

PRE LISTENING WHILE LISTENING AND POST LISTENING ACTIVITIES

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Abstract: *This article explores the importance of a structured approach to listening comprehension activities, emphasizing the crucial roles of pre-listening, while-listening, and post-listening stages. We examine specific activities suitable for each stage, focusing on how these activities enhance learners' engagement, comprehension, and retention. The article advocates for a holistic approach that considers learners' needs, the target language, and the specific listening task, emphasizing the synergistic relationship between the three stages for improved learning outcomes.*

Keywords: *Listening comprehension, pre-listening activities, while-listening activities, post-listening activities, language teaching, second language acquisition, learner engagement, comprehension strategies.*

Introduction:

Listening comprehension is a multifaceted skill requiring active engagement and strategic processing. A passive approach, where learners simply listen to audio without focused preparation or follow-up, rarely yields optimal results. This article advocates for a three-stage framework – pre-listening, while-listening, and post-listening – designed to maximize learner engagement, enhance comprehension, and foster retention.

Pre-Listening Activities: Setting the Stage for Success:

Pre-listening activities prepare learners for the listening task, activating prior knowledge, building vocabulary, and establishing a context for understanding. These activities should be engaging and relevant to the listening material. Examples include:

- Predicting: Learners brainstorm possible topics or themes based on the title or visuals.
- Vocabulary pre-teaching: Key vocabulary words or phrases are introduced and practiced.
- Schema activation: Learners discuss related experiences or prior knowledge to connect with the listening content.
- Setting the purpose: Learners are given a clear purpose for listening, focusing their attention on specific information.
- Glossing: Key terms are explained or translated to improve initial accessibility.

While-Listening Activities: Active Engagement During the Listening Process:

While-listening activities involve active participation during the listening itself. These activities focus on comprehension and encourage learners to employ various listening strategies. Examples include:

- Note-taking: Learners take notes on key information, focusing on main ideas and supporting details.
- Gap-filling: Learners complete sentences or paragraphs based on what they hear.
- True/False or Multiple Choice Questions: Simple comprehension checks assess understanding of explicit information.
- Identifying main ideas: Learners summarize the main point of each section of the audio.
- Jigsaw listening: Different learners listen to different parts and share their information.

Post-Listening Activities: Consolidating Understanding and Promoting Retention:

Post-listening activities consolidate understanding, reinforce learning, and promote retention. These activities encourage reflection, discussion, and application of the learned information. Examples include:

- Discussion: Learners discuss their understanding of the listening material, sharing insights and perspectives.
- Summarization: Learners summarize the main points of the listening passage in their own words.
- Role-playing: Learners role-play scenarios based on the listening content.
- Writing activities: Learners write responses to questions, summaries, or reflections on the listening material.
- Connecting to other materials: Learners connect what they heard to other texts or their own lives.

The Synergistic Relationship Between Stages:

The effectiveness of the three stages is interconnected. Well-planned pre-listening activities create a solid foundation, while-listening activities ensure active engagement, and post-listening activities solidify comprehension and retention. Each stage builds upon the previous one, creating a cohesive and impactful learning experience.

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