

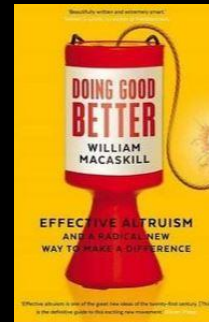
What is an evidence based approach and why does it matter?

Russell Mayne
University of Leicester
@ebefl
rm190@le.ac.uk

THE FOOD LAB

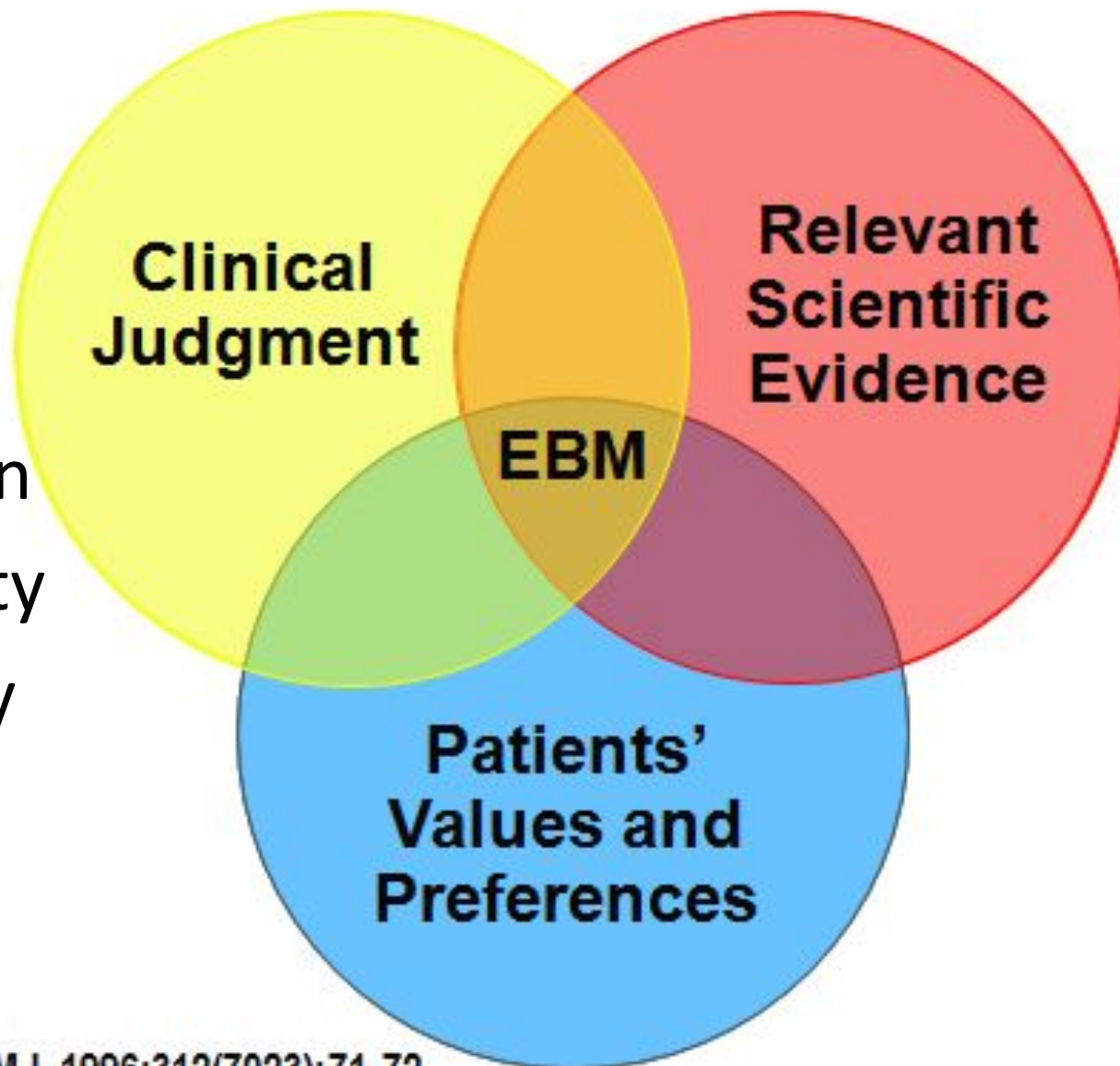
J. KENJI LÓPEZ-ALT

Better Home Cooking Through Science



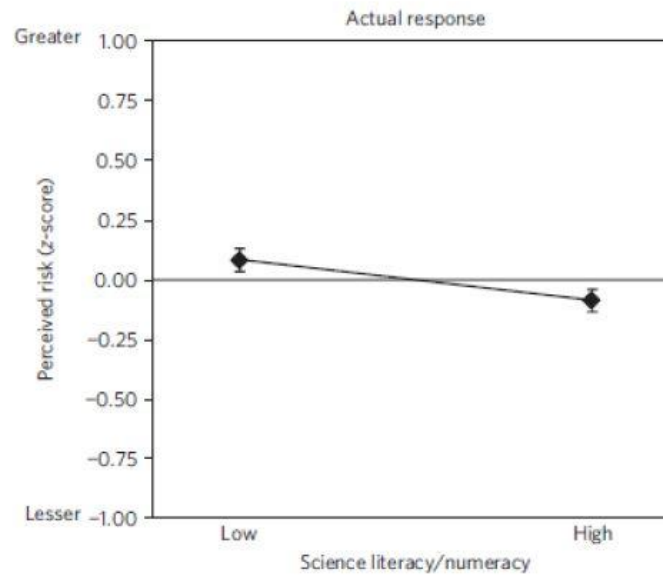
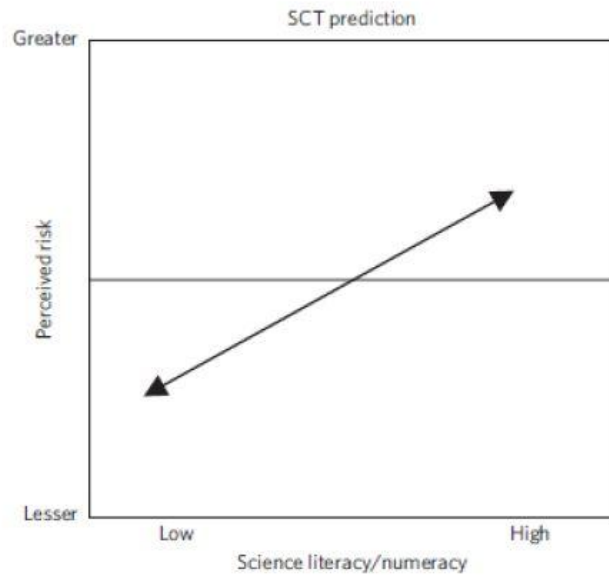
What Is Evidence-Based Medicine?

- Fashion
- Novelty
- Tradition
- Authority
- Ideology



Ideology

'How much risk do you believe climate change poses to human health, safety or prosperity?'



Progressive education

- Student centred
- Autonomy
- Facilitator
- Rejection of rote learning
- Skills based
- 21st century
- Creativity

EDUCATION IS NOT THE
FILLING OF A PAIL, BUT THE
LIGHTING OF A FIRE.



WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

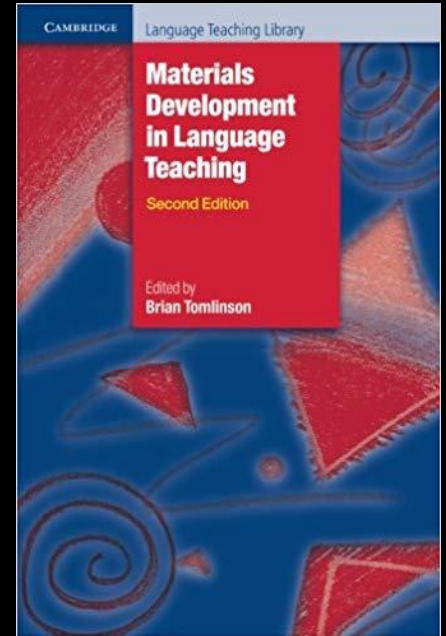


