Maximising Input

Through Extensive Reading and Listening Resources

Ben Shearon

Why?

Today

General thoughts
Vocabulary
Listening
Reading

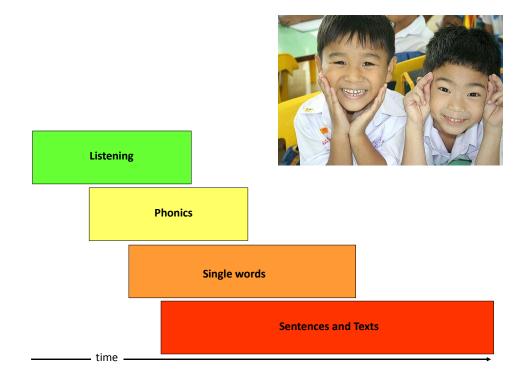
The path to language mastery

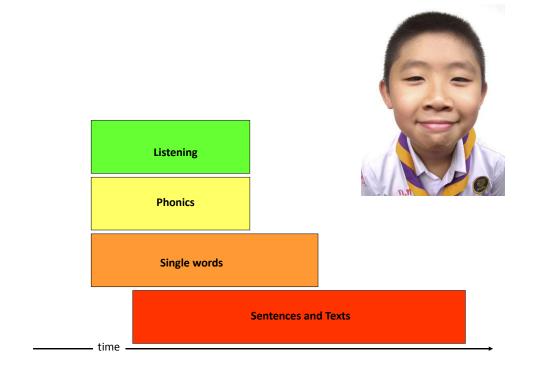


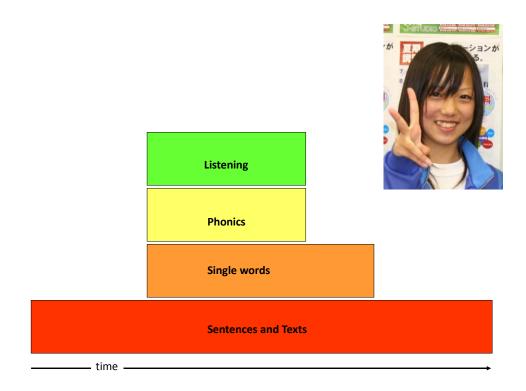
The only thing that matters

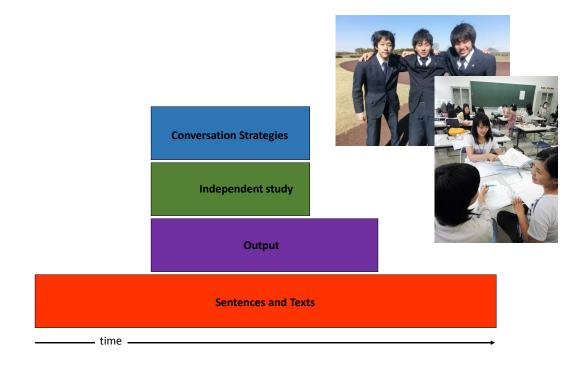


A taxonomy of ELLs in Japan









The Missing Link

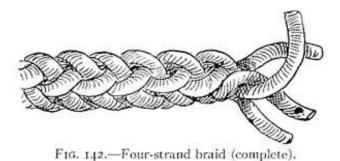


Not enough

Students

- can't become successful language learners in the classroom
- can't succeed if they just follow instructions
- teach them to fish
- teacher's most important roles (p,t,t,t)

The Four Strands



The Four Strands

- (meaning-focused) Input
- (meaning-focused) Output
- Language study
- Fluency practice

The Four Strands (discuss)

Vocabulary

"Without grammar, very little can be conveyed. Without vocabulary, nothing can be conveyed."

- David Wilkins (1972)

Vocabulary

"A man with a scant vocabulary will almost certainly be a weak thinker. The richer and more copious one's vocabulary and the greater one's awareness of fine distinctions and subtle nuances of meaning, the more fertile and precise is likely to be one's thinking. Knowledge of things and knowledge of the words for them grow together. If you do not know the words, you can hardly know the thing."

— Henry Hazlitt, *Thinking as a Science*

Efficiency

... there are, at the very least, a quarter of a million distinct English words, excluding inflections, and words from technical and regional vocabulary not covered by the OED, or words not yet added to the published dictionary, of which perhaps 20 per cent are no longer in current use. If distinct senses were counted, the total would probably approach three quarters of a million.

