

TEACHING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AT HOME/LA CLASE DIVERTIDA

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Why study a foreign language?

- Job
- Church
- College Entry
- Music
- Buy Groceries ☺
- SAT
- Mission Field
- Vacation
- High School Graduation?

How do we learn language?

- God programmed us for language retention
- Our brains take words and put them together
- All we hear goes in Short Term Memory
- In order to make it Long Term, you have to repeat continually
- If the repetition isn't varied and relevant it becomes monotonous!!!

What language should we study?

- Some experts suggest Greek or Latin
- Real life suggests Spanish
- Family background
- Mission interests
- Your language of expertise?
- What language do you have access to most via church, family, community, etc.?

Before you begin a foreign language study, two thoughts should

influence what language you begin with:

- The intent to develop a deep appreciation of the language and for the people who speak it
- What language will help my child the most in his or her education and in his or her everyday life?

When do I begin? - Am I too late?

- GOOD NEWS! - It's not too late for YOU!!!
- Starting younger is better in the long run
- How language is taught is every bit as important (if not more) as when it is taught
- Much has to do with exposure, attitude, and desire!!
- Adults can certainly learn a foreign language
- It will take more effort but it is still POSSIBLE! - YOU CAN DO IT!

What do I look for in a Foreign Language Curriculum?

- Grammar
- Conversational
- Sound System
- Fun
- Hands on
- Cultural
- Life Applicable
- Varied Practice
- Pre-Planned
- Interesting
- Non-Cumbersome

Why do people/programs fail to deliver the desired outcome?

- Lack of motivation
- Lack of exposure
- There are different types of learners:
 - Visual
 - Kinesthetic
 - Auditory

Therefore, the curriculum should apply a combination of learning styles:

1. Keeps attention
2. Non-cumbersome for teacher
3. Teaches the sound system
4. Involves conversation - except Latin
5. Incorporates culture
6. Presents material in an interesting way
7. Material must be relevant to what will be used in real life!

How Do I Get My Children Practical Exposure?

- Games/ Music
- Internet - streaming of News Casts
- T.V. - Foreign stations with game shows, news, weather, sports, etc.
- Watch movies with foreign subtitles
- Restaurants
- Supermarket
- Church/ Mission Trips
- Foreign Exchange Students
- Foreign Travel