

Implications of Montessori method in Text-based and Enquiry-based language teaching to adults

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The purpose of the research and its significance

[...] “Unlike what most educators strictly believe that Montessorian principles are purely applicable to child learning, I have found sufficient observational instances to claim Montessori method can be applied to adult language learning as well.

Methodologies

Summary of Text-based teaching: A recent research

“In text-based instruction students read authentic texts to extend their discourse resources for the expression of ideas and for knowledge-building and analysing lexicogrammar in texts. The theoretical basis for the study was Halliday’s (1978) Language as a Social Semiotic, Maton’s (2009) Knowledge Structures, Feez and Joyce’s (1998) Text-based Syllabus Design.”

The practice of Writing and Reading in text-based language teaching

Martin and Rose (2012:140) argue that the issue of enabling students to write and read on one side, and the variety in students' needs and capabilities to participate in classroom work on the other side, necessitates the application of a method as to form "ability groups".

Multi-literacies in text-based teaching

Among the different literacy practices, Christie defines *multi-literacies* as a “term intended to refer to a range of forms of literacy often found in the one text, bringing together a variety of semiotic or meaning-making resources, visual, verbal and even auditory.” (2005:4)

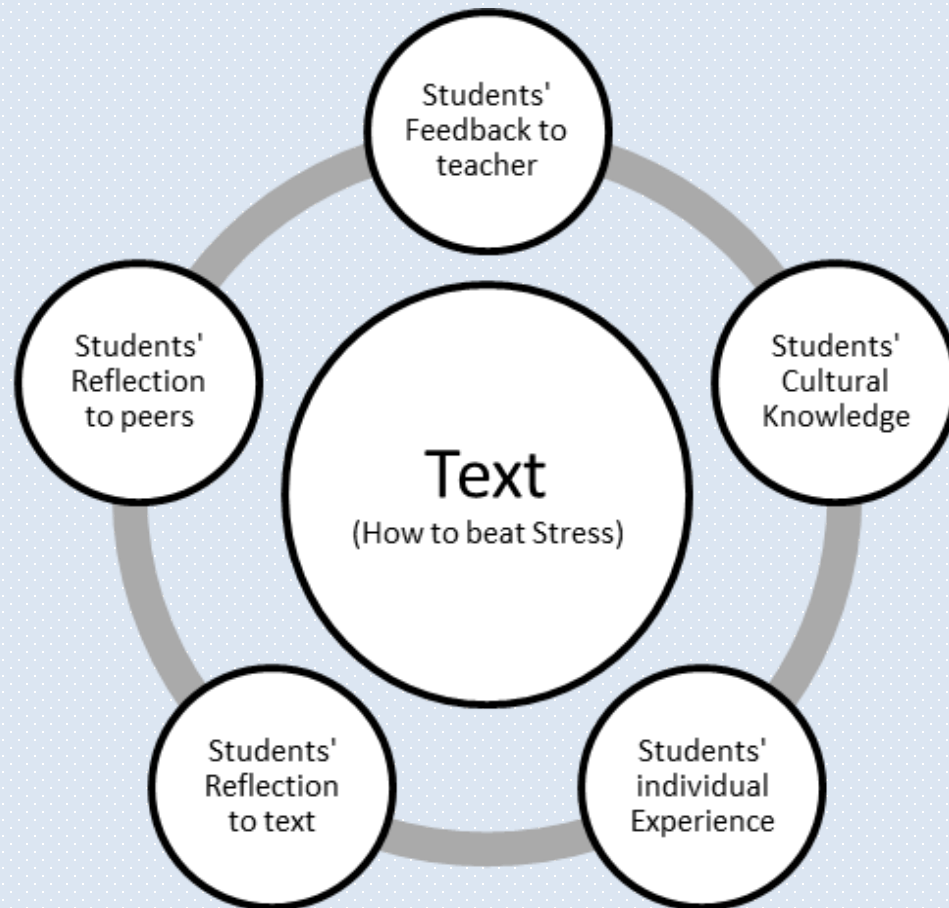
Classroom discourses as texts

Hall (2001:77) defines classroom discourse as the interaction between the students and the teacher.

