

ENGAGE. MOVE. LEARN!

Unleashing Language Acquisition Through TPR

Presented by Brittany Summerhays | 03/02/2024

Key Takeaways:

- **Total Physical Response (TPR)** is a teaching method that integrates physical movement with language learning.
- It helps learners acquire language in a stress-free environment, mimicking the way young children learn their first language.
- TPR emphasizes listening comprehension and physical response, making it an effective method for early language acquisition.
- It reduces learner anxiety and increases enjoyment and engagement in the learning process.
- TPR is adaptable to various languages, age groups, and proficiency levels, offering flexibility in teaching and learning.
- The method supports a wide range of learning styles through its incorporation of physical, auditory, and visual activities.

The TPR Method:

1. Prepare

Select the vocabulary that you are going to teach. Gather any equipment, props or pictures you will need to illustrate the meaning of the words.

2. Teacher Modeling

Say the new vocabulary word for the students. As you do this, use gestures, facial expressions, props or body movement to illustrate the meaning of the word.

3. Student Modeling/Participation

Have all students mimic the same gestures, facial expressions, use of props or body movement modeled by the teacher and student volunteers. Ask them to say the word as they are making the movement. Vary this activity by then doing the action and while students say the word.

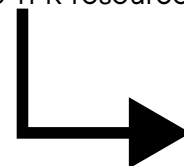
4. Writing

Write the word or phrase where all students can see it so that students can make the connection between oral and written words.

5. Repetition and Practice

Teach the next word or phrase using the same method. Review and practice words with students multiple times to ensure learning. Recycle words regularly to make sure that students do not forget old words.

TPR Resources: Scan the QR code to visit the TPR padlet and explore more TPR resources!



Reflection Questions:

- How do you think TPR facilitates language learning compared to more traditional methods?
- What challenges might you face when implementing TPR in a language classroom, and how could you address them?
- How can TPR be adapted for advanced language learners?
- In what ways could technology be integrated into TPR activities to enhance learning?
- How could you assess students' understanding and proficiency using TPR?
- Reflect on a TPR activity you observed and participated in. What worked well, and what could be improved?
- How can TPR contribute to a culturally responsive teaching environment?