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Facultat de Ciències de l'Educació
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Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

DRAMA TECHNIQUES IN LANGUAGE LEARNING

Curs 1999-2000

AIMS

- To develop students' observation, sensitivity and imagination.
- To learn to use the body and the voice to make new input comprehensible to the learner.
- To develop awareness of the importance of body language in real communication.
- To learn drama techniques to lower the learner's affective filter, to foster motivation and to favour communication.
- To learn to imitate, mime and communicate through body language.
- To get to know sketches, plays and pantomimes suitable for young learners.
- To be able to adapt, write and direct easy plays, stories and sketches.

CONTENTS

1. Using drama activities in the classroom:
 - Observation activities.
 - Uninhibiting activities.
 - Interacting activities.
2. Interpreting techniques:
 - Plays, sketches and pantomimes for young learners.
 - Storytelling.
 - Using puppets.
3. Analysis of materials.
4. Adaptation/creation of plays, stories, sketches and pantomimes.
5. Managing techniques in drama activities.

METHODOLOGY

The course aims to be very active and experiential. Cooperative learning will be promoted.

Students are expected to collaborate in the planning of the course as well as in the selection and presentation of the activities to illustrate the different techniques that will be demonstrated in the classroom.

The experimentation of the activities will be followed by a reflection on their pedagogical value.

Students will have to read selected bibliography on the topic (background readings, plays, stories, etc.)

Students will have to adapt/create their own drama materials and will experience them in class or in their school of practices.

ASSESSMENT

- Knowledge of drama techniques and ability to use them in class.
- Capacity to observe and to use the body communicatively.
- Understanding of the theoretical issues discussed.
- Capacity to adapt/create drama materials.

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

DOUGILL, J. Drama Activities for Language Learning. London: Modern English Publications, 1987.

DUFEU, B. Teaching Myself. Oxford: OUP, 1994

MALEY, D. , DUFF, A. Drama Techniques in Language Learning. Cambridge: CUP, 1991.

PORTER LADOUSSE, G. Role Play. Resource Books for Teachers. Oxford: OUP, 1989.

WESSELS, C. Drama. Oxford: OUP, 1987.

WOOLLAND, B. The Teaching of Drama in the Primary School. Harlow: Longman, 1993

***Further reading will be provided during the course**