





SEVE

KEY CRITERIA N A TASK-BASED CONTEXT



principles learning teaching should and !training **!countries** !Kazakhstan and | pedagogy.

QUOTE BY SALTANAT MEIRAMOVA

When did you start your internship Theory and Methods fundamental Professional Education at the University of of Glasgow?

hanks for your question, Ali. I started my internship and in 2011 at the University of Glasgow within the nternational presidential program "Bolashak" which means in the Kazakh language "the future". It is a very tough competition to be won but I was be reconsidered lucky to pass all stages of this contest and spent 12 months of internship in Glasgow, the UK. My in the context of scientific supervisors were the international director of the school of Education at that time English teaching professor Vivienne Baumfield and the director of the Language Center of the University of Glasgow professor Ester Daborn now retired. They are very knowledgeable and very experienced people who helped me much to enrich and enhance my like knowledge, teaching and pedagogical experience in applied linguistics and language education and

> In most of middle east countries, education has always been less effective than in European countries. As a teacher educator with the experience of visiting the University of Glasgow, how do you

describe the differences?

I found many differences between the style of language teaching and learning at the University of Glasgow and that of my home country, Kazakhstan. I was invited to observe different types of classes and this allowed me to examine how teachers select appropriate methods and strategies and how they apply new techniques and the theory behind them in practice in order to achieve effective learning. This observation opened my eyes to the task-based approach and has made me think that the fundamental principles of learning and teaching should be reconsidered in the context of English teaching and teacher training in countries like Kazakhstan and Iran.

What is required to be done in order to achieve effective learning?

Lots of things. But for the beginning, in my opinion, we need a shift towards task-based learning. As practitioners, we are always concerned with improving our own experience as teachers and employing methods that will increase our students' motivation and academic achievement. Teachers should not just 'fill up' their students with knowledge (as happened in my university when I was a student), but encourage them to learn by doing and help them to personalize what

they learn and appreciate its usefulness for their future teaching careers. The many round-table discussions, teachers' interviews, seminars and classes I have participated in while in the UK, have helped me to see the task-based approach as the most effective and appropriate to use. Because:

- •It is learner-centered.
- •It provides target language exposure rather than rote learning.
- It requires classroom dynamics which involve the students in a socializing process.

In your article, published in English Teaching Professional magazine, you have mentioned seven key criteria in a task-based learning and teaching context. What are these criteria and how did they occur to you?

As a result of observing classes and reflecting on what I have seen at the University of Glasgow. I developed seven criteria for teaching and learning, which I believe should be implemented in middle east countries. The reason why I have chosen these criteria is that they reflect the contexts in which English is taught and used. In other words, they contribute towards a real picture of what is happening in the classroom.

Could you give a brief explanation about these criteria?

Sure. The first criterion is Classroom management which has four important

for

should

 Cognitively-challenging lesson content (including the learning context, activities and class organization, teaching aids, etc.)

 Learner-centered teaching (which engages all the students and encourages them to become responsible decisionmakers, participating actively in their own learning)

 Staging cohesion (in which much attention is paid to vocabulary, grammar and I in middle east I very motivating process. pronunciation through practice, and both receptive countries." and productive skills are dealt --

 Appropriacy of activities (identifying activities leading to communicative use of language and also taking into consideration the students' learning styles and preferences) Practical application of theories is the second criterion. Teachers should provide their students with an introduction to the theories related to language acquisition. These theories should include an overview of the language itself and the language teaching/ learning process.

The third criterion is Teaching materials which can be taken from authentic sources, such as journals, the internet, radio, films, textbooks or reference materials, such as grammar

materials can provide students with examples of the target language in a real context. Teachers need to ensure that the teaching materials they use are suitable for the purpose and are likely to engage the students' interest.

The fourth one is Motivation and responsiveness to students' needs and interests. Identification of strategies to stimulate student engagement and student autonomy should be used to manage the students' level of motivation. Taking into account the students' needs and interests is very important because this will encourage them to pursue their own enquiries and express themselves in a supportive and productive learning environment. Such an environment will help the students to

take responsibility for their own learning and make them I ,, prepared to pursue and try out new ideas.

