


# GRAMMAR TRANSLATION METHOD



# **THE GRAMMAR-TRANSLATION METHOD**

# INTRODUCTION

## Original purposes

- Helping students read and appreciate foreign language literature
  - Students can become more familiar with the grammar of their native language also write and speak their native language better
  - Helpful for mental exercise
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The grammar translation method is a foreign language teaching method derived from the classical method of teaching Greek and Latin.


It was called Classical Method since it was first used in the teaching of the classical languages.

The method requires students to translate whole texts word by word and memorize numerous grammatical rules and exceptions as well as enormous vocabulary lists



# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

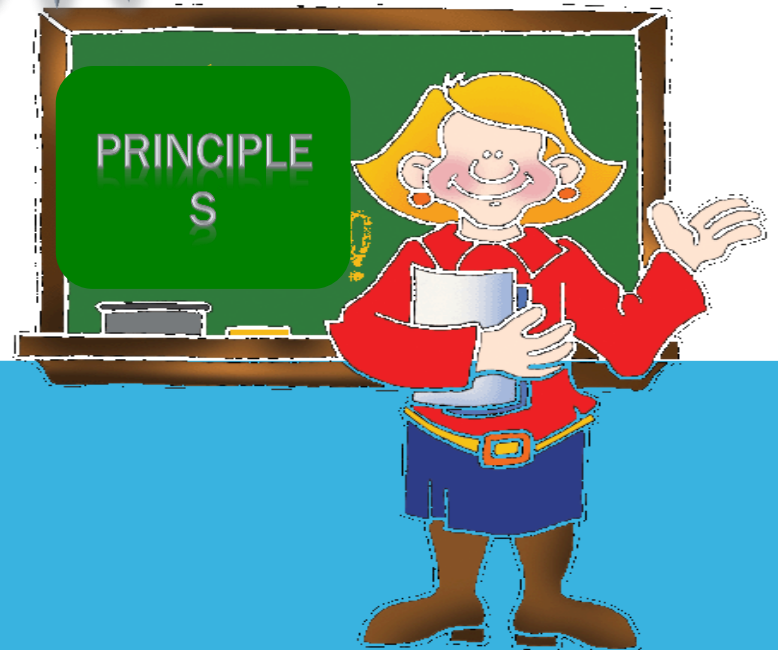
## Translation of a literary passage

- Students will be asked to read a literary passage and then translate the target language into their native language
  - Translation may be written or spoken
  - Translation made by the students can show that they understand their meaning
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2. Most of the interaction in the classroom is from the teacher to the students.

1. The teacher's role is to be the authority in the classroom. The student's role is to do what the teacher says.

3. Literary language is considered superior to spoken language and is therefore the language students study.



# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

The ability of communicating in the target language is not a goal

- The students ask questions in their native language and are also answered by the teacher also in their native language
- The teacher asks students in their native language




# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES


## Deductive application of rules

- It is important for students to learn about the forms(grammar rules) of the target language
- Grammar rules are presented with examples
- Students are asked to apply the rules to examples they are given

