
Topic #4: Types of Teaching Materials

In general there are two types of teaching materials:

2.1 Authentic materials refers to texts, photographs, video selections, and other teaching resources that are not specifically prepared for pedagogical purposes

2.2 Created materials refers to textbooks and other specially developed instructional resources.

Advantages of authentic materials

- They have a positive effect on learner motivation
 - They provide authentic cultural information about the target language
 - They support a more creative approach to teaching
-

Disadvantages of authentic materials

- Authentic materials often contain difficult language
 - Using authentic material is a burden for teachers
-

2. Created Materials

Created materials like textbooks, to a certain extent has the following advantages:

2.1 they can be motivating for learners;

2.2 they can be superior to authentic ones because they are generally built around a graded syllabus and hence provide a systematic coverage of teaching items

2.3 they provide structure and syllabus for a program

2.4 they help standardize instruction

2.5 they maintain quality

2.6 they provide a variety of learning resources

2.7 they are efficient

2.8 they can provide effective language models and
input

2.9 they can train teachers

2.10 they are visually appealing

Disadvantages of textbooks:

- they may contain inauthentic language;
 - they can deskill teachers;
 - they are expensive.
-

Task#1: Discuss in your group, the following questions

1. Based on your experience as learners, what are advantages and disadvantages of authentic and created materials?
 2. Do you agree with what experts say regarding with these?
-