THE COMMUNICATIVE APPROACH



COMMUNICATIVE LANGUAGE TEACHING (CLT)

BRIEF HISTORY

- The origins of Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) are found in the changes in the British language teaching tradition dating from the late 1960s.
- Back them, the Situational Language Teaching approach was the norm.
- SLT was the major approach to teaching English as a FL.
- SLT consisted in internalizing the structures of the language.

- The SLT did not fill the need to develop language competence in language teaching.
- A group of experts saw the need to focus in communicative proficiency rather tan mastery of structures. (Richards, J.C. & Rodgers, T.S.)
- Along with the changes in Europe it to reform the language teaching.



• Education was one of the Council of Europe's major areas of activity. It sponsored international conferences on language teaching, published monographs and books about language teaching. The need to articulate and develop alternative methods of language teaching was considered a high priority.

- In 1971 a group of experts began to investigate the possibility of developing language courses, a system in which learning tasks are broken into units.
- A British linguist, D. A. Wilkins (1972), proposed a functional or communicative definition of language that could serve as a basis for developing communicative syllabuses for language teaching. Wilkins's contribution was an analysis of the communicative meanings that a language learner needs to understand and express.
- Wilkins defined two categories of meanings:

Notional categories (concepts such as time, sequence, quantity,

location, frequency).

Communicative Function (requests, denials, offers, complains).

Communicative Approach aims to: make communicative competence the goal of language teaching, and develop procedures for the teaching of the four language skills (LSRW).

There are two versions of the CLT:

- The **weak version** stresses the importance of providing learners with opportunities to use their English for communicative purposes ('learning to use' English)
- The 'strong' version advances the claim that language is acquired through communication. That it is not merely a question of activating an existing, but inert knowledge of the language, but of stimulating the development of the language system itself. ('using English to learn it).

THEORY OF LANGUAGE

When talking about teaching language we have to take into account the theory of language.

- The Communicative Approach in language teaching starts from a theory of language as communication (assumption that structure follows function rather than the other way around).
- The goal of language teaching is what Hymes reffered to as "communicative competence."
- According to Hymes, a person who acquires communicative competence acquires both *Knowledge* and *Ability for language use*.



THE FUNCTIONAL USES OF LANGUAGE

Another linguistic theory of CLT is the functional language use (Michael Halliday). The 7 basic functions that language performs are:

3. Interactional F.: 2. Regulatory F.: using 1. Instrumental F.: using language to language to control the using language to get create interaction with behavior of others. things. others. 6. Imaginative F.: using 4. Personal F.: using 5. Heuristic F.: using language to créate a language to express per language to learn and world of imagination. feelings &meanings. discover.

7. Representational F.:
using language to
communicate
information.

FUNCTIONS IN LANGUAGE L2

Learning a language was viewed by proponents of CLT as acquiring the linguistic means to perform different kinds of functions.

- > Ask questions to get basic information.
- ➤ Talk about yourself.
- Describe the weather.
- > Leave pone messages.
- Talk about a specific topic.



COMMUNICATIVE LANGUAGE TEACHING



OBJECTIVES

- 1. An integrative and content level (language as a means of expression)
- 2. A linguistic and instrumental level (language as a semiotic[relating to signs and symbols] system and an object of learning);
- 3. An affective level of interpersonal relationships and conduct (language as a means of expressing values and judgments about oneself and others);
- 4. A level of individual learning needs (remedial learning based on error analysis);
- 5. A general educational level of extra-linguistic goals (language learning within the school curriculum).

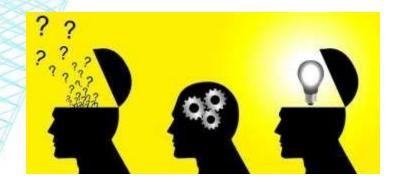
Principles of CLT

- Learners learn a language by using it.
- Meaningful communication is the goal of teaching.
- •Fluency of expression is primary.
- •Judicious use of mother tongue.
- Contextualisation.
- •Language is seen as a medium of communication.
- •Classroom activities should maximise exposure to English.
- •It is much more pupil-oriented.
- •Intelligible pronunciation.
- •Emphasis is on usable language.

- •Pair works and group works are emphasized.
- •Oral works are primary.
- •Errors are natural part of learning.
- •Reading and writing skills need to be developed
- •.Grammar can be taught, but functionally.
- •Quality exposure to the target language.
- •It considers pupil's need.
- •Interest is sustained.
- •It uses topical items familiar to pupils in their mother tongu
- •Materials must relate to pupils on lives.
- •Materials must be fresh and real.
- •Spontaneous and improvised practice is ensured.
- •It seeks to use authentic resources.
- •Use of visual stimuli is fruitful.

TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Problem-solving



Formative quizzes

Freewriting



Small group activities



Role-plays



Debates







Learners' Roles

- The learner is a negotiator (between himself, the learning process, and the object of learning). The implication is that the learner should contribute as much as he gains, and learn in an interdependent way.
- Ss are expected to interact primarily with each other rather than with the teacher.
- Ss give and receive information.