Teacher as text

Even during monitoring students' group works, unlike what most teachers consider as staying silent, I entered students' discussions, agreed, disagreed and allowed them to freely ask questions or further explanations by me.

Teaching “Generalizable” texts



Sample student script

Most people who live near our house, they are very familiar to us because as you find it India is a very cultureous country and the are always helping each other. So we usually find the neighbours always help the people in many ways as I have an experience with my neighbours, those who are living near to my house. I just remember that I lost my key of my house when I just arrived from my school, so they welcomed me, to stay for hoours... (Ref. Vid. Neighbour, 45':33").

Checking writing as a class

Comparing and contrasting texts, reconstructing texts, using flowcharts and paraphrasing are among the methods that Paltridge (2001:73-80) suggests for the lessons in which students engage themselves with texts of various genres.

Sample teacher-students script

Teacher reading the text on the board:

*I enrolled in a course, whatever,
commerce... do we need admission here?*

S6: Involve, involve in, an activity...

*T: Or you can say, I had admission to study
commerce. Or I obtained admission to
study commerce. What else?*

S3: One "D"

T: One D, or double D?

Working with texts and reading for meaning

Inquiry-based Teaching

Inquiry requires more than simply answering questions or getting a right answer. It espouses investigation, exploration, search, quest, research, pursuit, and study. It is enhanced by involvement with a community of learners, each learning from the other in social interaction. – Kuhlthau, Maniotes & Caspari, 2007, p.2

Inquiry Strategies:

Immersing;

Identifying Concerns, Issues, and Dilemmas;

and Contextualizing

A little about Maria Montessori


Dr. Montessori put many different activities and other materials into the children's environment but kept only those that engaged them. What she came to realise was that children who were placed in an environment where activities were designed to support their natural development had the power to educate themselves.

Lessons from the Montessori Method

Maria Montessori states that “the true concept of liberty is practically unknown to educators. They often have the same concept of liberty which animates a people in the hour of rebellion from slavery, or perhaps, the conception of social liberty, which although it is a more elevated idea is still invariably restricted. In other words, “Social Liberty” signifies a partial liberation, the liberation of a country, of a class, of thought.”

