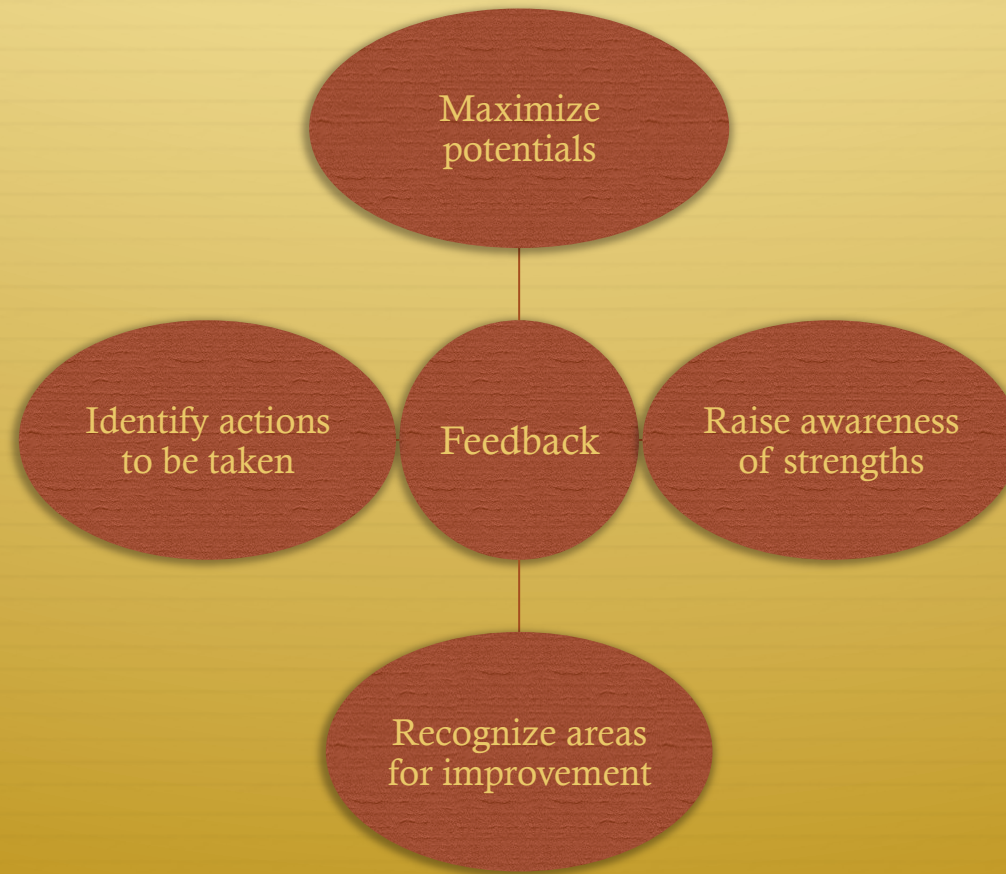


**But for
Being
Close**

Employment



Feedback



The Interactive Classroom Approach



Students:

Participate as equal partners in an ongoing discovery process.

✦ **Students actively co-share responsibility in their learning.**

✦ **Additional characteristics of an interactive classroom:**

- 1. Busy**
- 2. Engaging**
- 3. Noisy (sometimes)**
- 4. Collaborative**
- 5. Communicative**
- 6. Negotiatory**

An Example of an Interactive Classroom



“The more the language actually comes from the students, the more it is learned through experimentation and discovery, and the more the students will be interested in it.”

References



- ✦ **[1] Bloom, B.S. “Taxonomy of educational objectives”: The classification of educational goals”.**
- ✦ **[2] Cambourne, B. “Language, learning and literacy”. Rigby, 1984.**
- ✦ **[3] Commander, M., & de Guerrero, M. C. “Reading as a social interactive process: The impact of shadow-reading in L2 classrooms”, Reading in a Foreign Language, 25(2), 2013, 170.**
- ✦ **[4] Huang, Y. M., Liang, T. H., Su, Y. N., & Chen, N. S. “Empowering personalized learning with an interactive e-book learning system for elementary school students”, Educational Technology Research and Development, 60(4), 2012, 703-722.**
- ✦ **[5] Hüseyin, Ö. Z. “Teachers' and Students' Perceptions of Interactive Whiteboards in the English as a Foreign Language Classroom”, TOJET: The Turkish Online Journal of Educational Technology, 13(3), 2014.**
- ✦ **[6] Mascolo, M. F. “Beyond student-centered and teacher-centered pedagogy: Teaching and learning as guided participation”, Pedagogy and the Human Sciences, 1(1), 3-27, 2009.**
- ✦ **[7] Murugaiah, P., & Thang, S. M. “Development of interactive and reflective learning among Malaysian online distant learners: An ESL instructor’s experience”, The International Review of Research in Open and Distributed Learning, 11(3), 2010, 21-41.**

References



- ✦ **[8] Ozkose-Biyik, C., & Meskill, C. “Plays Well With Others: A Study of EFL Learner Reciprocity in Action”, TESOL Quarterly, 49(4), 2015, 787-813.**
- ✦ **[9] Razak, N. A., Saeed, M., & Ahmad, Z. “Adopting social networking sites (SNSs) as interactive communities among English foreign language (EFL) learners in writing: Opportunities and challenges”, English Language Teaching, 6(11), 2013, 187.**
- ✦ **[10] Shen, L., & Suwanthep, J. “E-learning Constructive Role Plays for EFL Learners in China's Tertiary Education”. Online Submission, 49, 2011.**
- ✦ **[11] Sun, Y. C., & Chang, Y. J. “Blogging to learn: Becoming EFL academic writers through collaborative dialogues”, Language Learning & Technology, 16(1), 2012, 43-61.**
- ✦ **[12] Türel, V. “Design of feedback in interactive multimedia language learning environments”, Linguistik online, 54(4), 2013.**
- ✦ **[13] Woolf, B. P. “Building intelligent interactive tutors: Student-centered strategies for revolutionizing e-learning”. Morgan Kaufmann, 2010.**
- ✦ **[14] Yanguas, Í. “Oral computer-mediated interaction between L2 learners: It’s about time”, Language Learning & Technology, 14(3), 2010, 72-93.**