The fifth is Topic-oriented **approaches** lesson plans. Jack Richards states, that 'the success with which a teacher conducts a lesson is often thought to approach as much depend on the effectiveness with which the lesson was planned'. It is also worth noting that teachers should choose tasks which are relevant to the students' needs, and should provide clear specifications for how they intend to set up and run each task.

Next criterion is Classroom dynamics. Classroom dvnamics

can involve whole-class developed ; interaction, small group interaction interaction. criteria in pairs, student-teacher teaching interaction and individual work. These will vary learning, according to the type of activities being undertaken. which I believe Teachers should exploit any **be** opportunities to get their students to socialize in the implemented! classroom as this can be a

And finally Reflection. Critical reflection your own teaching and learning, which includes examining your

own particular context, interpreting what takes place in a lesson and evaluating your decisions, is important for both teachers and students. It brings about a deeper awareness of what you are doing, learning and teaching, which may lead you to decide to make changes to your teaching and learning practice.

Are there any other solutions you would like to offer in order to improve teaching and learning in countries like Iran?

Thanks again for your very interesting and

experience in Glasgow University helped me much to see what kind of approaches and methods the English teachers use to motivate international and home students to learn and teach English effectively. Among the various approaches to teach successfully I have found TBLT approach as much more applicable in Kazakhstani context and I think for Iran it will be helpful as well. I developed the model of teaching and learning English using TBLT approach and discussed it in my several articles published in different international conference proceedings in Spain (INTED 2012, EDULEARN 2015), the UK (IATEFL 2012), Turkey and Kazakhstan. I discuss the methodology of TBLT approach to teaching English in EFL classes. In addition, the papers

present a useful way of applying an adapted

Among

teach successfully

more applicable

context and I think

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Kazakhstani

the

APEX MAGAZINE

apex

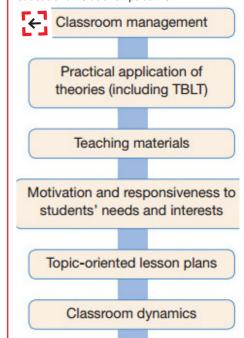
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--- practical model of TBLT in ■ TEFL classes and other issues I related to teaching pedagogy various | and I think they could be useful to I for the Iranian teachers and students to be considered as

I have found TBLT Finally, if you are interested I have developed the textbook for multidisciplinary students based on the mentioned TBLT module of how to learn and teach the professionoriented English within granted project funded by Ministry of Education and science together

with foreign expertise which are being adapted in Kazakhstani universities of higher education.

Many thanks again for this interview and interest to my teaching and pedagogical experience. I am happy to meet you today and share my experience. Hopefully, our ideas and experience shared with colleagues during this conference today will contribute much to mutual international collaboration and educational relationships as well.



Reflection

reference books and dictionaries. Authentic precise questions. Yes, sure. I think my

Iran."



The 90th Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, honored the best films of 2017 and took place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California. The ceremony was held on March 4, 2018 rather than its usual late-February date to avoid conflicting with the 2018 Winter Olympics.

Here, a brief account of the most important nominations and the winner is given:



Best Picture















The Oscar for Best Picture was awarded to THE SHAPE OF WATER. Producers Guillermo del Toro and J. Miles Dale graciously accepted the award at the 90th Academy Awards. Earlier in the night, Guillermo del Toro took home the Oscar for Best Directing for THE SHAPE OF WATER. The film also secured two other Oscar wins for Music (Original Score) and Production Design.

Scan the barcode on the left to watch Oscar winner's acceptance speech

Best Actor







Timothée Chalamet Call Me by Your

VIEW TRAILER | MORE INFO

Denzel Washington

Roman J. Israel, Esq.



Daniel Day-Lewis Phantom Thread



VIEW TRAILER | MORE INFO





Daniel Kaluuya





Gary Oldman was the winner of ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE NOMINATION with his play in the movie "Darkest Hour" in which he portrays Winston Churchill. Furthuremore this is the second Academy Award nomination for Gary Oldman. He was previously nominated for: TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY (2011) (Nominee, Actor in a Leading Role)

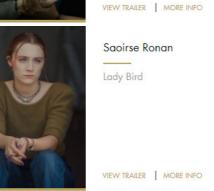
Scan the barcode on the left to watch Oscar winner's acceptance speech

Best Actress



Sally Hawkins The Shape of Water







VIEW TRAILER | MORE INFO

Margot Robbie

I, Tonya



Meryl Streep





Frances McDormand won ACTRRESS IN A LEADING ROLE NOMINATION with her play in the movie "Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri" in which she portrays Mildred, a grieving mother who devises a provocative method to motivate the police investigating the unsolved murder of her daughter. This was also the fifth Academy Award nomination for Frances McDormand.