Psychoanalytic implications of the pedagogy and knowledge-building

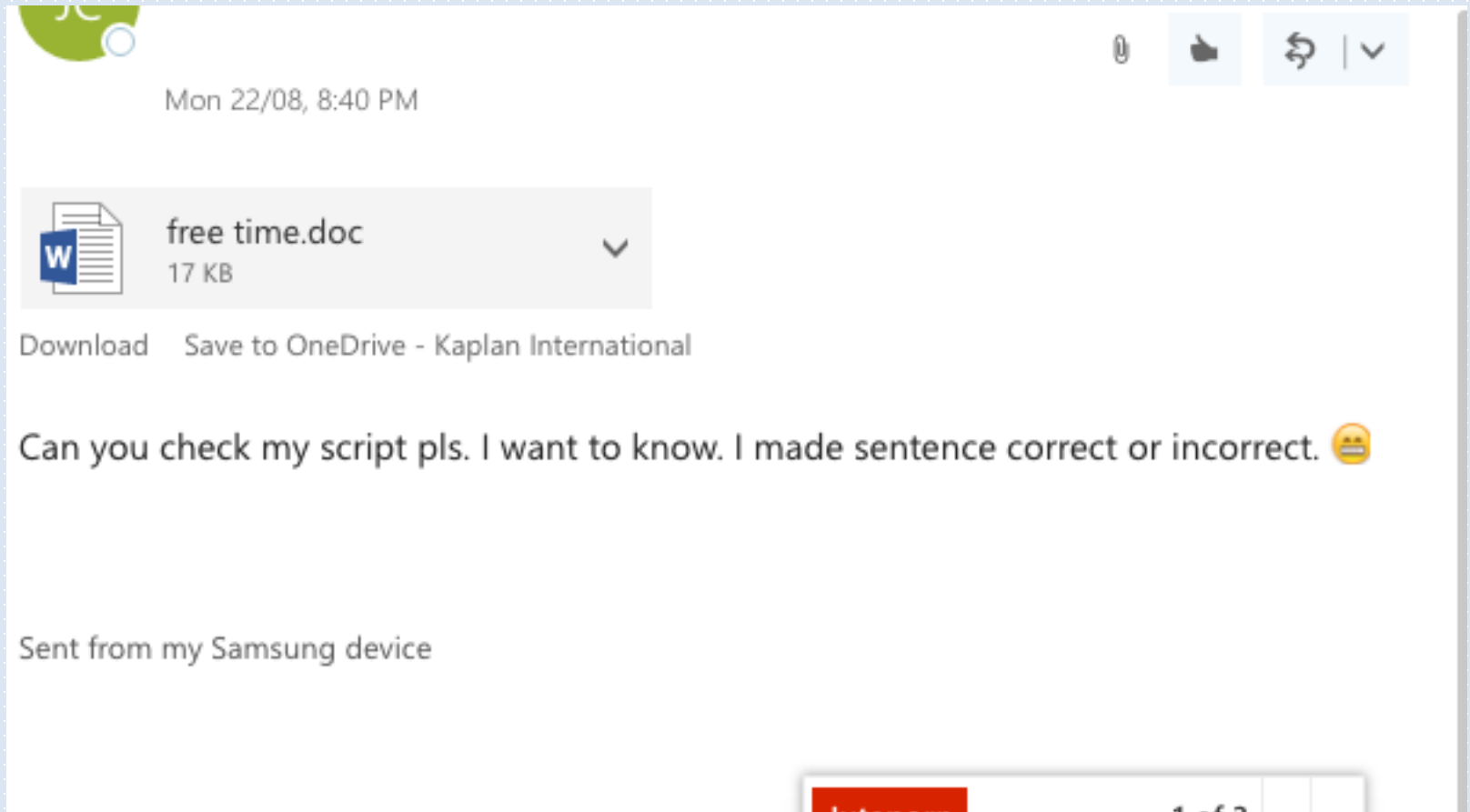
Analysis of student participation based on Maton's Semantic Gravity (2009)

Semantic Gravity	Coding of Response	Form taken by student response	Examples from transcriptions
 <p style="margin: 0;">Weak</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Strong</p>	Abstraction	Looks at the situation from a rather zoomed out scope and gives a macroscopic comment on the issue.	It's good, like, as we are moving ahead, as the generation changes, the time changes them. People are wearing them.. like, like, it's the Bollywood, its where you can clearly see that because they have to just move ahead.
	Generalisation	A rather generalised comment is given on the issue.	Basically, I see in my country, I clearly see the youngster are following this type of things specially the colleges and school boys. They always follow to copy them which make them smarter in good way.
	Judgement	A personalised account of the issue is given in response to a question from the teacher.	No, I don't follow [fashion trends on Bollywood] because even if I followed that I have to watch every moment of second of what they as wearing and that stuffs because I don't follow them.
	Interpretation	Information from the source is interpreted in own words. The reason following the interpreted statement is used as a support.	As we move ahead, like we can talk about a psychological survey and a study have found that people knew wearing a cotton a 1000 year ago. Specially we can clearly see the cottons are specially preferred in my country in India because people are wearing that type of clothes because we have a lot of hot season during that period of time. People mostly use cotton things to wearing.
	Summarising Description	Information is give through different wording and structuring.	The textile industry in India is traditionally after agriculture. It is the only industry that has generated a huge employment.
	Reproductive Description	Information is reproduced without changes applied. Numbers, facts	The textile industry continues to the second largest employment generating a sector in India its often directs employment to over 5 millions. aaa, in the country. And

from students, the
classroom and other
places

Videos...

Sample student email



Thank you!

Q & A

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