

Oh my god!, Io sono troppo
much confuso!

(Oh my god!, I'm so confused.)

Semih Seloni

Overview

- Learning English in elementary and middle school
- Learning Latin rooted languages
- High teacher expectations
- English vs. Italian

Elementary school

- Games with unknown aims for students

Elementary school

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- Oral practices instead of memorization homework

Elementary school

- Games with unknown aims for students
- Oral practices instead of memorization homework
- Making students talk

Middle school

- Book analysis

Middle school

- Book analysis
- Difficulties in understanding vocabulary

Middle school

- Book analysis
- Difficulties in understanding vocabulary
- High expectations & Low performance

Middle school

- Book analysis
- Difficulties in understanding vocabulary
- High expectations & Low performance
- Divide students into levels of language proficiency

Quote 1:

- 'The researchers who have searched for the affects of tracking on students achievement in education tend to believe that theoretically, students in all tracks learn faster due to the fact that the curriculum is tailored to their level of ability.'

(Taylor H.F, 2002)

Quote 2:

- 'The differences between students can be too great, and their needs too dissimilar.'

Taylor H.F.(2002) *Understanding a Diverse Society*

Comparison between my learning of English and Italian

English	Italian
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="150 525 726 601">• Gap fill songs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="1000 525 1760 686">• Listening/Speaking practices

Comparison between my learning of English and Italian

English	Italian
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gap fill songs• Limited vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listening/Speaking practices• Literature/Reading novels

Comparison between my learning of English and Italian

English	Italian
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gap fill songs• Limited vocabulary• Games with no aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Listening/Speaking practices• Literature/Reading novels• Grammar practice

Learning Spanish

- Conversation practices → better than memorizations

Learning Spanish

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- Spanish interference in Italian midterms due to memorization based learning of Spanish

Learning Spanish

- Conversation practices → better than memorizations
- Spanish interference in Italian midterms due to memorization based learning of Spanish
- Importance of speaking practice

Lessons Learned

- Importance of knowing several languages

Lessons Learned

- Importance of knowing several languages
- Awareness on learning a new language

Lessons Learned

- Importance of knowing several languages
- Awareness on learning a new language
- Importance of the ability to communicate to someone in his/her mother tongue

Points to be reconsidered:

- What could be done to motivate students to learn foreign languages?
- Is it possible to provide a reason for learning a new language?

More points to be reconsidered:

- How could learners be helped identify their learning styles and develop their learning strategies?

Does the secret lie behind 'raising
learner awareness on why to learn
a foreign language' ?

Thank you!