

# Total Physical Response

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# Total Physical Response

- A comprehension approach
- Importance to listening comprehension—how infants learn languages

# Total Physical Response

- Meaning is given priority
- A classroom atmosphere with low anxiety to facilitate learning
- Students follow directions without native language translation

# Total Physical Response

- Meaning is conveyed through actions and made clear through body actions
- Understanding is developed before speaking
- Students learn through observing and performing actions

# Total Physical Response

- Students do not memorize fixed routines
- Students must understand novel combinations of the target language
- Spoken language over written language

# Total Physical Response #1

- 1. What are the goals of teachers who use this method?
- To reduce the stress people feel when they are learning a new language; to encourage students to persist in studying the language

# Total Physical Response #2

- 2. What is the role of the teacher?  
What is the role of the students?
- The teacher is the director;  
students follow the directions but  
later there will be a role reversal

# Total Physical Response #3

- 3 What are some characteristics of the teaching/learning process?
  - Phase 1: Modelling
  - Phase 2: Demonstrate understanding
  - Phase 3: Students develop flexibility from novel recombinations



# Total Physical Response #4

- 4 What is the nature of student-teacher interaction? What is the nature of student-student interaction?
- The teacher interacts with the whole group and with individual students

# Total Physical Response #5

- How are the feelings of the students dealt with?
- TPR developed to reduce stress
- Students speak only when they are ready
- Make learning enjoyable through skits and etc.

# Total Physical Response #6

- 6 How is language viewed? How is culture viewed?
- Oral language is primary

# Total Physical Response #7

- 7 What areas of language are emphasized? What language skills are emphasized?
- Vocabulary and grammar over reading and writing

# Total Physical Response #8

- 8 What is the role of the students' native language?
- Only used to introduce the methodology

# Total Physical Response #9

- 9 How is evaluation accomplished?
- Teachers can see whether or not students understand

# Total Physical Response #10

- 10 How does the teacher respond to student errors?
- Teachers are tolerant of student errors; only correct major errors