

Adriana Vandelinde
LANGUAGE SPECIALIST

Study Methods & Strategies

to Aid Listening and Speaking



www.adriana vandelinde.com

Study Methods & Strategies

Shadowing

How it works:

Shadowing involves listening to native speakers and simultaneously repeating what they say in real-time. It helps improve pronunciation, intonation, rhythm, and fluency.

Implementation:

- Choose audio or video recordings in the target language with clear and natural speech. Listen to short segments and repeat what you hear immediately afterward, trying to mimic the speaker's tone, rhythm, and pronunciation.

Benefits:

Shadowing enhances speaking fluency, trains your ear to recognize natural speech patterns, improves pronunciation accuracy, and builds confidence in conversational skills.

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Dictation Exercises

How it works:

Dictation exercises involve listening to spoken language and transcribing what you hear into written form. This technique helps improve listening comprehension, spelling, punctuation, grammar, and vocabulary acquisition. By focusing on accurately capturing spoken words and sentences, learners develop their ability to understand and process spoken language in real-time.

Implementation:

- **Select Audio Material:** Choose audio recordings in the target language suitable for your proficiency level. These recordings can include dialogues, speeches, interviews, podcasts, or language learning resources.
- **Listen Carefully:** Listen to the audio recording attentively, focusing on understanding the spoken words and sentences. Pay attention to pronunciation, intonation, and any pauses or changes in rhythm.
- **Transcribe the Text:** Write down what you hear as accurately as possible, attempting to capture each word and punctuation mark. Use a notebook, computer, or dictation app for transcription.
- **Review and Compare:** After completing the transcription, review your written text while listening to the audio recording again. Compare your transcription with the original text to identify any mistakes or discrepancies.
- **Analyze Errors:** Analyze any errors in your transcription, such as misspellings, missing words, incorrect punctuation, or grammar mistakes. Pay attention to areas where you struggled and seek clarification or further practice in those areas.
- **Repeat and Practice:** Repeat dictation exercises regularly with different audio materials to reinforce listening skills and improve accuracy over time. Gradually increase the difficulty level as you progress in your language learning journey.

Benefits:

Dictation exercises train your ears to recognize spoken words and sentences more accurately, leading to improved listening comprehension skills. They help practice spelling words correctly and using appropriate punctuation marks, and they reinforce grammar rules and vocabulary usage in context.

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The Feynman Technique

How it works:

This technique involves explaining language concepts or grammar rules in simple terms as if you were teaching them to someone else. It emphasizes the understanding of concepts at a deeper level by breaking them down into simpler components.

Implementation:

- Choose a language concept or grammar rule you want to learn, such as verb conjugation or sentence structure.
- Break down the concept into smaller, digestible parts. Use examples and analogies to clarify complex aspects.
- Teach the concept to yourself or someone else, explaining it in simple language and using everyday examples.
- If you encounter difficulties while explaining, revisit the material to deepen your understanding.

Benefits:

The Feynman Technique encourages active engagement with language concepts, promotes deeper understanding, a

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