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Progressive education



Throw them out the
window boys!



Traditional education



- Teacher centric
- Artificial
- Knowledge focus
- Sage on the stage
- Transmission
- Rote memorisation
- Drilling

Free enquiry

Reading in EFL: facts and fictions

Amos Paran

ELT Journal, Volume 50, Issue 1, 1 January 1996, Pages 25–34,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/elt/50.1.25>

Published: 01 January 1996 **Article history** ▼

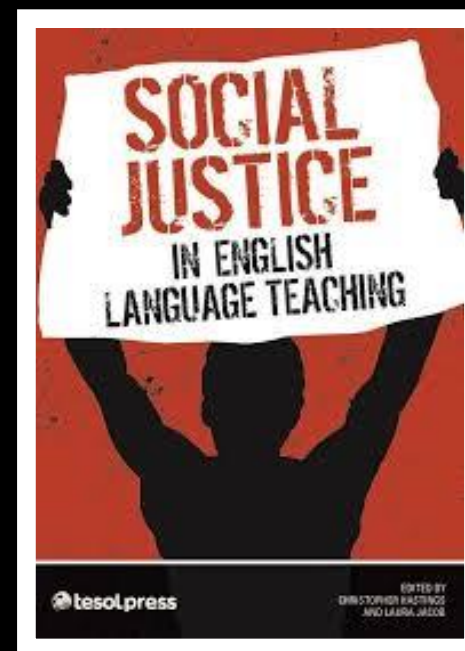
“ Cite 🔑 Permissions ➦ Share ▼

Good readers know the language. They can decode, with occasional exceptions, both the lexical units and syntactic structures they encounter in texts, and they do so, for the most part, not by guessing from context or prior knowledge of the world, but by a kind of automatic identification that requires no conscious cognitive effort (1988: 94).

