

Second Language Acquisition

Session 8: Sociological Perspectives on SLA

Sommersemester 2021

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Mondays 16.00 – 18.00

Outline of the session

- Communicative Competence
- Socio-cultural Theory

Communicative competence

- In breakout-sessions, please discuss the term communicative competence and how you would define it. Think about what a person's / language learner's communicative competence needs to include to enable them to communicate successfully in everyday life. Save your results on a Whiteboard in Zoom.

Communicative competence

- Chomsky (1965: 4) differentiated between **linguistic competence** and **linguistic performance**



“speaker-hearer’s knowledge of his [sic] language”



“the actual use of language in concrete situations”

Communicative competence

- Hymes' model of communicative competence (1972)

Grammatical component	Psycholinguistic component
Whether and to what degree something is formally possible, i.e. whether something is grammatical	Whether and to what degree something is feasible in virtue of the means of implementation available, i.e. whether something can be processed
Sociocultural component	Probabilistic component
Whether and to what degree something is appropriate in relation to a context in which it is used and evaluated, i.e. the intersection between the linguistic and the cultural	Whether and to what degree something is in fact done, actually performed and what its doing entails, i.e. something may be possible and appropriate, but may not occur

Communicative competence

- Canale and Swain's model of communicative competence (1983)

Grammatical competence	Sociolinguistic competence	Strategic competence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Knowledge of lexical items• Morphology• Syntax• Sentence-grammar semantics• Phonology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sociocultural rules of use• Sociocultural rules of discourse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategies used in case of grammatical problems• Strategies used in case of sociolinguistic problems

Communicative competence

- Bachmann's model of communicative competence (1990)

Organizational competence	
Grammatical <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vocabulary• Morphology• Syntax• Phonology & Graphology	Textual <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cohesion• Rhetorical organization
Pragmatic competence	
Illocutionary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ideational functions• Manipulative functions• Heuristic functions• Imaginative functions	Sociolinguistic <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sensitivity to dialects and varieties• Sensitivity to registers• Sensitivity to naturalness• Cultural references and figures of speech

Communicative competence

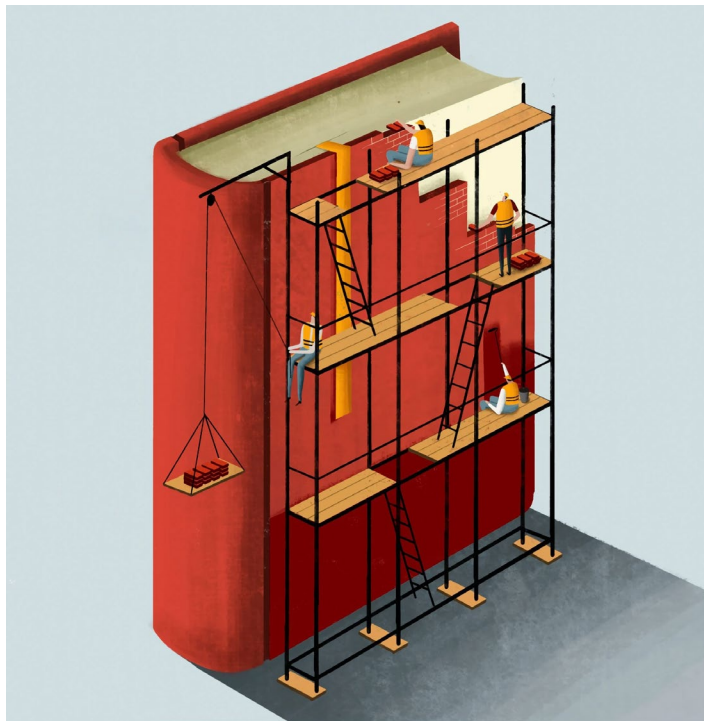
- In groups, compare your these models to your initial concepts. Is anything missing from these models that you would like to add?