Teachers' roles

Teacher plays an important role in communicative approach. Teacher's main task is to teach students how to communicate in English efficiently. The following are some of the roles:

- ➤ Monitor.
- > Facilitator of communication process.
- ➤ Independent participant within the teaching learning group.
- Organiser of class activities.
- ➤ Resource person.
- ➤ Guide. Researcher.
- **≻**Co -learner.
- > Prompter.
- **≻**Counsellor.
- ➤ Needs analyst. (The teacher analyses the learners language needs in order to facilitate meaningful communication.)

Group process manager.

Teacher **motivates** the students, **monitors** their performance, and **encourages** them to proceed with confidence. The teacher helps the groups identify their errors and rectify them themselves.

PROCEDURE

Motivation > Presentation of dialogues and clarification of the functions > Oral practice by the learners > Study of the communicative expression or structure > Oral production by the learners.

Teacher helps learners to produce similar utterances suitable to the situations on their own. The activities proceed from **guided to free** communicative activities.

Copying > Assignment > Evaluation

Students, Classroomand Evaluation: Communicative Approach

Students:

In communicative approach, the students to most of the speaking, and frequently the scene of the classroom during communicative exercise is active, with students leaving their seats to complete a task. Students are responsible managers of their own learning. They gain more and more confidence in using the target language in general.

Classroom:

Classroom activities are characterised by attempts to produce meaningful and real communication at all levels. As a result, there may be more emphasis on skills than systems. Lessons are more learner centred. Authentic materials are used.

Evaluation:

In communicative approach, students' performance of listening, speaking, reading and writing are all taken into consideration. Pupils' ability to convey ideas, thoughts and feelings are also considered for evaluation.

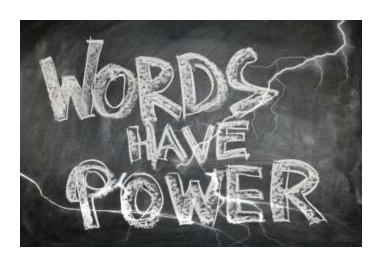
The Role of Instructional Materials

support communicative approaches to language teaching Materials as a way of classroom interaction

promote communicative language use.







INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Richards and Rogers consider three kinds of materials currently used in CLT:

Text-based materials

Task-based materials

Realia

Text-based materials

- Textbooks are important tools because provide the major source of contact students have with the language apart from input provided by the teacher.
- Also provide the basis for the content of the lessons and supplement the teacher's instruction.













Cambridge English

Pauline Cullen

Cambridge English

CAMBRIDGE

Common Common mistakes at

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS SOCIETY PRESCUENT PRESS SOCIETY PRESCUENT PRESC

First Certificate

... and how to avoid them

Susanne Tayfoor

Official preparation material for Cambridge English First, also known as First Cartificate in English (FCE)

Cambridge English

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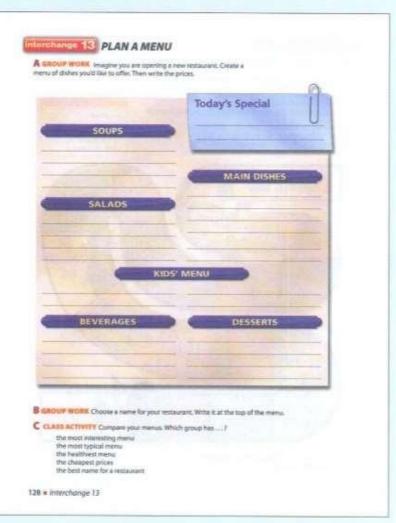
Cambridge Books for Cambr

Official preparation material for Cambridge English: Profic also known as Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)

Task-based materials

- A variety of games, role plays, simulations, and task-based communication activities have been prepared to support CLT classes.
- They are in the form of exercise handbooks, cue cards, activity cards, and interaction booklets.







interchange 15 WEEKEND PLANS

A CLASS ACTIVITY What are your classmates plans for the weekend?
Go around the class and find people who are going to do these things.
For each question, six for further information.

go and of fower
must friends
stoy out lote
visit installines
go to a purily
see a like performance
play video gamme
study for a feet
exercise
long something for admission

- A: Omar, are you going to go out of sown this weekend?
- St. Yes, Lam.
- A: What are you going to do?
- 9: My friend Tom and I are going to go camping in the mountains.



B PARK WORK Company your information with a partner. Who is going to do something fun? physical? serious?

130 * Interchange 15

Realia

Realia refers to authentic objects from real life that one uses in the classroom to teach a specific concept. Realia can be both physical and virtual, as long as it is something used in the real world.

Many proponents of CLT have advocated the use of "authentic," "from life" materials in class. These include: signs, magazines, advertisements, newspapers, pictures, and symbols



Advantages of Communicative Approach

- ✓ Development of communicative competence.
- ✓ More exposure to target language.
- ✓ Healthy relationships.
- Active interactions.
- Consideration for all skills.
- ✓ Individual attention.
- ✓ People centredness.
- ✓ Contextualisation.(To place something or someone in a particular context.)
- ✓ Develops pupils confidence.

Limitations of Communicative Approach

- Over emphasis on oral work.
- Ignorance on systematic teaching of grammar.
- Over Consumption of time.
- Lack of instantaneous correction.
- Lack of appropriate syllabus.
- Fluency is considered as primary and accuracy is considered as secondary is contentious.
- **Essentiality** of highly competent teachers.

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