

TOTAL CLASS RESPONSE AND PARTICIPATION METHOD

BY

Sondra E. Hayes

Professor Emeriti, Modern Language Department

University of Indianapolis

CEO, the Village Child Language Center

Indianapolis, IN

TOOLS

1. Teacher must have a willingness to speak the target language although the faces staring back at you appear to be puzzled most of the time.
2. Students require survival statements and phrases that will help them bridge the gap in comprehension. Students will learn these expressions by using them daily: *(First you must translate these expressions into the target language)*
 - How do you say ___ in the target language?
 - How do you say ___ in English?
 - How is the word spelled?
 - How is the first, second, third, fourth, fifth word of the sentence spelled?
 - More slowly, please.
 - Repeat, more slowly, please.
 - Louder, please.
 - One more time, please.
 - Can you repeat the entire sentence in English, please?
(The answer to this question must always be "NO.")
 - I don't understand, explain it to me, please.
 - How shall I begin?

- What is your name?

What other expressions would you add to this list? The objective of this activity is to get the students to use their time listening, speaking, writing, comprehending and interacting in the target language.

3. Students will need a pen and paper. Eventually they will be able to do the activities without pen and paper because their listening and comprehension skills will have improved. *(Fabuloso, ¿No?)*
4. Students will need to know the alphabet of the target language.
5. Students will turn in a paper that is 100% correct because they were given an opportunity to ask as many questions as possible to assure an error free paper. *(Ideally!)*
6. This activity can be done **without** collecting papers and grading them *(for those of you who are already overwhelmed)*, as a daily drill during which students will be called upon randomly to answer various questions about the responses of their classmates, as a quiz, or as an exam.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION...

1. Depending on your plans for the day, you may select one to ten students or the entire class to respond. *(Know that all students will participate via this method.)*
2. Sample activity: *(Get ready to participate.)* Each participant will tell the group one or more of the following:
 - The day, month and/or year of their birth
 - Telephone number
 - Address
 - How you feel

- What you did yesterday (past tense)
- What you are going to do tomorrow (*future or use of to go + the infinitive*)
- Something about family members, characters in a reading selection etc.
- The other students in the group /class must listen. If they do not know the name of the student, they have to ask the name and possibly, how to spell the name. **(CAREFUL! Each student must respond in the target language, in complete sentences using the survival questions and phrases.)**

3. Every student is expected to recite.
4. The teacher (Sondra E. Hayes or you) may interrupt at any time to ask the other students randomly...On what day was Mary born? How does Jose feel today? What is Susan's telephone number? In what month were Mary, John and Richard born? In what year was Mary born? Etc.
5. If a student cannot answer because he or she needs additional information, that student must get the information needed by asking the necessary question/s. At this point others may ask more questions, (especially if they were not paying attention.)

****I assure you that after a few of these activities, the students will begin to:**

- Hear better
- Speak loudly enough to be heard by all classmates
- Feel confident that they can speak the target language well enough to be understood by others.
Hurray!!!

THIS SPELLS... SUCCESS

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU USE TCRPM

- 1. In addition to feeling a great sense of accomplishment, you will have eliminated or minimized some potential discipline problems.**
 - 2. Students will learn to communicate better in the language.**
 - 3. Students will learn to use expressions that allow them to bridge the gap between comprehension and communication.**
 - 4. Students will learn to speak loudly enough for the entire class to hear, because if they don't, they will have to repeat, repeatedly...over and over again until the others are satisfied.**
 - 5. Students will improve their listening skills in the language.**
 - 6. Students will learn the important phrases that bridge the gaps in comprehension.**
 - 7. Students will learn the alphabet and how to spell in the language.**
 - 8. Students will love the experience because they will have accomplished confidence in speaking the language to classmates, the teacher and possibly...NATIVE SPEAKERS...who will be delighted and surprised that they are even trying to speak the language.**
-