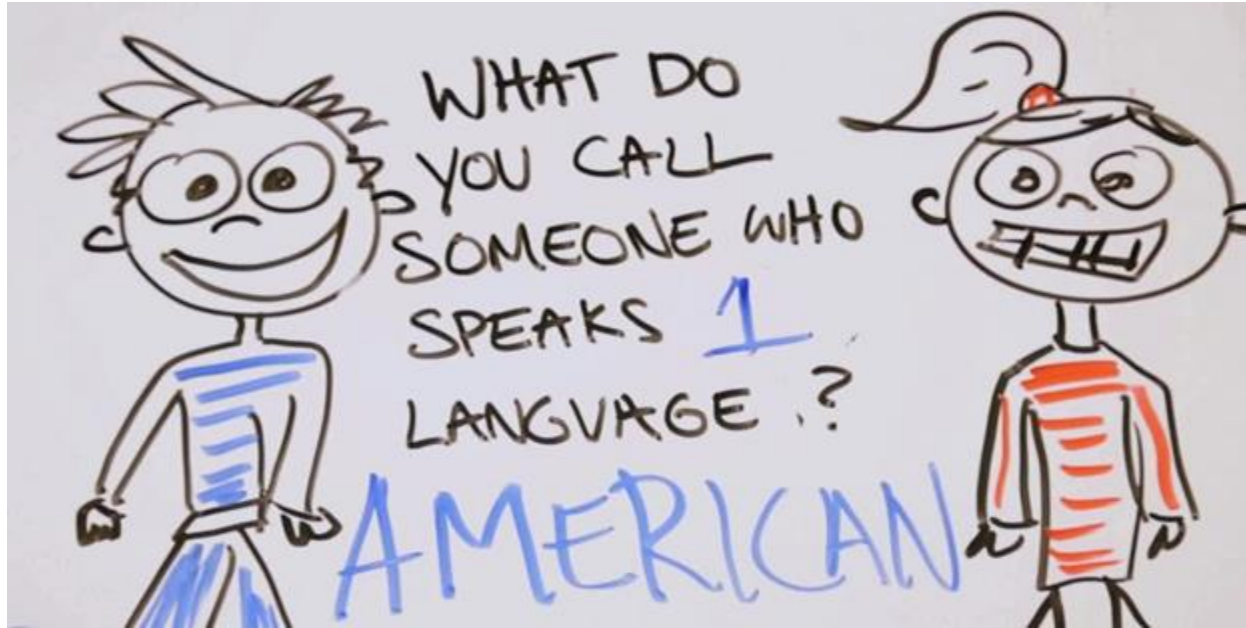

Integrating Usage-Based Theory of Language Acquisition with On-Line Foreign Language Learning

— Lewis University —
Dr. Serafima Gettys
Professor Rocio Rodriguez
Professor Lifeng Hu

Session Overview

1. Introduction to UBI: Theory and Application
2. Introduction to Voice Thread
3. Examples of Voice Thread Online Lessons with UBI sequenced activities.
 - Beginning Chinese Course
 - Intermediate Spanish Course

A stubbornly monolingual nation



Disheartening statistics:

- less than 10% of Americans speak a foreign language;
- only 18% of K-12 students study a language and for an average of only 2 years;
- just 8% of college students study a foreign language;
- only 1% of college students graduate with a language minor.



What Proficiency Level Do High School Students Achieve?

After 4 years of instruction only 6% of high school students achieve Intermediate Mid Level of Speaking Proficiency, with the majority not crossing the threshold between Novice and Intermediate levels

Report by

Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS), University of Oregon

Updated April 23, 2010

“It isn’t that people don’t think language education important. It’s that they don’t think it’s possible.”

(Richard Brecht, Director for Advanced Study of Language at the University of Maryland and one of the leaders in the field)

Teaching Languages at Lewis University



- Foreign language is an elective subject
- Many students choose to study languages they did not study at school
- Most students can afford time to study the language of their choice for no more than 1 semester or a year

What is UBI (Usage Based Instruction)?

UBI is a time-efficient approach to prepare learners to orally communicate in a foreign language with basic level of fluency

What is in the name?



Usage-Based Theory of Language Acquisition

What should you know about usage-based theory?

