Extensive Reading with a Twist

Misti Williamsen and Cevia Yellin American English Institute, University of Oregon ORTESOL Fall Conference November 14, 2014

Your Context

K-12: elementary/middle/high

Adult Education

Higher Education

ESL EFL EAP

Other?

Our Context

English for Academic Purposes

Intensive English Program

Levels

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

Extensive Reading

3 4 5 6

Agenda

- I. Overview: revisiting the why, a bit of how
- II. Project "experience" activity
- III. Debrief

Extensive Reading

Why do we use it?

Benefit: language development

- o comprehension skills
- o background knowledge
- automaticity
- O vocabulary/grammar
- o production skills
- o confidence/motivation

Extensive Reading

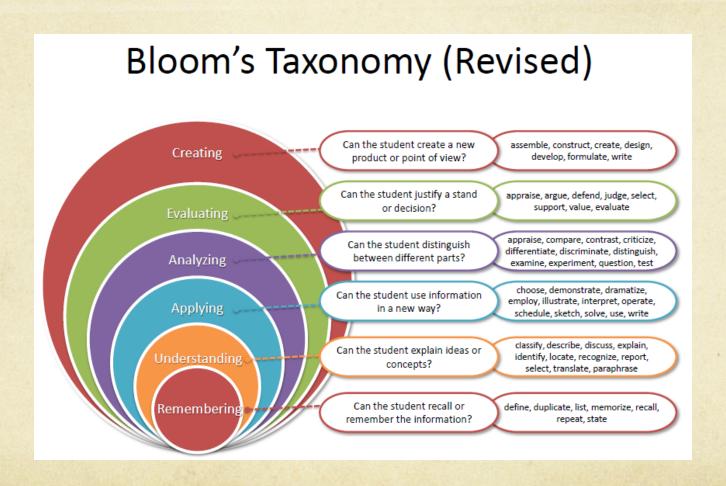
Why do we use it?

Benefit: critical thinking

"To become proficient in a language, learners need to use creative and critical thinking through the target language."

(Kabilan, 2000, p.1)

Our friend Bloom



Structure

Before

Favorite Stories

Importance/Benefits of ER

How to choose a book (in English)

Trip to the bookstore (if time allows)

How to "pace" their reading

Structure

During

Book discussion groups - in class

Online discussions - outside of class

Discussion Board Weekly Task

Responding to Reading: Making Connections

While you read, make connections to your reading material...

TEXT to SELF

your life, experiences, thoughts, and opinions

TEXT to TEXT

a book you've read or a film you've seen

TEXT to WORLD

a current world event or an event in history

Discussion Board Weekly Task

	Forum	Description			Total Participants
† □	Extensive Reading Response #1	Write a paragraph (7-10 sentences) explaining a connection you've made to the first 30 pages of your Extensive Reading book. Post your paragraph on the Discussion Board by Wednesday night, 10pm. Read and reply to two of your classmates' responses (4-7 sentences) by Friday night, 10pm. Be sure to include the title and author of your book in the subject heading as well as the kind of connection you made (text to self, text to text, text to world). Please see my example on the Discussion Board as a model of what you are expected to do. Happy Reading!	56	0	18

Discussion Board Weekly Task

Grading

Paragraph: 10 points

Replies: 5 points each (x2)

TOTAL: 20 points per week

Based on Content

deductions made only for incoherence, summaries or incompleteness

Structure

After

Projects!

Misti

Book 1: Character Maps/Timelines

Book 2: Make Your Own Quiz

Book 3: Advertisement/Movie Trailer

Book 4: Story Project

Cevia

Book 1: Become a Character

Book 2: Script Project

The Story Projects

Background

"Zero Prep" Workshop by Laural Pollard at U of O

Cevia shared an activity that worked well

Misti "twisted" it

It worked!

The Story Projects

Purpose

Deepen comprehension of stories

Promote critical and creative thinking

Ownership of stories/pride in products

Motivation/Validation for reading

Misti's Version

Write a short story in which a character (s) from one of your books is transported into the setting of one of your other books.

Your story will be:

New

Not a summary

Graded on content, not grammar/spelling

Cevia's Version

Write a dramatic scene in which a character from one of your books interacts with a character from one of your partner's books.

Your scene will include:

Narration: background information, location, purpose

Dialogue: characters talk to one another and interact for a specific purpose (to get advice, to help with a problem, to achieve a mutual goal, etc.)

Let's Try It!

15 minute activity

- 1. Think of your favorite stories
- 2. Choose a project version
- 3. Brainstorm with a partner
- 4. Note ideas on planning sheet

Idea Sharing

Your story project ideas

What did you and your partner come up with?

Student Project Ideas

"The Picture of Dorian Gray" & "The Age of Innocence"

"Gandhi" & "Lord Jim"

"Harry Potter" & "Black Beauty"

"Black Beauty" & "Frankenstein"

"Gulliver's Travels" & "Sherlock Holmes"

"Chemical Secret" & "Secret Garden"

Student Examples

"Gulliver's Last Voyage" and "The Secret Pot"

Questions & Comments

Any questions you'd like to ask?

Any ER ideas you'd like to share?

Thank You!

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References

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