

ENSEÑANZA DEL INGLÉS: HISTORIA, ENFOQUES Y MÉTODOS 2012-2013



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UNIT 4.3.2. Major distinctive features of the Audiolingual Method and the Communicative Approach (Finocchiaro & Brumfit, 1983: 91-93):

Audiolingual Method		Communicative Language
		Teaching
1.	Attends to structure and form more	Meaning is paramount.
	than meaning.	
2.	Demands memorization of structure-	Dialogues, if used, center around
	based dialogues.	communicative functions and are not
		normally memorized.
3.	Language items are not necessarily	Contextualization is a basic premise.
	contextualized.	
4.	Language learning is learning	Language learning is learning to
	structures, sounds or words.	communicate.
5.	Mastery, or "over-learning", is	Effective communication is sought.
	sought.	
6.	Drilling is a central technique.	Drilling may occur, but peripherally.
7.	Native-speaker-like pronunciation is	Comprehensible pronunciation is
	sought.	sought.
8.	Grammatical explanation is avoided.	Any device that helps the learners is
		accepted –varying according to their
		age, interest etc.
9.	Communicative activities only come	Attempts to communicate may be
	after a long process of rigid drills	encouraged from the very beginning.
	and exercises.	
10	. The use of the student's native	Judicious use of the native language is
	language is forbidden.	accepted where feasible.
11	. Translation is forbidden at early	Translation may be used where
	levels.	students need or benefit from it.
12	. Reading and writing are deferred till	Reading and writing can start from the
	speech is mastered.	first day, if desired.



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Audiolingual Method	Communicative Language
	Teaching
13. The target linguistic system will be	The target linguistic system will be
learned through the overt teaching of	learned best through the process of
the patterns of the system.	struggling to communicate.
14. Linguistic competence is the	Communicative competence is the
desired goal.	desired goal (i.e., the ability to use
	the linguistic system effectively and
	appropriately).
15. Varieties of language are recognized	Linguistic variation is a central concept
but not emphasized.	in materials and methodology.
16. The sequence of units is	Sequencing is determined by any
determined solely by principles of	consideration of content, function or
linguistic complexity.	meaning that maintains interest.
17. The teacher controls the learners	Teachers help learners in any way that
and prevents them from doing	motivates them to work with the
anything that conflicts with the	language.
theory.	
18. "Language is habit", so errors must	Language is created by the individual,
be prevented at all costs.	often through trial and error.
19. Accuracy in terms of formal	Fluency and acceptable language is
correctness is a primary goal.	the primary goal: Accuracy is judged
	not in the abstract but in the context.
20. Students are expected to interact	Students are expected to interact
with the language system, embodied	with other people, either in the flesh,
in machines or controlled materials.	through pair and group work, or in
	their writings.
21. The teacher is expected to specify	The teacher cannot know exactly
the language that students are to	what language the students will use.
use.	
22. Intrinsic motivation will spring from	Intrinsic motivation will spring from an
an interest in the structure of the	interest in what is being communicated
language.	by the language.