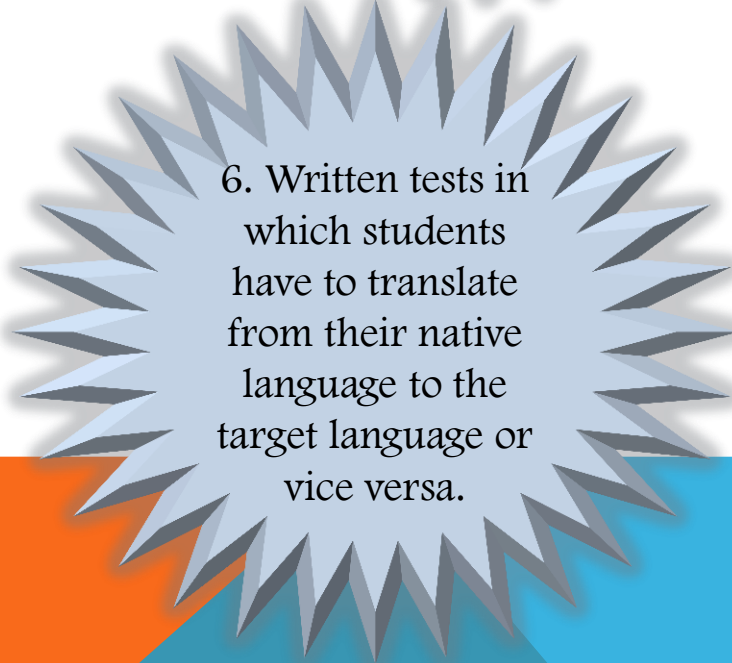




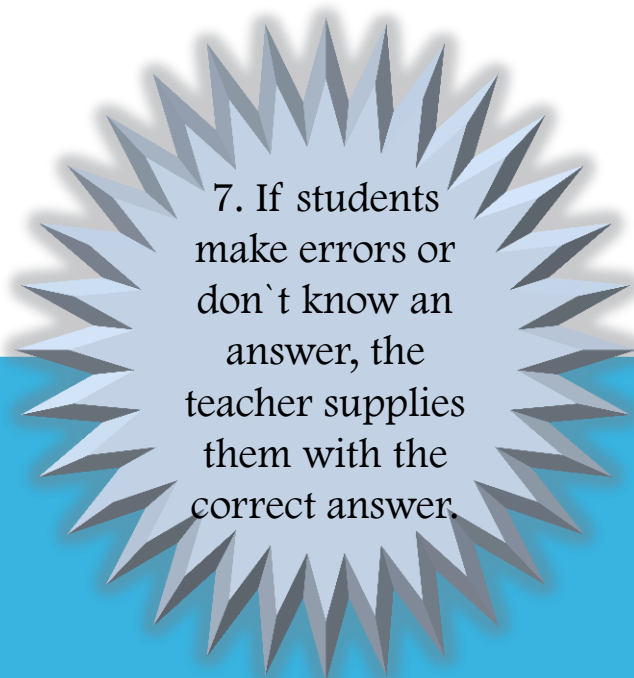
4. There is much less attention given to speaking and listening.



5. The language that is used in class is mostly the students' native language.



6. Written tests in which students have to translate from their native language to the target language or vice versa.



7. If students make errors or don't know an answer, the teacher supplies them with the correct answer.


# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

## Reading comprehension questions

- Students answer these questions in the target language
- Answers to the questions may be in the reading text, or based on the understanding of the students or students' own experiences related to the text

# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

## Teacher as the authority

- Teacher decides whether the students' answers are correct
  - It is important for students to get the correct answers
  - If students answer incorrectly, the teacher will provide the correct answer
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## CHARACTERISTICS

- ✓ Students are taught to translate from one language to another.
- ✓ They translate readings in the target language about some aspect of the culture of the foreign language community.
- ✓ Students study grammar deductively, they have to memorize.
- ✓ Students learn grammatical paradigms such as verb conjugations.
- ✓ Students memorize native language equivalents for foreign language vocabulary words.

# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

## Memorization

- Students are asked to memorize new words, grammatical rules, and verb conjugation



# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

## Fill-in-the-blanks

- Teacher give students sentences with word missing
- Students should fill in the blanks with the new vocabulary or with a particular grammar type

# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

## Use words in sentences

- Students are asked to make up sentences with the new words they learn in the text
- This technique can show whether students really understand the new words

# PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES

## Composition

- Students are asked to write a composition in the target language
- The topic is based on some aspect of the reading passage



# POSSIBLE PROBLEM

## Lack of communication ability

- Students learn about and are familiar with the forms of the target language but only in reading and writing
- Students lack the ability of listening and speaking in the target language



## TECHNIQUES

- **Translate of a Literary Passage:** From the target language into their native language.
- **Reading Comprehension Questions:** Students answer questions in the target language based on their understanding of the reading passage.
- **Antonyms/synonyms:** Students are given one set of words and are asked to find antonyms in the reading passage as well as synonyms for a particular set of words.
- **Cognates:** Students are taught to recognize cognates by learning the spelling or sound patterns that correspond between the languages.
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## TECHNIQUES

- **Deductive Application of Rule:** Grammar rules are presented with examples.
- **Fill-in-the-blanks:** Students are given a series of sentences with words missing.
- **Memorization:** Students are given lists of target language vocabulary words and their native language equivalents and are asked to memorize them.
- **Use Words in Sentences:** Students make new sentences in which they use the new words.
- **Composition:** The teacher gives the students a topic to write about it in the target language. Sometimes, instead of creating a composition, students are asked to prepare a presentation of the reading passage

**THANK YOU**