
Reviews

Methods That Work

John W. Oller, Jr. and Patricia A. Richard-Amato (Eds.). Rowley, Massachusetts : Newbury House Publishers, Inc., 1983. Pp. 440.

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Methods That Work is primarily a book of success stories. It is a grab-bag of paradigms, methods, games, drama and case studies all in an accessible format. For the experienced and well-read educator *Methods That Work* serves as a review. For the new teacher it is an inspiration.

The book is divided into seven parts. The first part, "Pragmatic Orientations" deals with the philosophy of language teaching and also the importance of the environment in language acquisition.

The second part, "Teacher/Individual Orientations", is a collection of essays describing four teaching approaches that have become popular in recent years. There is something for everybody here. Asher, Kusudo and de la Torre's essay on the Total Physical Response approach, and Gattegno's essay on the Silent Way are particularly good. They give good explanations, situations and examples and are also clear and readable. The reader may also glean some teaching ideas from Wolkomir's entertaining essay on the Rassias approach. Bancroft's description of the Lozanov Method, however, gives the impression of being a yoga handbook rather than a TEFL paper. Still, for ideas on how to awaken sleepy students or relax tense ones, this chapter is for you.

The third part, "Social/Therapeutic Orientations", focuses on the role of the society and community in shaping student's language ability. Within Stevick's essay, "The Swahili Monologues" were especially entertaining and fascinating ideas. Curran develops his informative essay around the stages of growth in a student/teacher relationship. He deals with the issues of dependency, aggression, self-concept, ego and confidence in one's learning potential. Green's "Value Clarification Theory on