Usage-based theory

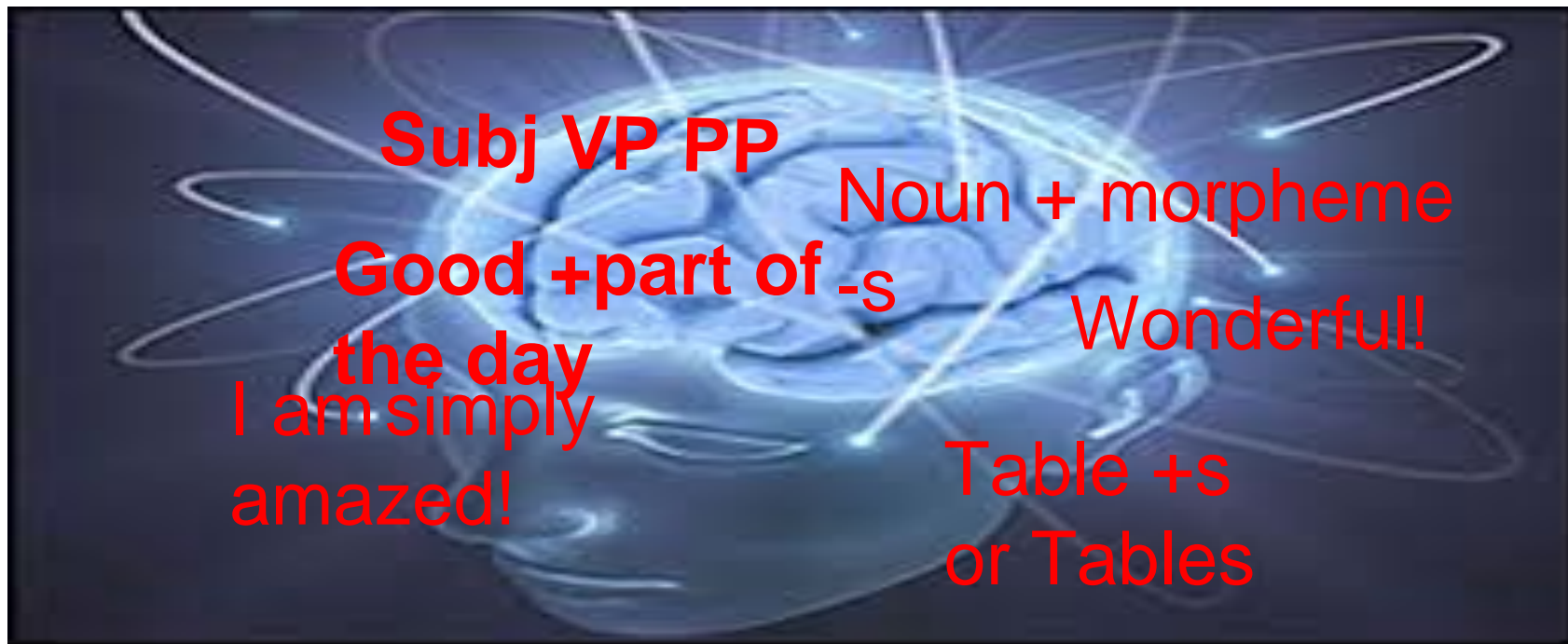


Chomsky's Universal Grammar

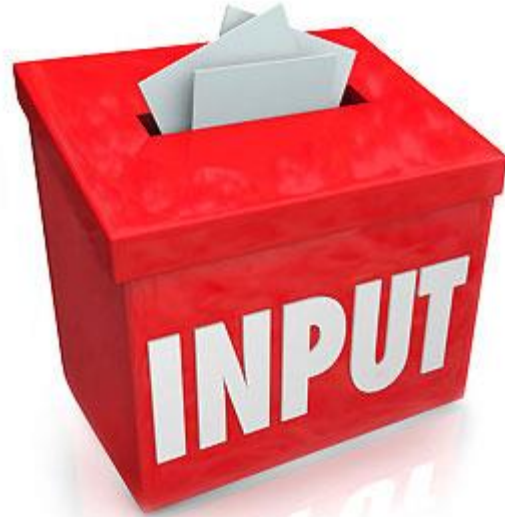
Usage-Based Theory: Rules do not Rule



Constructions in the mind

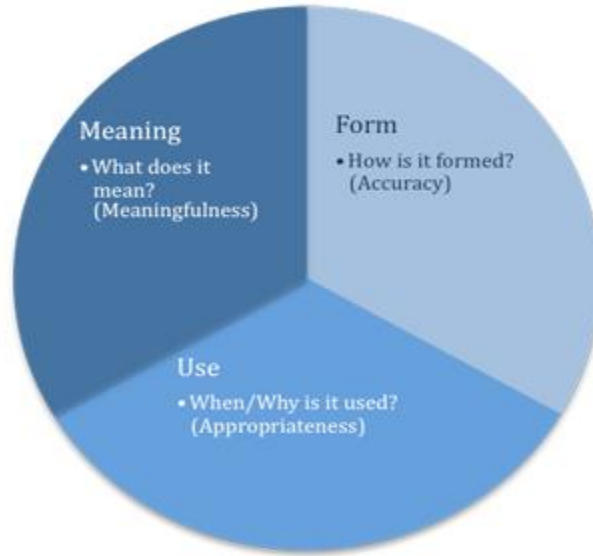


How is language acquired:

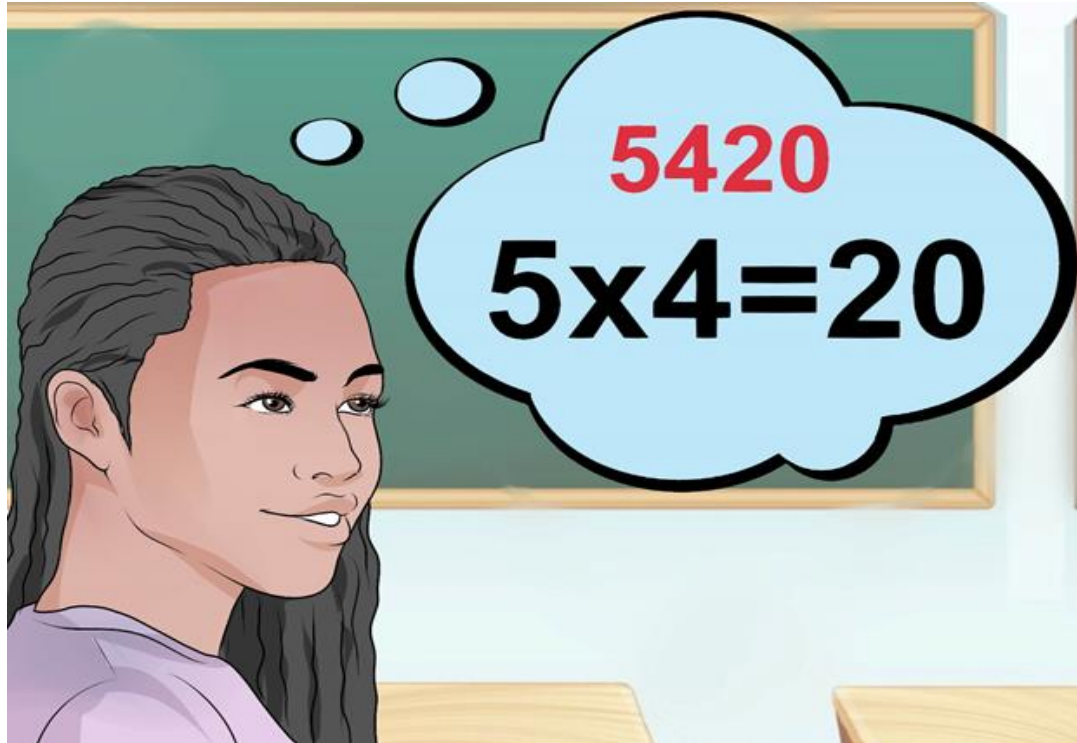


ComputerHope.com

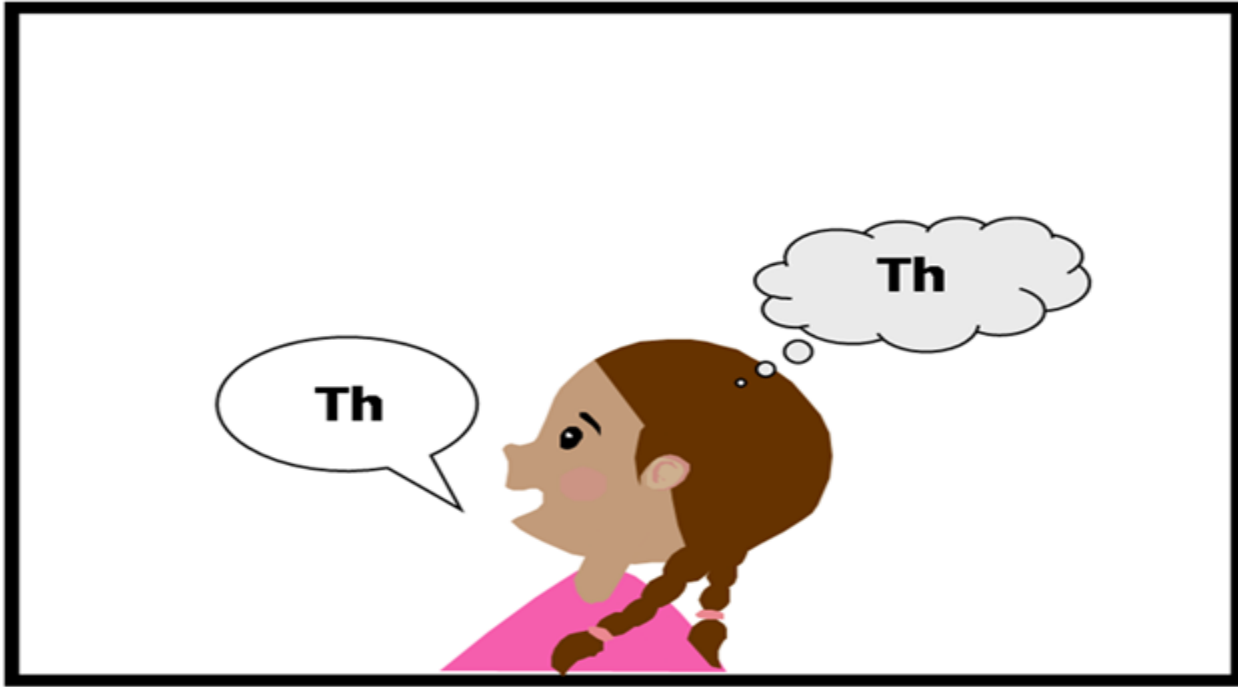
Strong association is established



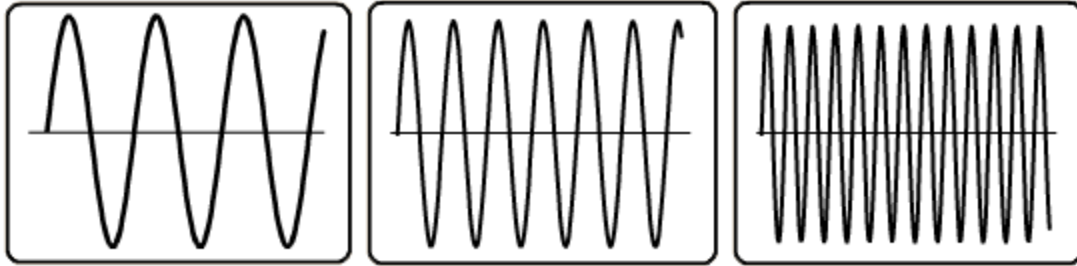
Label-meaning relationship gets memorized



