


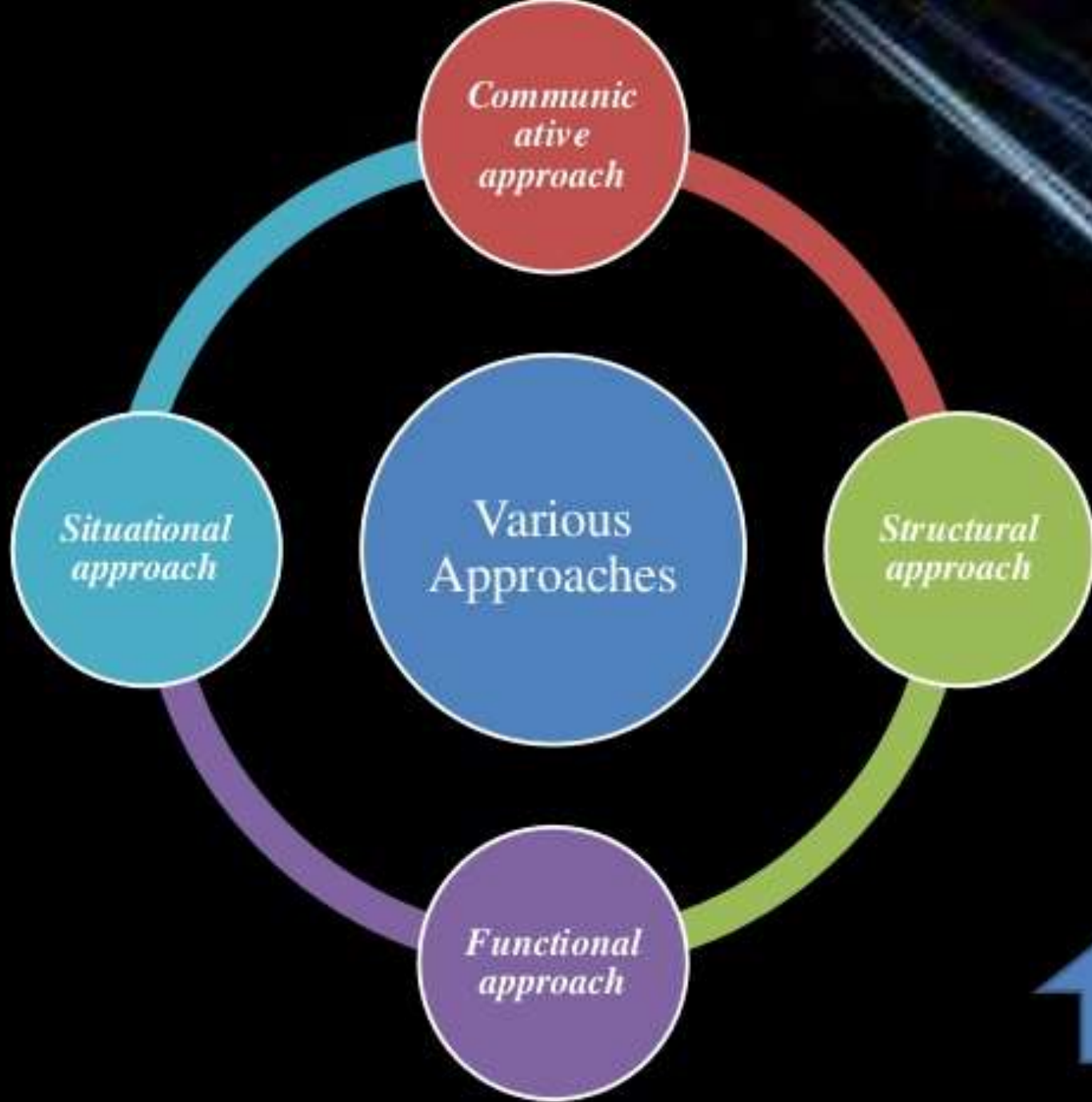


STRUCTURAL APPROACH

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What is Approach ?

An approach is a set of correlative assumptions dealing with the nature of language teaching and learning. An approach is axiomatic.



Meaning

- Teaching of English by helping the students to learn certain structures of English as called the structural approach.
- It is... “arrangement of words in such a way as to form a suitable pattern.”
- That it's main objective is to increase the students command over the pattern of English and enabling them to use the language more effectively.
- It also known as ‘ aural-oral approach ’ as it stress teaching language by giving opportunities to the students to hear and speak the language.
- For this structures are carefully selected and suitably graded.

Definition

➤ *“Structural approach is a scientific study of the fundamental structures of English language, their analysis & logical arrangement.” – Brewington*

➤ *“The structural approach is based on the belief that in the learning of a foreign language mastery of structures is more important than acquisition vocabulary.”*

Menon & patel.

What is Structure ?

- **“ The Different arrangement or pattern of words is called a structure.”**
- Language have their own structures. There are 325 structures and more then 1000000 words in English the bulkiest language.
- While structural approach expects the students to learn about 250 basic sentences pattern and 3,500 words at the ends of schooling.
- It has been found that 100 sentences of English have about 600 structural words.

- Ex.
- Nita is there.
- Is Nita there?
- There Nita is.
- There is Nita
- All the four sentences having the same vocabulary item still they give us different meanings due to different arrangement of the three vocabulary items. This arrangement is known as structure.
- Thus in structure meaningful words are used in a particular order to convey their meanings.

- “ structure may be complete utterances or form part of a large pattern . Thus structures are tools of a language and it should not be confused with sentence is a grammatical order or words”.
- Types of Structures
- Sentence pattern
- Phrase Pattern
- Formulas
- Idiomatic Structures



Structural Approach

- “The approach involve selection and gradation of material to be taught”.
- Selection is there because the students are not supposed to learn all the structure but they learn only those structures which frequently comes.
- Thus based on Usefulness & teachability.

Principles of Selection

Usefulness

Simplicity

Teachability

Productivity/ Surrender Value

Area of difference

Gradation


- Gradation means Grading- here Grading Structures – means putting them in a suitable order.
- Here the purpose is to arrange according to their usability & difficulty.
- Grading easier and most usable structure before difficult & less usable ones.

Principles

- Speech is basis of acquiring other skills like reading and writing. Thus speech is emphasized.
- Language habit formation is important : the important of forming language habit, particularly the habit of arranging words in English standard sentence pattern to replace the sentence pattern of the pupils own language. Through this process of learning of second language also becomes natural.
- Activity base learning.

Characteristics

- It co-relate the teaching of grammar and composition with reading lesson. Thus grammar is taught informally.
- The unit teaching is particular structure.
- Oral drill form a significant step of this approach.
- Meaningful situations are created by the teacher with help of easily available teaching aids.
- It lays proper emphasis on aural-oral approach method.

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- Lang is primarily speech
 - Lang is set of habits
 - Emphasis on child activity
 - Situational presentation
 - Listening comprehension developed
 - Teacher is role model
 - Constant practice
 - Accurate pronunciation

Merits

- Speech is emphasized.
- Habit formation is stressed.
- Carefully selected and graded structure/ language material.
- It creates interest and motivation in the pupils through the use of selected and graded material.
- Language is taught in meaningful situation. This approach is linked with the situational teaching.
- Besides oral work it emphasizes an reading and writing skill . Thus objectives of language teaching are fulfilled.

Demerits

- A good plan fails without understanding of nature of the language.
- Text books prescribed in course cannot be taught through this approach.
- Not helpful in teaching prose, poetry and other form of literature.
- Not suitable for higher classes as they don't like repetition of structures.
- Knowledge of grammar cannot be obtained through this approach as it touches only the functional grammar.