

TASK- BASED TEACHING OF GRAMMAR

'My mother cutted the vegetables.' Lai Mei Kin, a 10-year old girl writes in her Final Year English examination. A structure like this is nothing new to ESL teachers. In fact many essays are littered with incorrect grammatical errors which drown students' good and creative ideas. This is one of the many reasons, PMR and SPM examiners say, that pulls the students' scores to a lower band. In their report, they have mentioned that the teaching of grammar should and must play a central role in every ESL teachers' classroom. Taught in context, teaching of grammar can enhance and improve students' writing.

Hence, this course aims to introduce and highlight how grammar can be taught in ways that enable learners to learn grammar. Thus, it focuses on the role of grammar in language teaching within the communicative language approach. There will be an in-depth analysis of the task-based framework to clarify when and how grammar can be taught in the classroom using some recommended techniques appropriate to this framework.

Objectives

The course participants will:

- become more cognizant of the role of grammar within the communicative language approach and its relevance towards achieving grammar fluency
- be introduced to a framework that contextualizes the grammar teaching component within the communicative language approach

- be guided to focus on techniques that facilitate the teaching of grammar within the recommended framework
- be provided with opportunities to practice applying this framework within their simulated classroom situations
- become more aware of the preparation procedures needed to ensure smooth implementation of grammar teaching components within their classroom teaching

Content

The course content will include:

- Role of grammar in language acquisition
- Problems in teaching grammar
- The Task-based framework
- Techniques to teach grammar

Duration

3 days (18 contact hours)

Modes of Delivery

The course will be conducted through a series of interactive lectures, demonstrations, modeling, workshops, simulation activities and group discussions and presentations. Participants will be required to build a file of classroom materials and activities.

Participants

The course is meant for TESL-trained teachers teaching English at the lower Secondary school level.