Sisyphus

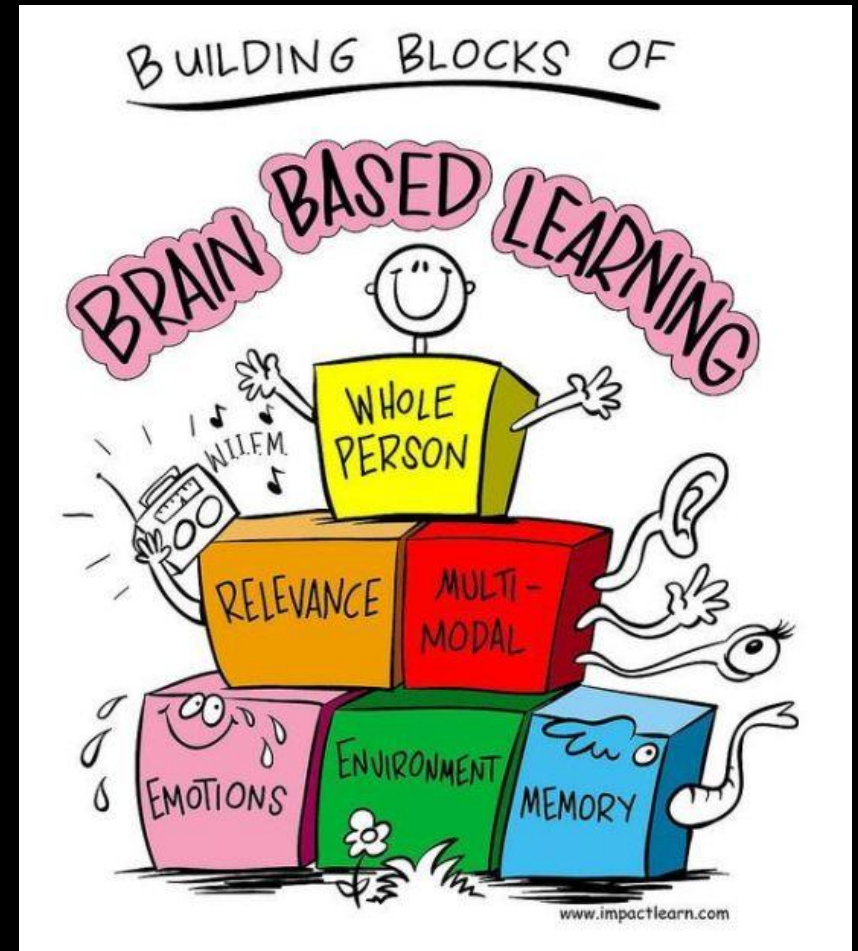
Bumpity down in the corrie gaed whuddran the pitiless whun stane.
Sisyphus, pechan and sweitan, disjaskit, forfeuchan and broun'd-aff,
sat on the heather a hanlawhile, houpan the Boss didna spy him,
seein the terms of his contract includit nae mention of tea-breaks,
syne at the muckle big scunnersom boulder he trauchlit aince mair.
Ach! hou kenspeckle it was, that he ken'd ilka spreckle and blotch on't.
Heavin awa at its wecht, he manhaunnlit the bruitt up the brae-face,
takkan the easiest gait he had fand in a fudder of dour years,
haudan awa frae the craigs had affrichtit him maist in his youth-heid,
feelin his years aa the same, he gaed cannily, tenty of slipped discs.
Eftir an hour and a quarter he warslit his wey to the brae's heid,
hystit his boulder richt up on the tap of the cairn—and it stude there!
streikit his length on the chuckie-stanes, houpan the Boss wadna spy him,
 had a wee look at the scenery, feenisht a pie and a cheese-piece.
Whit was he thinking about, that he just gied the boulder a wee shove?
Bumpity down in the corrie gaed whuddran the pitiless whun stane,
Sisyphus dodderan eftir it, shair of his cheque at the month's end.

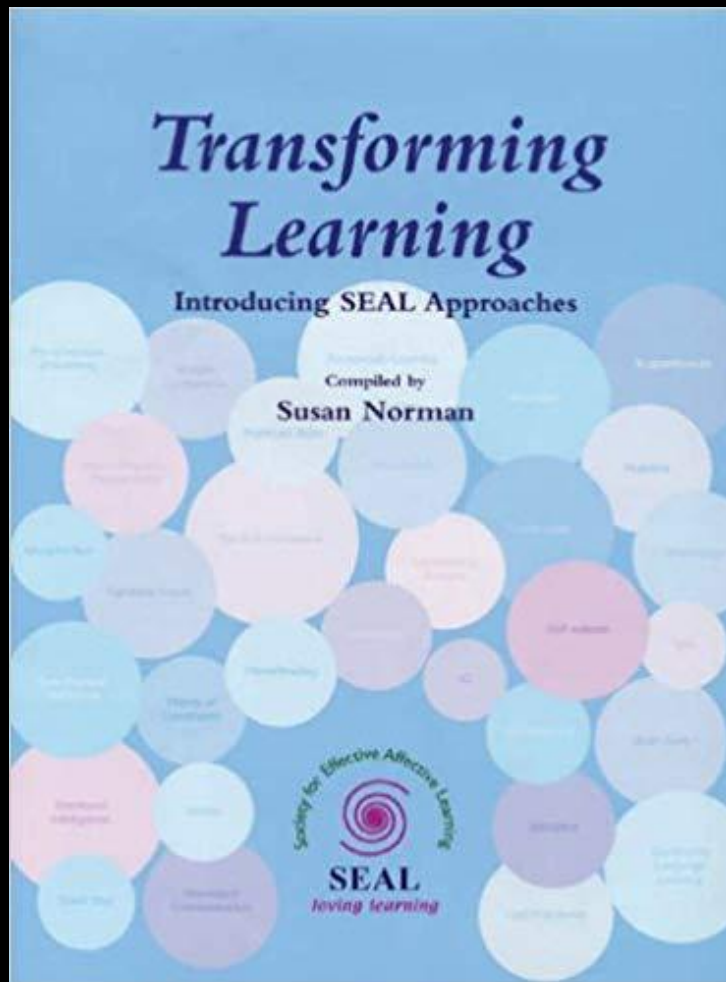
1. FREE INQUIRY



The Romantic Humanist tribe

- 'Brain based'
- Holistic
- New age spiritual
- Pseudoscientific
- Concerned with 'affect'