-Oxford Dictionaries Online

Efficiency

- Around 54,000 word families
- A university graduate will have a vocabulary of around 20,000 word families
- Need to memorize most common 3,000 words first
- Then focus on strategies for guessing and learning new vocab as it arises
- -Paul Nation and Rob Waring

JACET 8000



Context

- Students should learn vocabulary in context
- Phrases, sentences, dialogues, pictures, and short text can all be used to situate
- The 'hotondo' example

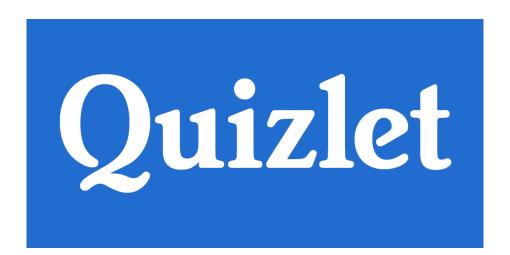
Hotondo

```
→ alone ®
      代 ①全員、全部、すべて、みな23
                                   ます
                                   (5) [a
      not ... at all
                            83
      少しも…でない
                                 anin
                            61
      刑 すべての、全部の
    almost [5:lmoust] 刷 ほとんど
                            81
                                 Ann
37
                                  anot
    alone [əloun] 剛 形
14
                             71
     圖 1人で
.
     形 ただ 1人の
53
     all alone 1人ぼっちの
```

Dictionaries, Vocab Notebooks, Word Cards

- Explain the importance
- Train students to use them
- Make students use them
- Follow up regularly
- (create habits)

Quizlet



Popjisyo



Anki



Vocabulary.com



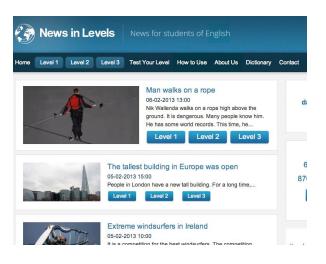
Listening

Every good conversation starts with good listening.

Elllo



News in Levels



Videojug



TED



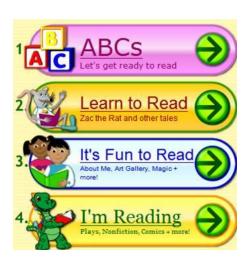
Phonics

Teach basic phonics

Manipulate to practice

Start reading decodable material

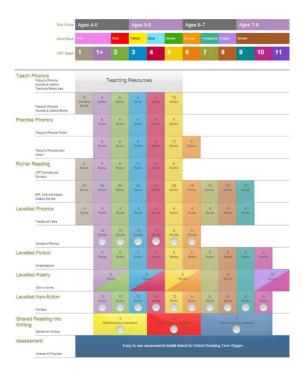
Starfall



Quizlet



ORT



Oxford Owl



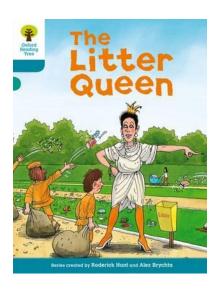
Reading

- Reading is how native speakers learn most of their language
- It is probably the easiest skill to practice
- Success depends on developing a reading habit

Survey results 2013: reading habit

	あなたの母国語での読書習慣(新聞や雑誌も含む)ともっとも合っているものを選んでください。							
2	あまり読書をしない。	188		58.4%		164		56.7%
	週に2回以上読書をする。	92		28.6%		92		31.8%
	ほとんど毎日読書をする。	42		13.0%		33		11.4%
			322				289	

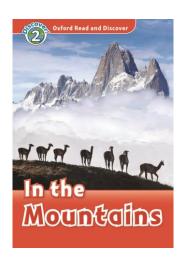
Oxford Reading Tree



Dolphin Readers



Read and Discover



Bookworms

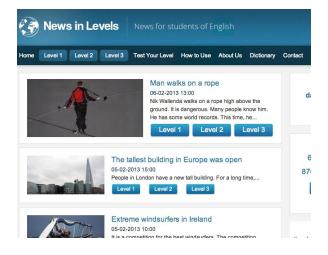
The Oxford Bookworms Library



Popjisyo



News in Levels



Economist





The mission

- Introduce
- Train
- Impose
- Monitor
- Encourage
- Liberate

Any questions?

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