

## Grammar Acquisition: Moving from Concept to Classroom Practice

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**Can-Do Statements:** I can explain the basic ideas of discovery learning.  
 I can explain important ideas behind the PACE grammar acquisition strategy.  
 I can explain important ideas behind the concept attainment model.  
 I can explain important ideas behind the input processing model.  
 I can apply these strategies to my language and my setting.

### The Role of Grammar & Fundamentals

#### Approaches to Grammar Instruction

- Inductive Guided Explicit

### Discovery Learning Model

- PACE Model

#### Points from Research

#### Guidelines

- Concept Attainment Model

#### Points from Research

#### Guidelines

- Input Processing Model

#### Points from Research

#### Guidelines

**ACTIVITY A:** Read each statement about the future and decide whether each is probable or improbable for the year 2030.

Probable	Improbable	In the year 2030 ...
_____	_____	...they will invent a flying car.
_____	_____	...I will be married with kids.
_____	_____	...we will have more political issues.
_____	_____	...the president will be a woman.

**ACTIVITY B:** Circle all the *-ing* verb forms in the following paragraph.

Daria is sitting in a world languages teaching methods course at Notre Dame. She is thinking to herself "Are these guys selling me snake oil? Or am I just not hearing them correctly?" The presenter is talking about new ways to focus on grammar. Daria is not sure that she's buying it...

**ACTIVITY C: Bill Clinton: Before and After**  
*A recent article discussed Bill Clinton's presidency & his retirement. Decide whether each excerpt taken from the article refers to Bill Clinton's life during his presidency or now, during his retirement.*

As President	Now	Bill Clinton ...
_____	_____	... speaks at universities.
_____	_____	... had many meetings everyday
_____	_____	... met with world leaders.
_____	_____	... eats healthy foods regularly.
_____	_____	... plays with his granddaughter.
_____	_____	... had many assistants & helpers.
_____	_____	... spoke often to Congressmen.

**Step 2:** *What else does Bill do now and did he do then? What other activities can you and a partner come up with?*

**ACTIVITY D: My Summer Vacation: Two Perspectives**  
**Step 1:** *Are teachers' lives really that different from their students? Read about your instructor's plans for this summer & decide whether or not each activity would be fun for you.*

Fun	Not Fun	I will...
_____	_____	... spend two weeks in Europe.
_____	_____	... take a road trip with my family.
_____	_____	... get a head start on fall classes.
_____	_____	... work part-time at a bookstore.

**Step 2:** *One of these statements made by the instructor is not true. Can you guess which one your instructor is not actually planning to do? Together with a partner, see if you can agree on which one is false and be ready to support your guess with a reason why.*

**ACTIVITY E: The Model Student.**  
**Step 1:** *Do you consider yourself an organized, responsible student? Are you a sterling role model for others to follow? Let's find out! See how many characteristics of a responsible student match you.*

- A responsible student ...
- \_\_\_ wakes up early & has a healthy breakfast
  - \_\_\_ lays out the clothes they are going to wear the night
  - \_\_\_ arrives at school early to review for class discussions
  - \_\_\_ tries to get all their homework done before dinner.
  - \_\_\_ goes to bed early so they can get eight hours of sleep
  - \_\_\_ falls asleep quickly and easily because they have worked so hard.

**Step 2:** *Are any of the actions in Step 1 overly responsible, bordering on obsessive? Which ones? Be ready to share your thoughts.*

**ACTIVITY E MULLIGAN: The Model Student.**  
**Step 1:** *Do you consider yourself an organized, responsible student? Are you a sterling role model for others to follow? Let's find out! See how many characteristics of a responsible student match you.*

- A responsible student ...
1. ... wakes up early.
  2. ... eats breakfast.
  3. ... arrives early to class.
  4. ... finishes homework before class.
  5. ... goes to bed early.
  6. ... falls asleep quickly.

**Step 2:** *Are any of the actions in Step 1 overly responsible, bordering on obsessive? Which ones? Be ready to share your thoughts.*

**ACTIVITY F: Pop Culture Icons**  
*A recent article in a pop culture magazine summarized the lives and contributions of major figures in the rock-n-roll industry. Below are just a few excerpts from the article. For each excerpt, decide whether the author of the article was referring to Rhianna or to Bono and the Edge.*

	RiRi	Bono & the Edge
...travels all over the world	_____	_____
...play the guitar.	_____	_____
...sings before thousands.	_____	_____
...writes a lot of songs.	_____	_____
...make music videos.	_____	_____
...raise money for charities.	_____	_____

**Step 2:** ??????

**Reflection:**

**References**

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