Title: Research on Effective Foreign Language Teaching

Name:	Yoshiyuki USUDA	E-mail:	usuda@hakodate-ct.ac.jp
Status:	Professor	Degree:	M.A. (Education)
Affiliations:	JASELE, HELES, LET, COCET, JALT, JES, 函館英文学会		
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Technical Support Skills:	・Task Design/Development ・Foreign language instruction using ICT		

Research Contents: Design and Development of Effective Tasks in an EFL Environment

1. Tasks

Incorporating tasks into communicative activities in the classroom can afford proactive, interactive, and deep learning in the classroom, and can motivate learners. Tasks can be classified into output-based tasks and input-based tasks. It is significant to gradually move from Input-based tasks to Output-based tasks, and to place them on the syllabus in a way that is balanced in terms of difficulty. How to design and develop tasks and how to arrange them is a research issue.

2. Task-Based Language Teaching (TBLT)

As information technology and globalization accelerate beyond human expectations, and as the Courses of Study are revised, there is a need to improve the learning process from the viewpoint of independent, interactive, and deep learning in order for students to acquire the skills to survive in the world. It is necessary to consider the possibility of introducing TBLT, which is said to have affinity with independent, interactive, and deep learning, from the teacher-led grammar syllabus more than ever. Along with task development, the feasibility of a task syllabus, which is rarely seen in Japan, is another research issue.

3. Technology-Mediated TBLT

Technology has been shown to increase the potential for task utilization and effectiveness, and the use of technology has been shown to create many benefits for TBLT (Thomas and Reinders, 2010). Not only can it provide a variety of input materials, but it can also provide a complete platform for Performance and Output in a single device. Technology makes it possible to easily and effectively prepare and execute tasks that used to take a lot of time and effort. The future of task design using technology is to be studied and researched. The design of tasks utilizing technology will be a research issue in the future.

4. ICT-supported Learning

ICT-enhanced classes greatly changed the way of teaching, motivating learners. Currently, the use of ICT (laptop computers, tablet devices, smart phones, etc.) is spreading to language learning as part of the GIGA school concept, and there is a possibility of a shift to CALL in a wireless LAN environment, i.e., CALL that does not require a classroom. Research on effective methods of its utilization is another issue.

【Reference】

Ellis, R., Skehan, P., Li, S., Shintani, N. & Lambert, C. (2020). Task-Based Language Teaching: Theory and Practice. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Thomas, M. & Reinders, H. (eds.). (2010). Task-Based Learning and Teaching with Technology. London: Continuum.