The speaker begins to produce speech



Frequency of use is the main factor





**Learning
Outcomes**

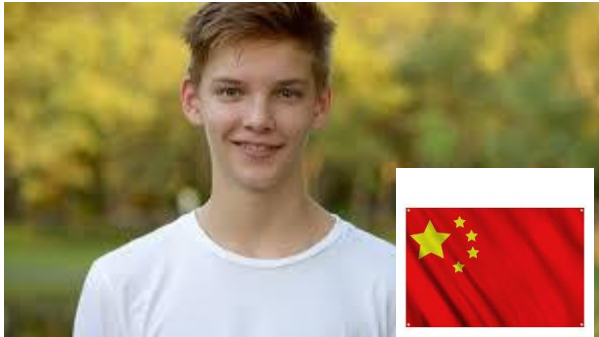
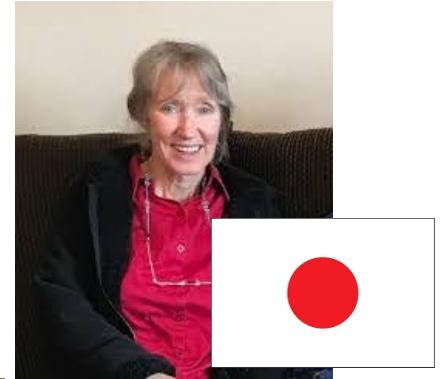


