

Online Media as a Means to Boost Listening Comprehension and Cultural Insight

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The Main Goals

- **To Raise Awareness ...**

... about the relative ease with which aspiring language learners can find an immersive experience simply by listening to online media.

- **To Motivate ...**

... those same language learners to tap into the brain's natural curiosity and "dive in", even when starting from scratch. Anything can be a lesson!

- **To Share Ideas ...**

... for how to approach such media, from leveraging a growing corpus of readily accessible reference sources to simply taking the time to rest the mind.

Warm-Up Exercise



Repeated Terms

- Pappa(n)
- Mamma(n)
- Vem
- Hon
- Han
- Ge / ger
- Blomma / blommor/ blomman
- Plocka / plockar
- Krans / kransen
- Få / får
- Till



Mnemonics

- Repetition
- Spelling out
- Cognates
- Memory Cues
- Others?

ögon

eyes

Choose a mem to help you remember:

Think chinese *oolong* but with a g instead

oolong to ** ögon

The Brain Is Curious

- Automatically recognizes patterns
- "Self-tunes" to new sounds
- Infers meaning from context
- Actively seeks greater awareness



Benefits of Podcasts & Music Videos

- Semi-immersive
- Low or no cost
- Easily "digestible" = short but regular practice
- "Replayable"
- Repetitive
- Tailored content for emotional connection
- Interaction with *culture* and current events
- Exposure to prosody, colloquial speech, and dialect



Music Exercise

Tetap Dalam Jiwa
- Isyana Sarasvati -

1 = C
Moderately tempo
Nada dasar asli : C[#] mayor

intro C F C Em Am

F F C Em Am

i i i i i i i i i i i i 2 7 7 7 6 i

Tak per nah ter ba yang a kan ja di se per ti... i ni pa da ak hir nya..

Tetap Dalam Jiwa – Isyana Sarasvati

Tak pernah terbayang
Akan jadi seperti ini pada akhirnya
Semua waktu yang pernah **kita** lewatii
Bersama nyata hilang dan sirna

Hitam putih berlalu
Janji **kita** menunggu
Tapi **kita** takmaampu
Seribu satu cara **kita** lewatii
Tuk dapatkan semua jawaban ini

Bila memang harus berpisah
Aku **akan** tetap setia
Bila memang ini ujungnya
Kau **kan** tetap ada di dalam jiwa

Tak bisa tuk terus kam
Dunia **kita** berbeda
Bila memang ini ujungnya
Kau kan tetap ada di dalam jiwa

Approaches

- Listen like a native
- Identify patterns
- Infer meaning
- Create thoughts
- Have fun



Tools for Context & Translation

- Social media (Twitter; Pinterest)
- Text and image searches
- Native dictionaries
- FluentU
- Wiktionary
- Linguee
- Reverso
- Glosbe
- Forvo
- Even Google Translate (record yourself!)



Podcast Exercise



Podcast Takeaways

- Create context from own knowledge.
- Grasp for ...
 - ❖ Sounds
 - ❖ Words
 - ❖ Concepts
- Even one is a step toward the goal!
- Make guesses!
- Okay, maybe even good, to be wrong!



What about Breaks?

- Relax
- Clear the mind
- Meditate



Points to Keep in Mind

- Podcast "language inventory" still growing
- Relative language difficulty
- One part of a larger toolkit
- Full immersion and speaking important to mastery



Summary

- Podcasts and music videos can serve as powerful tools for improving listening comprehension from beginning to advanced levels.
- Eliciting a positive emotional reaction through tailored content facilitates learning.
- A variety of online resources can allow us to understand new terms within context before resorting to translation.
- Taking time to relax and meditate aids retention.

Your Options Now Include ...

- Inspiring family, friends, and colleagues to try some of these language learning strategies
- Providing any and all feedback
- Sharing additional ideas
- Starting your own podcast, especially in a less represented language
- Conveying your approval via roaring applause (or silent meditation)

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Supplemental Reading

- <http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20180208-an-effortless-way-to-strengthen-your-memory>
- <http://www.bbc.com/capital/story/20190219-how-to-learn-a-language-in-an-hour-a-day>