Manipulating and complementing content teaching to maximize second language learning

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ABSTRACT Much current discussion about communicative language teaching incorporates the notion that second language learning will be enhanced through its integration with content learning. This paper argues that not all content teaching is necessarily good language teaching, and suggests some ways in which content teaching might be organized to enhance second language learning.
Learning and Teaching Languages through Content. A counterbalanced approach. Amsterdam: Benjamins. Manipulating and complementing content teaching to maximize second language learning. TESL Canada Journal/Revue TESL Du Canada 6 (1), 68-83. Swain, M. (2001). Integrating language and content teaching through collaborative tasks. The Canadian Modern Language Review 58 (1), 44-63. Early Immersion: Teaching Principles. Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) is a general expression used to refer to any teaching of a non-language subject through the medium of a second or foreign language (L2). CLIL suggests an equilibrium between content and language learning. The non-language content is developed through the L2 and the L2 is developed through the non-language content. In 1995 the European Commission adopted a document on education called “The White Paper. Teaching and learning. Towards the learning society”. It declares that proficiency in three community languages is a prior objective, and suggests teaching Contents Acknowledgements ix Note to teachers x 1 Background to second language acquisition research and language teaching 1 1.1 The scope of this book 1 1.2 Common assumptions of language teaching 2 1.3 What is second language acquisition research? Keywords first language: chronologically the first language that a child learns second language: ‘A language acquired by a person in addition to his mother tongue’ (UNESCO) native speaker: a person who still speaks the language they learnt in childhood, often seen as monolingual Glosses on names of teaching methods are provided at the end of the chapter.