Vygotsky's Socio-cultural Theory

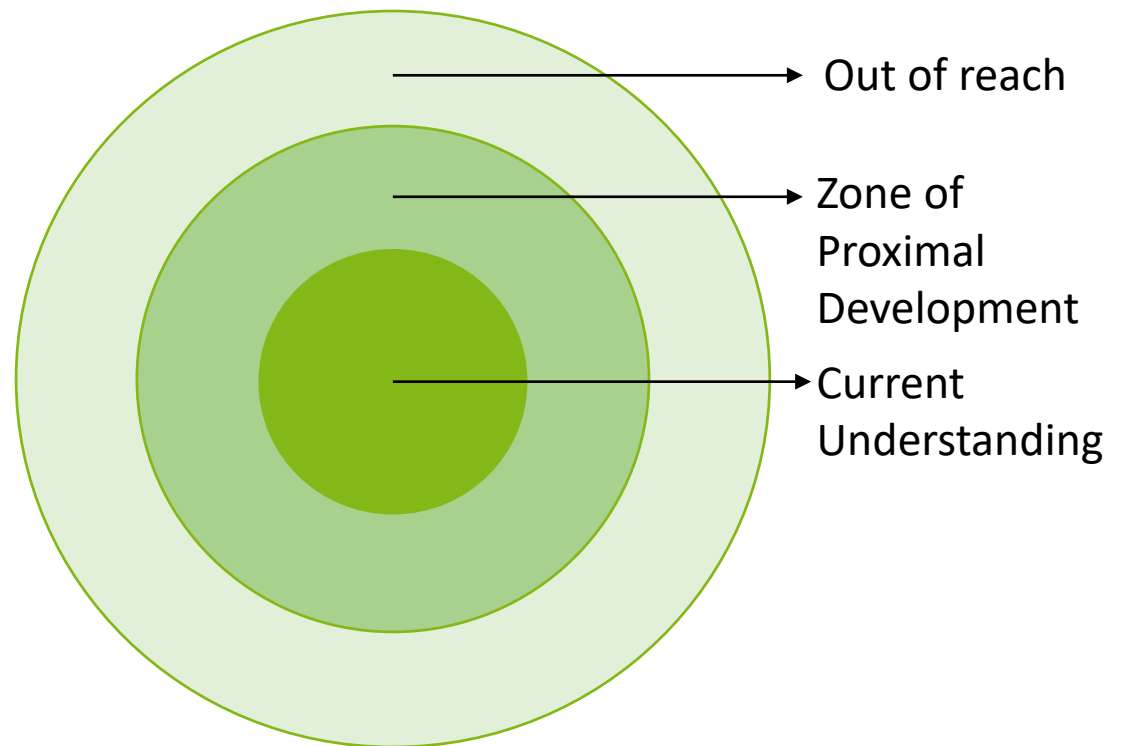
- In groups, discuss how this theory can be applied to ELT, Materials and the classroom. What do language teaching professionals need to be mindful of?

Vygotsky's Socio-cultural Theory

- In pairs, look at the two graphics and explain the theory to each other.



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Reading for next week (7th June)

- Read Saville-Troike (2017), p. 126-140
- Look at the discuss and debate task on p 139. Make some notes on the questions there.

References

- Bachman, L. F. (1990). *Fundamental considerations in language testing*. Oxford University Press.
- Canale, M. (1983). From communicative competence to communicative language pedagogy. In: Jack C. Richards & Richard W. Schmidt (eds.), *Language and communication*. Longman. 2-27.
- Chomsky, N. (1965). *Aspects of the theory of syntax*. MIT Press.
- Hymes, D. H. (1972). On Communicative Competence. In J. B. Pride & J. Holmes (Eds.), *Sociolinguistics*. Penguin. 269-293
- Saville-Troike, M., & Barto, K. (2017). *Introducing Second Language Acquisition* (3rd edition). Cambridge University Press.