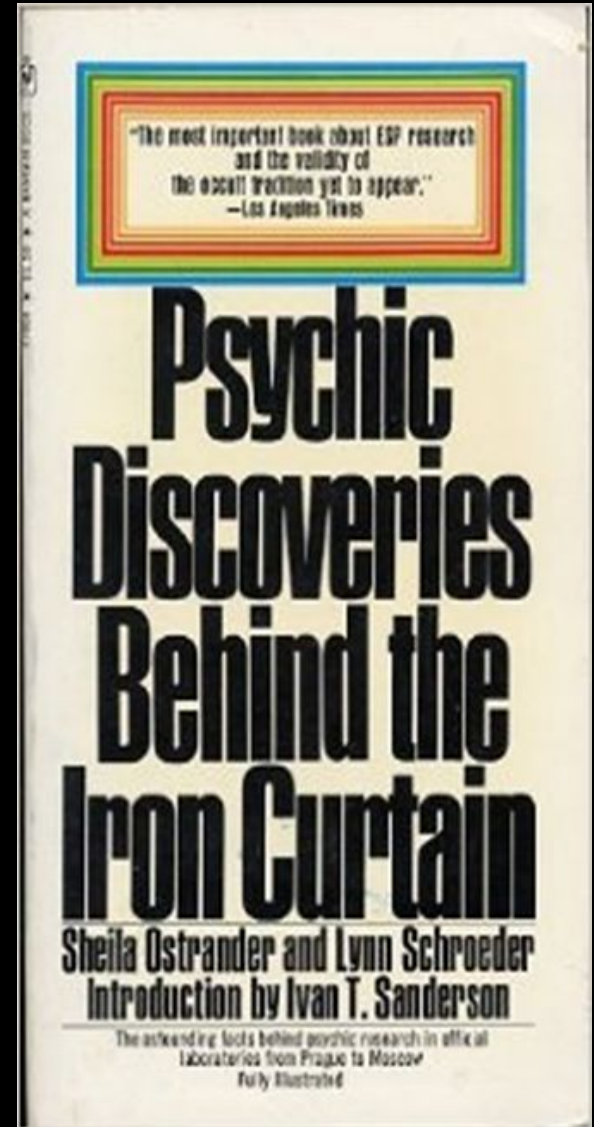


- NLP
- Brain gym
- Mozart effect
- Suggestopedia
- Accelerated learning
- Multiple intelligences
- Existential intelligence
- Left brain /right brain

Suggestopedia

- Learning can be accelerated 5 - 50x using suggestopedia
“...1,000 words had been learned in a day” (Ostrander & Schroede 1979:15)
- “[suggestology] is a method of...making use of the unknown reserves, powers and abilities of the human mind.” (Lozanov 1971:292)
- “the method appeared to improve health and cure stress-related illnesses” Ostrander & Schroeder (1979: 33)
- **“Analysis of language acquisition data revealed no significant improvement across the five-week experimental period. “(Wagner & Tilney 1983:5)**

- Pioneer of parapsychology
“everyone is psychic”
(1971:281)
- 20 years work on
precognition
- “Telepath is an inexpensive
and promising
communication system”
(1971:293)





What's On ▶ What's On News ▶ Weird News

Did this Russian mystic predict the outcome of Brexit and the Salisbury poisonings?

If Baba Vanga is correct, it's not good news.

"The stories about Vanga Dimitrova are not fantasies...She is extraordinarily talented....Vanga does read the future...she has psychic capabilities..." (1971:275)



2. RESPECT FOR SCIENCE

The Post-Modern tribe

- Nothing is knowable
- Individual experience is all there is
- There is no best method
- Every classroom is unique



“I cannot prove or provide evidence to others that what I do is good or successful teaching, but I also do not seek to offer evidence or prove it. Partly this is because I don't believe that anything in teaching is provable. I don't believe that any solutions, approaches, techniques, ideas etc are bottlable and pass-on-able. They always change mid-air. What is good for my students may be a disaster with yours.”
(Scrivener 2016, para 6)

The evidence trap

‘there is no truth’ <- is this true?

New Oriental debate



New Oriental debate

- 'some of the better teachers that we saw.'
- classes with younger students were particularly 'interactive and engaging'
- 'so you're saying it possible to learn a language without actively using it? I'm having real trouble buying into this'.
- 'I simply can't believe that a silent student who listens and copies and then goes home and memories lists of words will learn more successfully than [one taught using CLT]'

'CLT doesn't work in our context'.

New Bottles, Old Wine: Communicative Language Teaching in China.

Hui, Leng

Forum, v35 n4 Oct-Dec 1997

'CLT is best for China' — an untenable absolutist claim

Guangwei Hu

ELT Journal, Volume 59, Issue 1, 1 January 2005, Pages 65–68,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/elt/cci000>

READERS RESPOND (2)

The need for Communicative Language Teaching in China

Xiaoqing Liao

tesol QUARTERLY



Communicative Language Teaching in China: Progress and Resistance

LIMING YU

First published: 04 January 2012 | <https://doi.org/10.2307/3587868> | Cited by: 8

