

The approach toward ESL teaching today in North America is now so narrow that in most institutions we can no longer use spoken materials that have British accents. I think this trend stems from the mistaken notion that realistic models need to be explicitly demonstrated in all forms of production without 'abberation', and with a certainty that the message has been received and thoroughly represented in the most realistic and direct manner.

SCRAP ALL

(In Memory of Vygotsky)

By Ross McCague

Scrap all those cartoon courses,
Academic content by another name,
And substitute a focus on form adjunct,
Vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation
nicely integrated with the core,
So enrichment eventually becomes the norm.
Trust that culture and academic skills
will blend with common sense
and proper pedagogical applications.
Consider even further if you dare,
Discourse patterns will emerge of their own accord,
Models need not be exalted
above necessary communication
and the dynamic construction of fluent thought.

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