# The Cognitive Code Method

June 8, 2012

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- Chomsky pointed out that humans are constantly producing and understanding new utterances, a process that cannot be explained by behavioristic theories.

# The Cognitive Code Method

- The Audio/lingual Method was replaced by the "cognitive code approach" to language learning.

- The cognitive code approach never gained the status of what one might call a method

- Cognitive principles began to play a significant role in foreign language classrooms.

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- Among the cognitive principles that have implications for language learning are:
  - The distinction between automatic and controlled processing
  - The distinction between meaningful and rote learning
  - The process of restructuring

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- Automatic processing involves the spontaneous activation of memory whenever certain inputs are present.
  - Skilled language users use automatic processes
- In controlled processing, the memory is activated on a temporary basis only, requiring the student's conscious attention
  - Beginning learners use controlled processes

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- Meaningful learning is learning which is relatable to concepts already in the learners' mind.
- Rote learning consists of relatively isolated concepts learned verbatim and are not relatable to concepts already in the learners' mind.

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- Often new concepts do not fit within learners' knowledge, forcing learners to revise their ideas in order to accommodate new information, called restructuring.

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- Although the cognitive approach is not a method, cognitive theory does suggest certain learning activities and principles. Many of these activities have been commonly used in foreign language classrooms and textbooks since the 1970s.

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- All learning must be meaningful to the learner.
- Students need extensive practice using language skills
- Students need opportunities to apply rules to express their own meanings in communicative situations

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- New material should be sequenced in such a way that it can be integrated with students' previous knowledge.
- Conduct pre-reading or pre-listening activities
- Instruction in language learning strategies