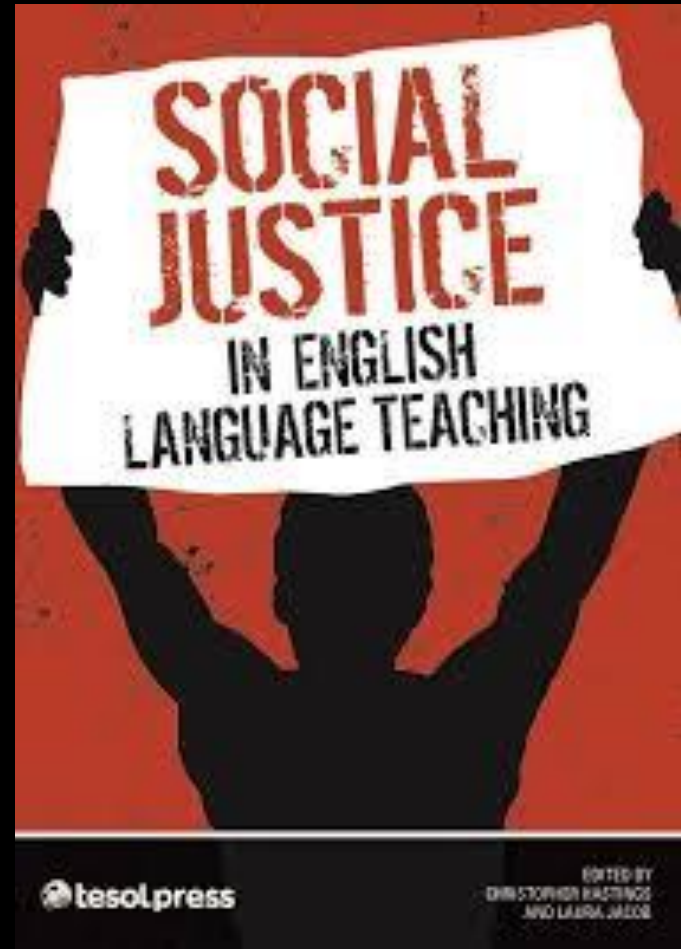
Knowledge

“Without [the SLA] knowledge base, ‘anything goes’, and our status as professionals, as opposed to peddlers of snake oil, is seriously jeopardised.”
(Thornbury 2016, para 7)

3. RESPECT FOR KNOWLEDGE

The 'Critical' tribe

- The classroom should be explicitly political
- Societal change through 'praxis' is the aim of education
- Oppressors V oppressed



The banking model

- ‘mechanical’ (Freire 2000: 72).
- inhibits [students’] creative power” (Freire 2000: 81)
- “In the banking concept of education, knowledge is a gift bestowed by those who consider themselves knowledgeable upon those whom they consider to know nothing” (Freire 2000:72).



Critical thinking = knowledge

Students sometimes complain of feeling intimidated by the 'serious' nature of the "thinking which discerns an indivisible solidarity between the world and the people and admits of no dichotomy between them"

*discuss the **potential benefits of using music in the EAP classroom to lower students' 'affective filter'***

Critical thinking

“its philosophical foundations are simply taken for granted, as if they were unproblematic.”(Hammersley 1997:244)

4. CRITICAL THINKING

PROBLEMS WITH RESEARCH

40

Vol. 40 No. 4 December 2018

Studies in Second Language Acquisition

Volume 40, April 2018

An International Journal of Educational
Technology and Applied Linguistics

SYSTEM



Xunrong (Andy) Guo,
Maura González-Lloret,
Ursula Griesler,
Lanwenjie Jin Zhang

teaching

SURVEYS AND STUDIES

language teaching
writing and
reading and
teaching and writing

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

DE GRUYTER
MOUTON

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS IN LANGUAGE TEACHING IRAL

SPECIAL ISSUE:
CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN RESEARCH
ON MULTILINGUALISM

Editorial Board:
Chen, Fook
García, Francisco
Hollibaugh,
Paul
Klein,
Andreas

Volume 40

International research and discussion about the learning
and teaching of foreign and second languages

The Modern Language Journal

Research in Linguistics, Literatures, and Languages

*Goals of College Learners and the
Standards for Foreign Language Learning*
Proceedings of the 2017 Annual Meeting of the
Modern Language Association, 1-10 October 2017, San Francisco, CA