Scan the barcode on the left to watch Oscar winner's acceptance speech



TRAYEL

WITHOUT MONEY



re you interested in traveling? Do you travel a lot? If not, have you ever thought about traveling but canceled your plan due to some difficulties like time or money? This article is just about to solve the problems for you...

couchsurfing

Casey Fenton, a 25-year-old American computer programmer faced the same problem in 1999. One day he found a cheap flight from Boston to Iceland but did not have lodging. Fenton hacked into a database of the University of Iceland and randomly e-mailed 1,500 students asking for a homestay. He received between 50 and 100 offers and chose to stay at the home of an Icelandic singer. On the return flight to Boston, he came up with the idea to create a website namely couchsurfing.

Couchsurfing International Inc. operates a hospitality service and social networking service. Its website and mobile apps are platforms for members to arrange homestays, offer lodging and hospitality, join events such as "Couch Crashes", and, via its "hangout" feature, meet other members.

Upon creating an account, members set up an online identity, and after leaving comments their experiences with other members, evelop a reputation. Plus, the platform is gift economy; hosts are not allowed to charge for lodging. Also members can either directly request logging from other members or post their travel plans publicly and receive offers from other members. The good news is Couchsurfing has also entered our country and there are lots of people willing to host travelers from all around the world. All you have to do is to download the app through scanning the QR codes below and sign up. Then you can



either search for hosts or post your travel plan and wait for offers from hosts. If you can't easily trust people, there is a section called "Reference" especially made for you. Reference is an uneditable message from the people who meet each other whether by hosting or being host. So when someone is finished hosting you, you both get to leave a reference for each other letting others know what happened and whether your stay was safe and the host is trustable. Now imagine there is someone with dozens of references saying how perfect they are. Wouldn't it be easier to trust then?

That's not all of meeting new people world and you have can be a host. As an experienced host, I suggest you the opportunity if you have the necessary means.





course. If you are into from all around the a place to share, you





Hitchhiking

Based on the definition Hitchhiking (also thumbing, hitching, or transportation asking people, usually in their automobile or ride which is free and for no money.

hitchhikers' to drivers differ around hitchhikers use various hitchhiker wishes to needs a ride, he may written sign. In many

the world. Many hand signals. If the simply display a countries gesture involves extending arm toward the road and sticking the thumb of the outstretched hand upward with the hand closed, as you may already

given by Wikipedia,

autostop) is a means

that is gained by

strangers, for a ride

other vehicle. A

passengers are asked

methods of signaling

known

umb up) is not considered appropriate, which is why the first way (displaying a written sign) is suggested.

But why would I want to hitchhike?

Hitchhiking is a lot of fun, an inexpensive adventure, and a great way to meet the locals of a region. However, it can also teach you two important masculine values that are sorely needed in today's world

A. How to solve problems on your own. "To find yourself, think for yourself." – Socrates

B. How to connect with many different types of people.

"The ability to deal with people is as purchasable as a commodity as sugar or coffee and I will pay more for that ability than for any other thing under the sun." – John D. Rockefeller

Isn't hitchhiking really dangerous?

As writer of this article, I've had the experience of hitchhiking in Iran which is believed to be impossible by many people. But I should tell you it was neither dangerous nor difficult. I know many people who have hitchhiked all around the world without facing any problems. All you need to do is to observe the following extremely important rules:

1)Don't hitchhike at night, says Hitchwiki. Besides visibility issues, you don't want to risk falling asleep in the car or falling victim to a driver who is impaired, either because of sleep deprivation or substances.

indicate that he **2)Take a picture of the license plate and call or text someone**. That way, you've put the driver on notice the that someone knows where you are.

