Mediation in Language Learning and Teaching

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Language Education: Paradigm Shift

CEFR/CV 2018

Changes

• Learner \rightarrow Social Agent

• 4 skills \rightarrow 4 modes: reception, production, interaction, mediation

How Does Mediation Manifest? Strategies & Activities CEFR/CV 2018

Mediation Strategies

To explain a new concept

Linking to previous knowledge

To simplify a text

• Streamlining a text

Amplifying a dense text

Emphasis on

Interdependence of individual & collective, cognitive & social, intra- & interpersonal (from Vygotsky's cognitive development theory)

 Language as "an emergent dynamic process of shared meaning, which creates and transforms itself through interactions of individuals with their environment" (Aden, Joëlle. (2012). Linguistic mediation at the foundation of shared meaning: Toward a paradigm of enaction in language teaching. Ela. 167. 267-284.)



• Adapting language

Breaking down complicated information

Mediation Activities

Mediating a text	Mediating concepts	Mediating communication
 Relaying specific nformation Explaining data Processing text Translating a written text Note-taking Expressing a personal response to creative texts Analysis & criticism of creative texts 	 Collaborating in a group Facilitating collaborative interaction with peers Collaborating to construct meaning Leading group work Managing interaction Encouraging conceptual talk 	 Facilitating pluricultural space Acting as intermediary in informal situations Facilitating communication in delicate situations and disagreements

MillaT Project

Collaboration: University of Warsaw, University of Helsinki, Charles University, Vytautas Magnus University

Completed Project Outputs

Peer-observation questionnaire in the area of mediation, online peer observations

37 observers and observees4 universities34 LSP lessons and courses4 languages

Intended project outputs

- Materials Developing Mediation for Online/In-class Courses
- Mediation in Online/ In-Class Language Teaching a Guide for (E-) /Teachers,
 Scholarly Article

Peer Observations Results: Top 3 Mediation Activities/Strategies

facilitating collaborative interaction in a group

processing and summarising the source text in an appropriate way

helping the peers better understand the issues discussed

adjusting language and paraphrasing the content of a text

activating and linking to other texts, previous material, background knowledge of the world

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breaking down complicated information into constituent parts

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