Constructions

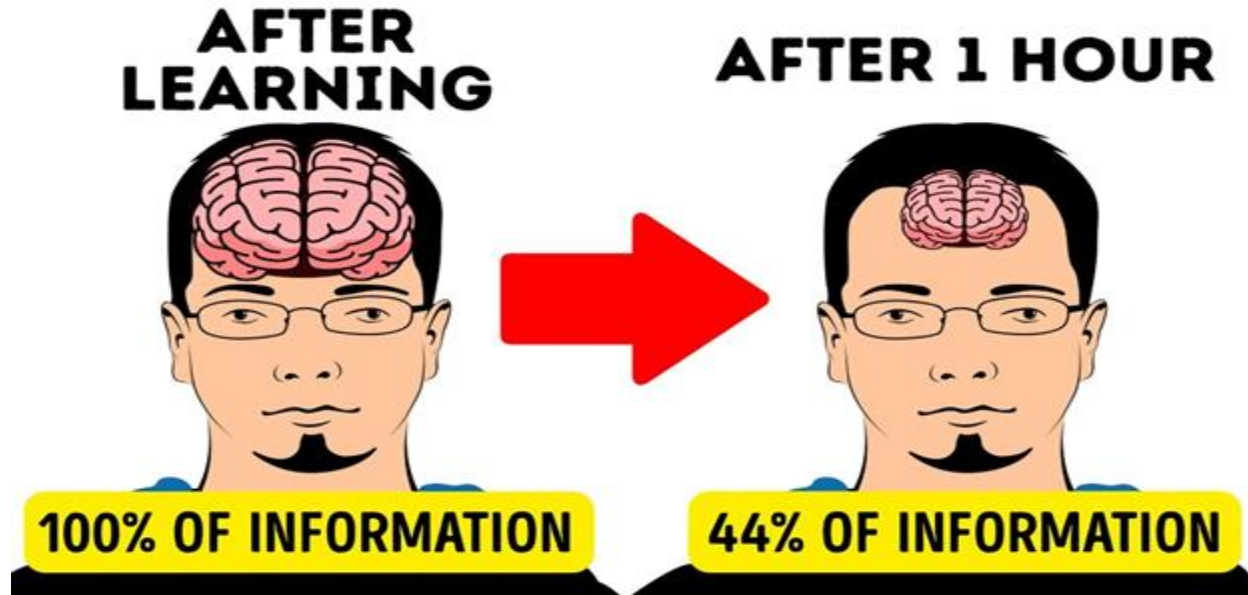
The UBI instructional sequence

1. Modeling
2. Focused input
3. Forced-choice output
4. Scaffolded output
5. Guided practice
6. Recycling

Watch and listen as these people say what languages they speak



Relentless review and recycling



What is Voice Thread?

VoiceThread is a cloud application, so there is no software to install. The only system requirement is an up-to-date version of Adobe Flash.

Creating

Upload, share and discuss documents, presentations, images, audio files and videos.

Commenting

Comment on VoiceThread slides using one of five commenting options: microphone, webcam, text, phone, and audio-file upload.

Sharing

Keep a VoiceThread private, share it with specific people, or open it up to the entire world.