> 3)Assess your driver by looking him/her in the eye, but if you guessed he is not the right person, get out via feigning stomach illness.

> 4)If you've outlined your own set of rules for hitchhiking, don't abandon them, even if you're tired or stuck. If you've decided you won't ride with certain kinds of travelers, stick to the plan

you can see in the 5)Most of all, every hitchhiker says to pictures above. Of trust your instincts.

course in Iran, as Last point: You might be a driver someday, seeing someone holding a sign beside the street. Be know, the second kind enough and give him/her a ride. Kindness way of signaling (th brings its own reward.



Ali Safari





Recently, a lab in France came up with a concept they call the "mag surf", where a levitating board hovers above a magnetic track through the use of a superconductor cooled by liquid nitrogen. Sure you can't take it out on the streets just yet, but as a proof of concept it's pretty solid.



Star Wars lightsabers (Thor Jenson)

In September of 2013, a team scientists from Harvard and MIT managed to create a synthetic form of matter called a "photonic molecule" by biding photons together in a cloud of rubidium atoms. The end result was a physical structure made out of pure light. While they can't make anything quite as big as a sword yet, the proof of concept is there, and scientists believe that one day they will be able to organize them into crystalline structures.



Hologram (techradar) Star wars

A company called "Asukanet" demonstrated a new interactive hologram in 2013 CEATEC show. The device that displays the hologram is called an Aerial Imaging Plate, which combines reflective surfaces with a tablet interface. A floating hologram is presented and the user can interact with it as they would any real life tangible object. The AIP detects where your hand is in relation to the hologram and makes the hologram respond accordingly.



Minority Report heads-up display > air-touch technology (buzzfeed)

A new heads-up technology prototype generates a private air-touch display that doesn't need voice activation or a physical keyboard or screen for input.



Nasiri

A BRIEF REVIEW OF

"THE GRAPES **OF WRATH**"

BY JOHN STEINBECK



Poverty is cruel and keeps the people was a child and they go to find the Joads under severe pressure all the time. It together. Once they get to the Joads' is what makes families fall apart and farm, they can't believe what's in front their sons spend years behind the bars." of their eyes. The Joads are loading their The Grapes of Wrath" is written by John stuff on a truck and about to hit the Steinbeck, one of the most influential road. They've lost their crops because of writers of the 20th century. He has been Dust Bowl and the banks are about to called "a giant of American letters", tractor their farms and houses, so they and many of his works are considered must move away. People rarely stay in classics of Western literature. Also, he Oklahoma, where Joads live, and those was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962. who do so, are up to fight the banks and In 1930s in the US, banks owned most not let go of their farms, but deep down of the farms across the country and they know that sooner or later they have the farmers were just tenants who to leave everything behind and move. worked on the farms and lived with

The sad, gloomy adventure of the Joads

begins, and as the story crawls ahead,

devouring whatever people, especially style of writing more and more. the farmers had gathered through years by working hard and sweating As a matter of fact, "The Grapes of blood. This monster left farmers no Wrath" is a realist novel in that it exactly choice but to move to somewhere else depicts how the social conditions were to find jobs with better payments. The in 1930s and how much pain people story begins with Tom Joad getting out were in back then. I burst into tears of the prison on parole. He's murdered frequently while keeping reading the somebody years ago and has spent novel because it contains some of years behind the bars. As he's walking the most dramatic dialogues in the

Depression" was growing rapidly and Steinbeck reveals his extraordinary

on the way home, he runs into Casy the American Literature. preacher who's baptized him when he

their families in a little house nearby.

All along a monster called "The Great

What makes this novel incredible is that, you can empathize with the characters easily as they live in a difficult condition in which most of us probably have lived. For example, when Ma, the mother of the family, gets to the supermarket to buy meat, she finds out that she doesn't have enough money. The conversation

between Ma and the salesman is pretty emotional. I kept turning pages to find out what happens next and where the Joads' next stop would be. Ma, a major character in the novel, somehow

leads the family. She tries to maintain tranquility in the family and not let it fall apart tragically. And of course she kind of makes it. Ma is very supportive of her

children and knows how to deal with such a terrible condition in which they all live. So my favorite character is Ma.