MLJ

Volume 40, Number 1, January 2018

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Volume 40

Volume 40, Number 4, December 2018

Language Learning Journal

Journal of the Association
for Language Learning

Routledge

Volume 40, Number 4, December 2018

JOURNAL OF English for Academic Purposes

Also available on
Routledge eLibrary

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QUARTERLY

VOLUME 44, NUMBER 4, DECEMBER 2017

Language Society

an international journal for teachers of English to speakers of other languages

Volume 40/4
October 2017

ELT journal

SPECIAL ISSUE
The Janus Papers

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

ISSN: 0017-1965
EISSN: 1471-6556

Volume 43, Number 1, November 2017

JOURNAL OF SECOND LANGUAGE WRITING

Editors:
Henri Lefk
Rosa Mareschal

Volume 40, Number 1, January 2018

COMPUTER ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING

Routledge

Annual Review of Applied Linguistics

AN OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS

International Language Learning

EDITOR Alison Mackey

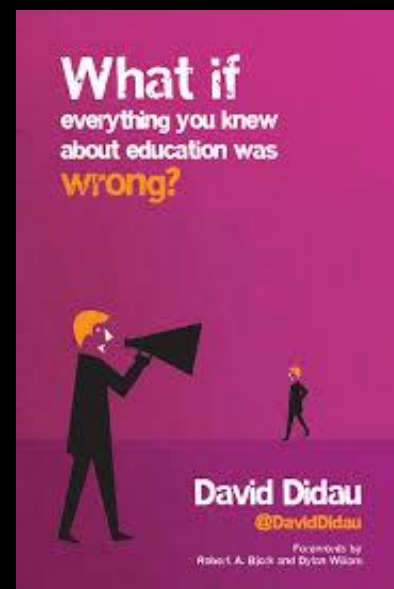
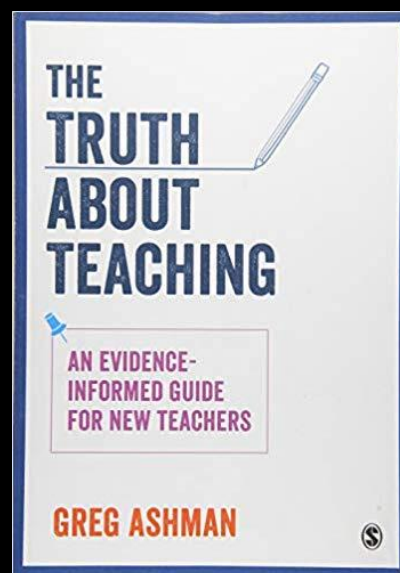
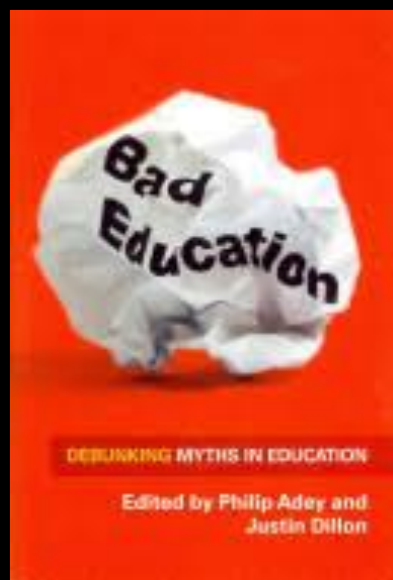
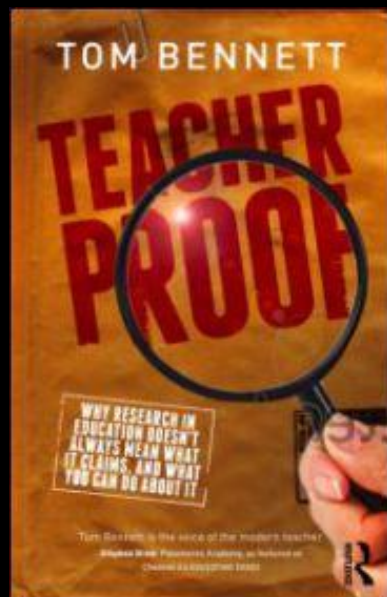
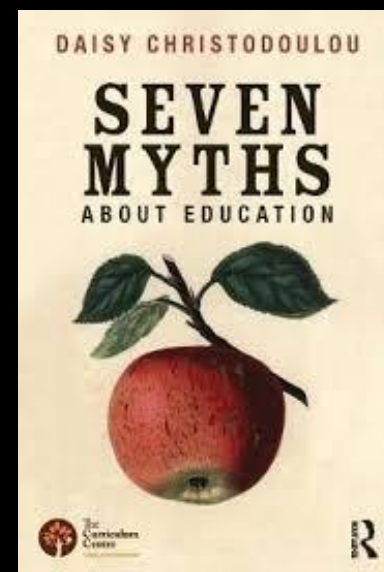
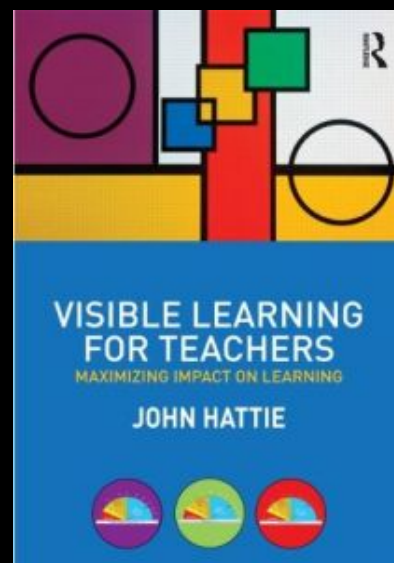
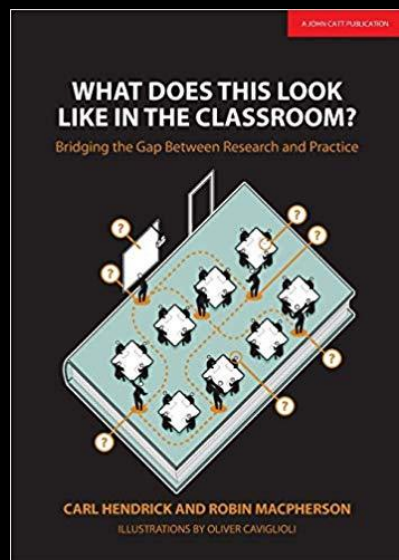
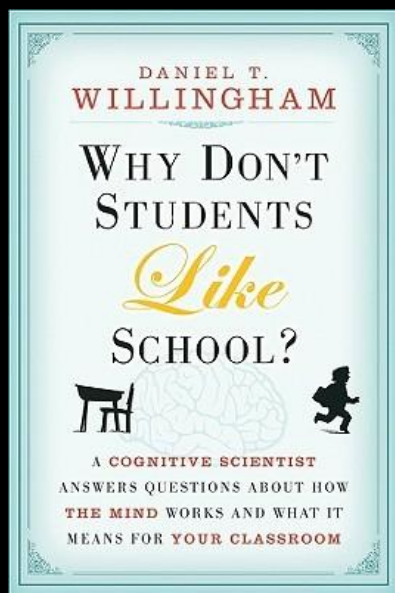
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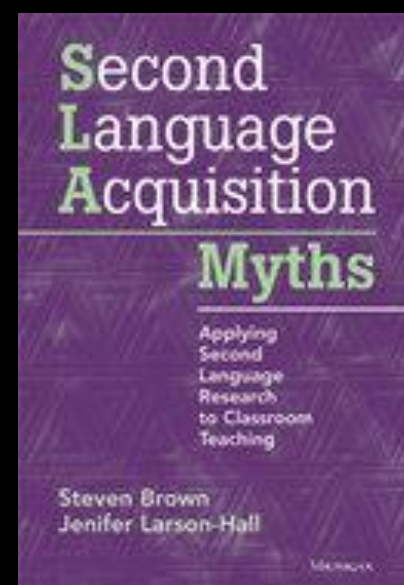
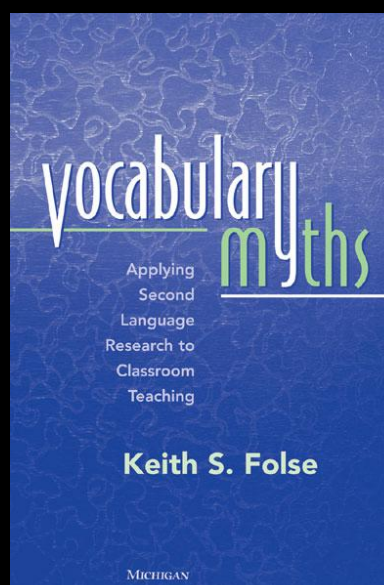
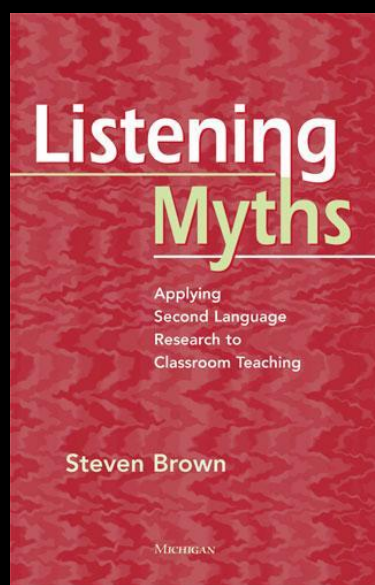
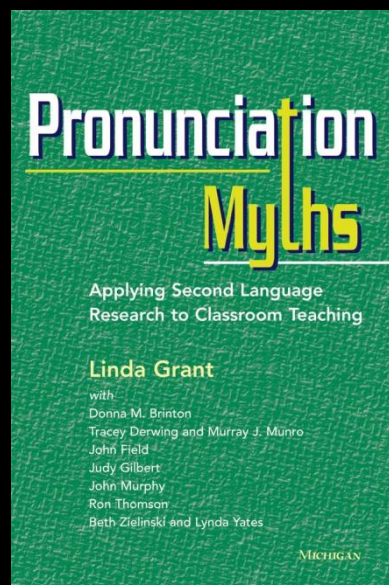
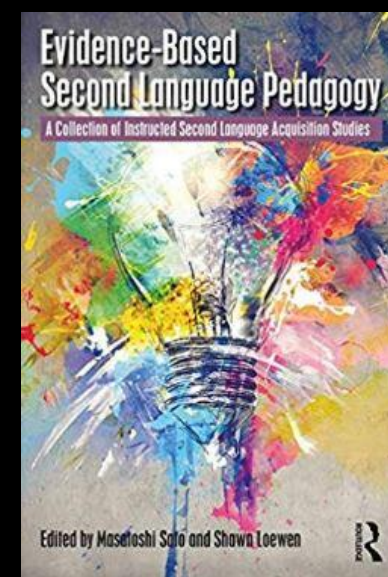
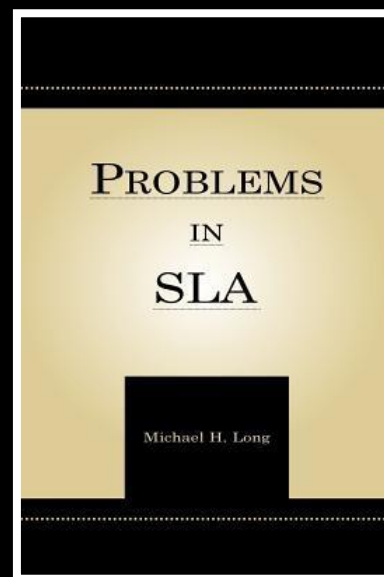
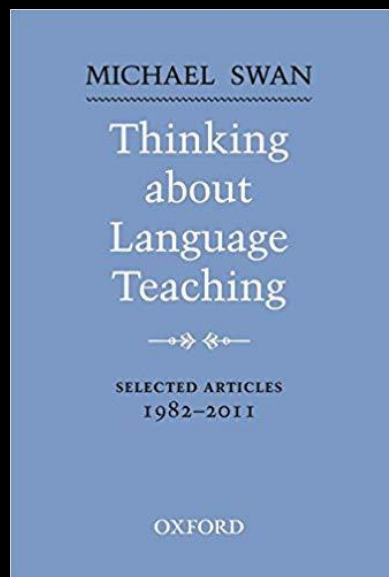
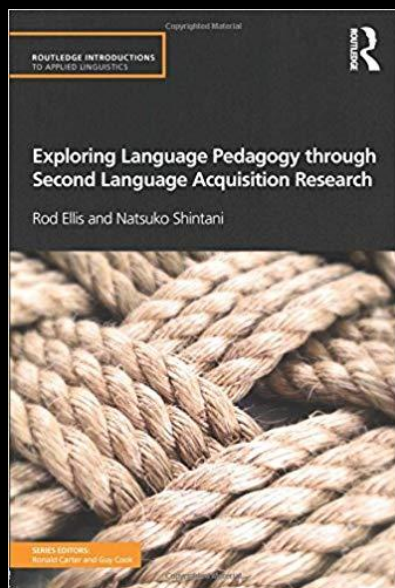
Second Language Pronunciation