Commenting options on Voice Thread

02 VT 9 Asking Questions in Chinese week 5 (Slide 10 of 19) LiFeng CC [] X

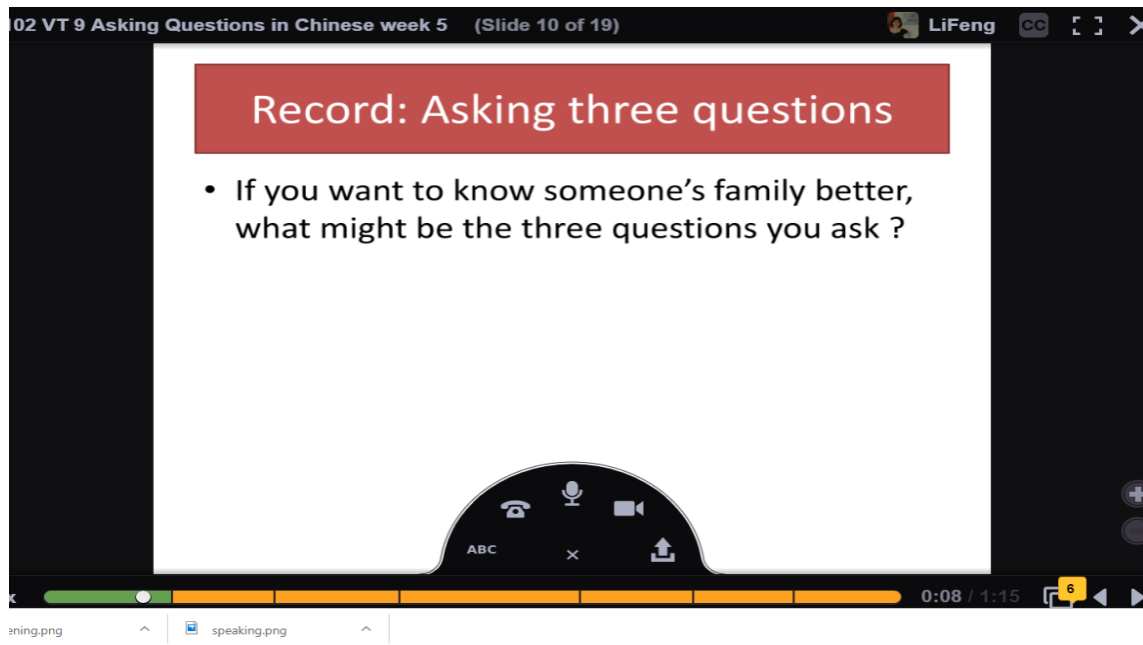
Record: Asking three questions

- If you want to know someone's family better, what might be the three questions you ask ?

ABC X

0:08 / 1:15 6

ening.png speaking.png

The image is a screenshot of a VoiceThread presentation. At the top, the browser address bar shows the URL '02 VT 9 Asking Questions in Chinese week 5 (Slide 10 of 19)' and the user 'LiFeng'. The main content area features a red rectangular box with the text 'Record: Asking three questions' in white. Below this box is a bulleted list with one item: '• If you want to know someone's family better, what might be the three questions you ask ?'. At the bottom of the slide, there is a semi-circular toolbar with icons for a telephone, a microphone, a video camera, and an upload arrow, along with the text 'ABC' and a close 'X' button. The bottom of the interface shows a progress bar with a green segment and an orange segment, indicating the current position in the presentation. The time '0:08 / 1:15' is displayed next to the progress bar. On the far right, there is a small yellow icon with the number '6'. At the very bottom, there are two tabs: 'ening.png' and 'speaking.png'.

Example of a Voice Thread Online Lesson with UBI sequenced activities

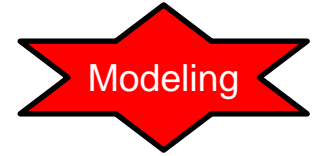
Course: First year Chinese 1

Semester: Spring 2018

Topic: Talking about your nationality (week 3)



Learning names of different countries
Listen carefully as I say and circle the
names of these countries one by one:



Listen to how the people in the picture say which country they live or don't live in



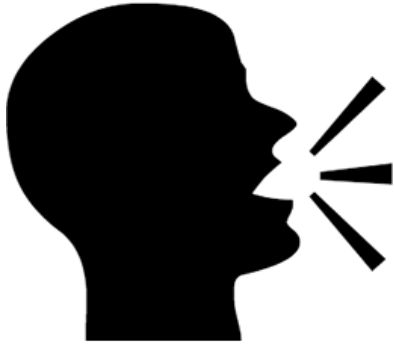
Names of different countries

I will say the names of two countries. Tell me which two I say by posting a text comment with the two numbers

1. China
2. America
3. England
4. Spain
5. Korea
6. Japan
7. Taiwan

Input





I will circle and say the names of two countries, **record/repeat** the one you would rather go to (do not say both words)

Forced choice output



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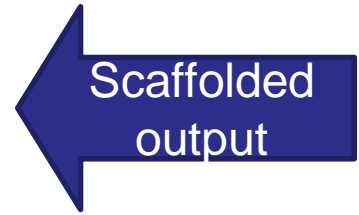
Record/Say the names of these countries one by one

1. China
2. America
3. England
4. Spain
5. Korea
6. Japan
7. Taiwan



Record three sentences.

