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Extensive reading: A workflow to enhance vocabulary learning from reading in the classroom

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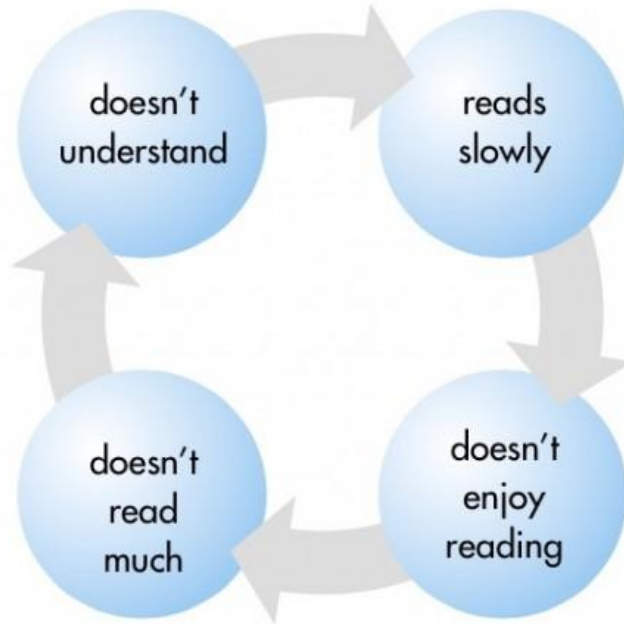
Extensive reading (ER)

- **Benefits and potential problems**
 - + development in vocabulary, reading skills and general proficiency
 - + learning to love reading, building confidence and motivation
 - - teachers' role?
 - ER as a “monastic detention session with teachers [...] enforcing a rule of silence” (Green, 2005, p. 308)
 - - slow gains if only based on implicit learning
- **Extensive reading plus**
 - a more recent turn to supplementary activities in ER
 - discussions, vocabulary and readings activities, “Say-it activities” (Macalister, 2014; Boutorwick et al., 2019)
- **Bi- and multi-modality in extensive reading (Cheetham, 2017)**
 - mono-modal input leads to unbalanced skill development
 - bi-modal input with audio
 - intonation
 - working memory activation

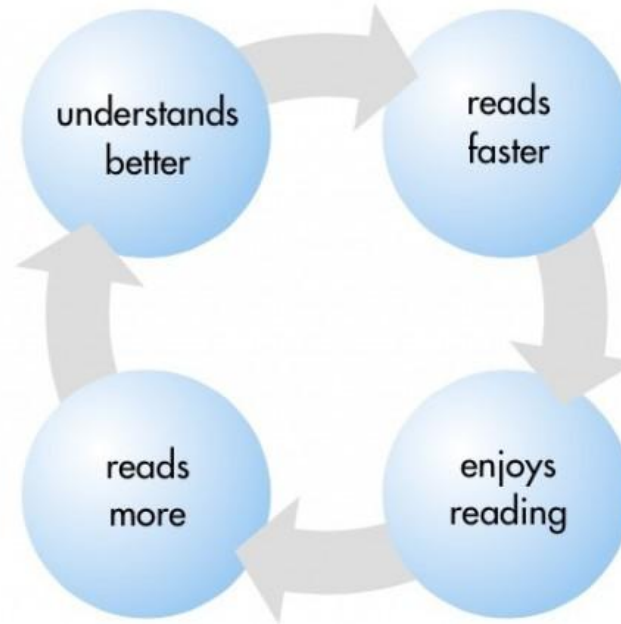


Comprehension and enjoyment

“The vicious circle of the weak reader”



“The virtuous circle of the good reader”



from erfoundation.org



Vocabulary and extensive reading

- **Extensive reading has to be fun and engaging**
 - The aim is general comprehension
 - Choosing the right book
 - Finding the right level
 - Minimal coverage: 95%
 - Optimal vocabulary coverage: 98%
 - Frequency of unknown words?
- **Vocabulary size (active) estimates for CEFR levels**
 - CEFR B1: lower bound at 1500-2000 headwords
 - CEFR B2: lower bound 2500-3000 headwords
- **Learning vocabulary through extensive reading**
 - Noticing - Retrieval - Varied meetings/use - Elaboration (Nation, 2015)
 - Importance of learner strategies
 - Only incidental? Or instructed?



Quick digital tools to work with vocabulary

- www.lextutor.ca (Cobb, 2005)
 - How complex is the vocabulary of a text?
 - *COMPLEAT* Vocabulary profile module
 - settings:
 - Classic, then BNC-COCA-1-25K corpus
 - proper nouns: eliminate OR 1k
 - Quick vocabulary import into quizlet from Lextutor
- www.textcompare.org
 - E.g. the Word search, Crossword, Cloze-test maker
 - Also interesting: Readability scores
- www.wordart.com
 - Word Clouds
 - frequency based or selected



Summary of good practices for ER

- ER in the classroom should not be a quiet, “monastic” activity
 - **varied tasks:** pre-reading vocabulary / discussion, vocabulary activities and reading comprehension tasks, post-reading discussions, various writing tasks (reviews, character descriptions, predict the story)
 - **bi- or multimodality:** audiobooks, read aloud, picture books, comics, producing drawings
- Vocabulary is key to fluent reading comprehension and fun
 - **Conscious choices based on corpus data**
 - Using Lextutor’s vocabulary profiler
 - **Building tasks around key vocabulary**
 - Cloze tests, Word search, etc.
 - Quizlet activities
 - Discussion, writing, acting or other creative activities



Recommended sites for ER

- ER Foundation (erfoundation.org)
 - ER Toolkit!
- Helbling Readers Blog / Extensive reading
 - Especially the articles of Nóra Wünsch-Nagy
 - <https://www.helblinglanguages.com/int/en/blog/category/extensive-reading>





Köszönöm a figyelmet!

Iskolánk honlapja: <https://szli.hu/>

A honlap Erasmus+ aloldalának *Disszemináció* menüpontjában megtalálhatók lesznek az elhangzott előadásokhoz tartozó prezentációk.

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