The novel has many cliffhangers which lead to suspension and make your reading experience pleasant. To be honest, I have to say that I read this masterpiece in 4 days so I guess that can be a good reason for you to start reading it ASAP. But what about the negative points? Of course there are some. First of all, I did not figure out what happened to Tom finally and if he joined the family again. Secondly, the theme is very dark and there is depiction of sadness and misery everywhere. I believe it could be written in a way that we, the readers, could get much more hope for our lives which somehow resemble the Joads'.

To make the story short, I fell in love with this book the first time I read it, and I recommend it to all the fans of pure drama who could be easily moved. In the end, if asked to rate this book out of 10, I would definitely give it 9.5. Don't hesitate guys. Start reading "The Grapes of Wrath" for it's totally worth it.

How can you frighten a man whose hunger is not only in his own cramped stomach but in the wretched bellies children? You can't scare him - he has known a fear beyond every other."

Chapter 19



Yunes Zareie





Rows of houses, all bearing down on me
I can feel their blue hands touching me
All these things into position
All these things we'll one day swallow whole
And fade out again and fade out

RADIOHEAD

44

I will lay me down in a bunker underground

I won't let this happen to my children

Radiohead is one of the most popular rock bands right amongst the list with Rolling Stone and Beatles. Their music started to hit international interest right from the get go. The music, the lyrics and the fascinating arrangement of both in their songs had the listeners stunned. Their single "Creep" was released in late 90s and is still one of their most favorite songs along the rock music lovers.

The arrangement of this beautiful song is still being played by all sorts of instruments especially acoustic guitar. They released 9 albums throughout their professional career. But their "OK Computer" was something to remember for its international hit and complicated production. The lyrics in the beginning is from the song "I will" which is a great piece of art and strongly recommended.

Close to becoming a legend in rock music, they had a great breakthrough and released songs which is still on most people's favorite playlist. The songs "Creep", "Paranoid Android", "There There", and "Street Spirit" are strongly recommended to listen to at

When you were here before Couldn't look you in the eye You're just like an angel Your skin makes me cry

least once.





AGAINST

ALL

ODDS!

Iran national football team, also known as Team Melli has ranked the first team among Asian national teams over the past few years based upon FIFA world rankings.

Iran is one of the most successful national teams in Asia with three Asian cups and has qualified for the world cup five times but unfortunately has never advanced past the group stage and its only victory in the world cup has been a 2-1 victory against united states in 1998.

Carlos Quiroz is the head coach of Iran who has taken its bench for approximately 7 years. This Portuguese man is going to lead Iran national team in world cup for the second time.

Since the 2018 world cup draw, nobody considers a little bit of chance for Iran national team to be qualified to the next round as there are 3 powers in this group, but once, Iran has shown its capability against Argentina in 2014 world cup where it lost the match at the last moments with Messi's masterpiece.

Spain, Portugal and Morocco are the teams which Iran is going to face in 2018 world cup in Russia. Spain and Portugal are two of the best national teams in Europe. Portugal's recent magnificent victory was against France in 2016 Euro cup, where France lost the cup in their own home. Spain, with a glorious background in World Cup, is named as one of the teams that has a great chance to win this competition.

In my point of view, it is our hardest match in the world cup for which we need to be prepared quite well.

The last team is Morocco which is famous for its nickname, Atlas Lions. It has physically strong players most of whom play in European clubs.

FIFA WORLD CUP

RUSSIA 2018

They won the African championship recently, so they seem highly motivated for the world cup and they are going to amaze the world by their eye catching matches and great wins.

Iran is going to be qualified to the next round for the first time in these series of matches.

It was

IT WAS A LONG DAY FOR TEAM MELLI AND I. THE DRAW WAS EXTREMELY EXCITING. IT COULDN'T BE BETTER TO GET TO HAVE MATCHES WITH SPAIN, PORTUGAL, AND MOROCCO. IT'S AN EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR SOCCER PLAYERS TO SHOW EVERYONE WHY THEY ARE SPECIAL AND DESERVE TO BE IN FIFA WORLD CUP.

the second team getting the permission to attend the upcoming world cup, and its motto is "ALL FOR TEAM MELLI" which indicates their courage for the matches ahead.



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