1. Say which country you actually live in.
2. Name two countries you really want to visit. (I want to go to..)



Online Chinese Courses

1. Asychronized, three due days each week
2. Voice Thread as a major learning/teaching venue.
3. Other course activities and requirements:
 - **Monthly speaking projects** (Voice Thread, Adobe Spark Video)
 - **Discussion Board** (reflection, commenting on a short video, commenting on certain areas of Chinese culture from reading an article/news etc)
 - **Cultural Report** (movie, book, documentary)
 - **Collaborating with Partners**: Role-play, dialogue (both scripted and unrehearsed), recorded sessions on ***Collaborate***
 - **Individual online meetings** with instructor for oral assessment

UBI in intermediate courses

What they can

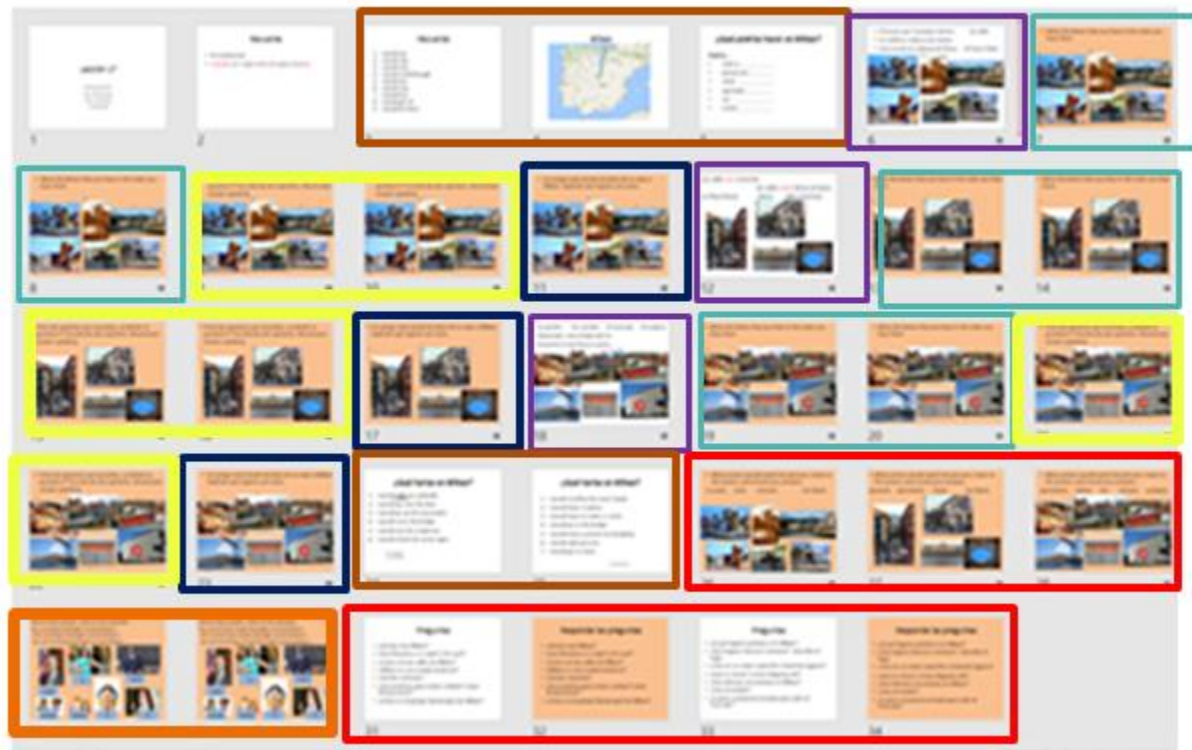
- Produce 2L sounds
- Know basic syntax structure

What they need

- Produce longer utterances
- Work at the paragraph level
- Begin to create with the language

UBI in intermediate courses

1. Modeling
2. Focused input
3. Forced-choice output
4. Scaffolded output
5. Guided practice
6. Recycling



UBI in intermediate courses

Objective: Describe with detail some features of the city: Bilbao, Spain (target country/culture)

- outside/inside
- by the river/beach
- made of steel/flowers/stone
- covered by flowers
- full of bars/people



Modeling

“Listen, read, visualize” -> Form
connections

Focused Input

“Initial memorization”

->Strengthen
connection

- El museo por fuera/por dentro la orilla
- Un edificio cubierto de titanio
- Una escultura cubierta de flores el Casco Viejo



- Write the letters that you hear in the order you hear them



Forced choice output

“Decide and produce meaningfully”

->Connect mind and muscle

Scaffolded output

“Produce meaningful utterances using clues”

->Focused practice

- Entre las opciones que escuchas, ¿a dónde te gustaría ir? Escucha las dos opciones. *Record your answer speaking*



- Un amigo está viendo las fotos de tu viaje a Bilbao. Explicale qué lugares son estos.