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 1, 2019

John Benjamins Publishing Company







5 useful online journals for ELT professionals

by Florentina Taylor | 27 Jun, 2015 | Guest posts, Methodology, Resources, Teaching | 18 comments

TESL-EJTeaching English
as a Second or
Foreign Language

L2 Journal

An electronic refereed journal
for foreign and second language educators

Foreign Language Annals

 Published by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

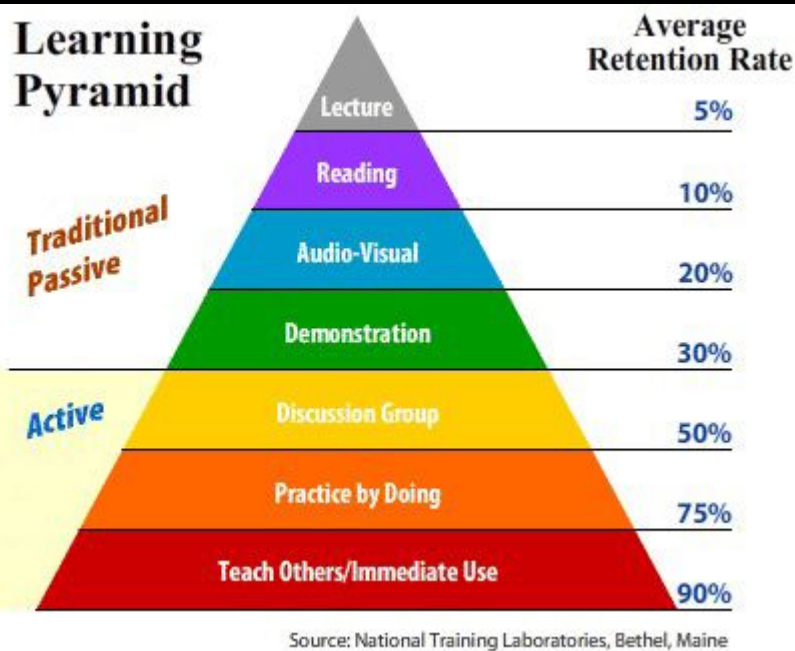
The SCI-HUB logo is set against a background of a stone wall. The text 'SCI-HUB' is in a large, bold, red serif font. Below it, a red banner with a white arrow pointing right contains the text '...to remove all barriers in the way of science'.

...to remove all barriers in the way of science

Slim pickings

Research: slim pickings

- *Corpus research*







- *Dictionary use*

- **Sunday**
- **Monday**
- **Tuesday**
- **Wednesday**
- **Thursday**
- **Friday**
- **Saturday**
- *Learning pyramid*
- *the Mozart effect*

Entry	Pageviews
MA TESOL /app ling or DELTA? W... 23 Jun 2012, 39 comments	31933
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Left brains and right brains in Englis... 28 May 2014, 2 comments	4928
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The myth of neat histories 11 Mar 2015, 34 comments	3871
Try this it works! Error correction for... 27 May 2016, 10 comments	3225
Try this, it works! Written Error Corr... 13 Nov 2017, 23 comments	2658

into

	researchED Vancouver February 8 @ 6:00 pm - February 9 @ 5:00 pm Mulgrave School
	researchED Haninge 2019 February 9 @ 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Fredrika Bremergymnasiet
	researchED Birmingham #rEDBrum 2019 March 2 @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Erdington Academy
	researchED Blackpool 2019 March 23 @ 9:30 am - 4:00 pm St. Mary's Catholic Academy

PROBLEMS WITH RESEARCH

Effect of explicit and implicit instruction on free written response task performance

What this study was about

Is implicit or explicit grammar teaching more effective for learning to the degrees of comparison and correct word order in subordinate clauses? Does type of instruction depend on a learner's first language (L1)?

What the researchers did

67 learners of Dutch as a second language aged 12-18 representing 33 different L1s were randomly allocated to one of two groups and completed a series of 8 computer-based lessons. Four lessons focused on suffixes indicating degrees of comparison (DoC), and four focused on word order in subordinate clauses; in Dutch subordinate clauses, verbs are sent to the end of the clause. One group received **Explicit instruction** (EI) for the DoC and **Implicit instruction** (II) for word order and vice versa for the other group (see examples 1 and 2). Amount of exposure to the grammar structures was carefully balanced.

Before, four weeks after and eight weeks after the instruction, learners completed **free written response tasks** (FWRTs) where they had to respond to questions in a few sentences, followed by **grammaticality judgement tests** (GJTs), where they had to identify and correct grammatical errors.

Example 1: Which word is a form of the DoCs?

When a commercial is funny, people think it is nicer.

Example 2: This statement is about the text you just read. Is it true or false?

When a commercial is funny, people think it is nicer.

What they found

This article has been awarded Open Materials
data are publicly accessible via the IRIS Repository
<https://iris.repo.nii.ac.jp/iris/app/home/detail?rid=yorkit>

5. SELF CRITICAL

- uncomfortable
- cost money
- Look uncool
- Reduce personal freedom
- people continue to die in car accidents despite their use



“For all its beauty, honesty, and effectiveness at improving the human condition, science demands a terrible price—that we accept what experiments tell us about the universe, whether we like it or not. It’s about consensus and teamwork and respectful critical argument, working with, and through, natural law. It requires that we utter, frequently, those hateful words—‘I might be wrong.’ (Brin 2012)

Thanks for listening!
Any questions