¿Qué harías en Bilbao?

1. I would take an umbrella
2. I would get into the bars
3. I would go up the mountains
4. I would cross the bridge
5. I would see the sculptures
6. I would check the street signs

Un paraguas
Las montañas

Guided Practice

“Use the language for their own purposes. i.e. answer questions, narrate, describe”

->Integration

Preguntas

- ¿Dónde está Bilbao?
- ¿Qué llevarías a tu viaje? ¿Por qué?
- ¿Cómo son las calles de Bilbao?
- ¿Bilbao es una ciudad moderna?
- ¿Dónde comerías?
- ¿Qué pedirías para comer y beber? ¿Qué desayunarías?
- ¿Cómo es el paisaje (landscape) de Bilbao?

Responde las preguntas

- ¿Dónde está Bilbao?
- ¿Qué llevarías a tu viaje? ¿Por qué?
- ¿Cómo son las calles de Bilbao?
- ¿Bilbao es una ciudad moderna?
- ¿Dónde comerías?
- ¿Qué pedirías para comer y beber? ¿Qué desayunarías?
- ¿Cómo es el paisaje (landscape) de Bilbao?

Recycling

You are giving advice on what to do in Chicago to a friend

Say what you would do in Chicago, use the pictures as a guide.

Mention at least two things about each picture.

1

Chicago



2



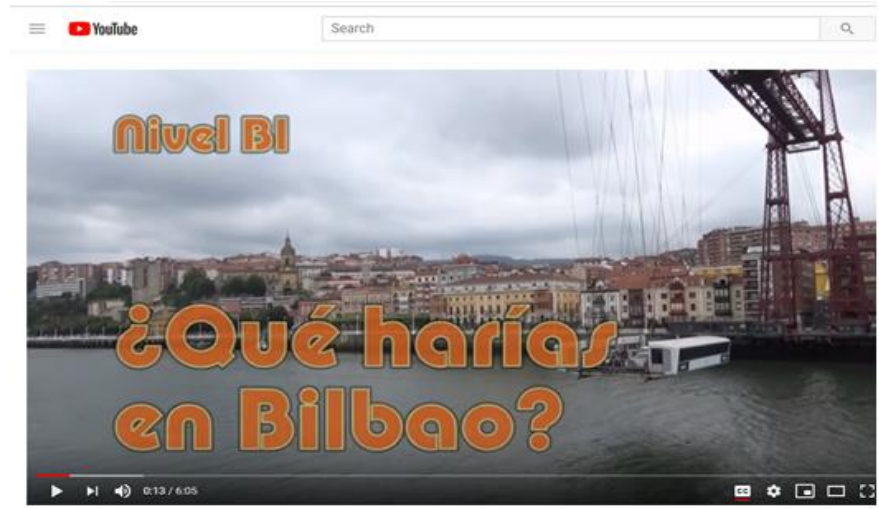
3



4

Audiovisual support

Using authentic and prepared materials from the internet.



Reading scaffolding

Facilitating the materials: glossaries, translations, explanations (scaffolding principle)

Transcripción
¿Que harías en Bilbao?
Nivel B1

¿Quieres viajar un fin de semana a una ciudad y no sabes a dónde ir? Si no conoces Bilbao, te lo recomiendo, porque te gustará. Yo he estado y te podría dar algunos consejos. Bilbao está en el norte de España, en la comunidad autónoma llamada País Vasco. Me llevaría un paraguas porque allí llueve muchos días. Pasearía por la parte antigua de la ciudad, que se llama Casco Viejo. Sus calles son estrechas y están llenas de tiendas y bares. Tiene siete calles históricas, bonitas plazas, iglesias y la Plaza Nueva. Entraría en cualquier bar y comería unos pinchos. Si quieres tomar una cerveza tendrías que pedir un zurito. Y por la mañana yo desayunaría un pincho con un crasán a la plancha. El mercado está en el Casco Viejo al lado del río. Cuando viajo a una ciudad me

Thank you!