

Jim Scrivener Learning Teaching 3rd Edition

Jim Scrivener Learning Teaching 3rd Edition: A Comprehensive Review

Jim Scrivener's *Learning Teaching* (3rd Edition) is a cornerstone text for aspiring and practicing English language teachers worldwide. This comprehensive guide offers a practical and insightful approach to the complexities of teaching, moving beyond simplistic methodologies to explore the nuanced realities of the classroom. This review delves into its key features, benefits, and practical applications, highlighting why it remains a vital resource in the field of English Language Teaching (ELT).

Key Features of *Learning Teaching* 3rd Edition

Scrivener's *Learning Teaching* is more than just a textbook; it's a resource brimming with practical advice and innovative approaches to ELT. This edition builds upon the success of its predecessors, incorporating updated research, fresh perspectives, and enhanced pedagogical strategies. Key features include:

- A Holistic Approach to Teaching:** The book avoids a prescriptive, one-size-fits-all approach. Instead, it encourages teachers to critically examine their own practice, develop their own style, and adapt techniques to suit diverse learners and contexts. This emphasis on teacher reflection is a significant strength.
- Focus on Learner Autonomy:** *Learning Teaching* champions learner-centered instruction, promoting activities that foster student autonomy and engagement. The book equips teachers with the tools to empower students to take ownership of their learning journey.
- Practical Activities and Exercises:** The book is packed with engaging lesson plans, classroom activities, and practical exercises, allowing readers to immediately apply what they are learning. These activities span a variety of teaching methodologies, including communicative language teaching and task-based learning.
- Comprehensive Coverage of Key Concepts:** From lesson planning and classroom management to assessment and materials development, *Learning Teaching* provides a comprehensive overview of core ELT concepts. It addresses various teaching methodologies, enabling teachers to make informed decisions about their approach.
- Updated Research and Insights:** This 3rd edition reflects the latest research in applied linguistics and ELT, ensuring its content remains relevant and current. This constant updating is crucial in a field that is continually evolving.

Benefits of Using *Learning Teaching* for Teacher Development

The benefits of using Jim Scrivener's *Learning Teaching* (3rd Edition) extend beyond simply acquiring knowledge; it fosters a deeper understanding of teaching practice and promotes professional growth. Some key benefits include:

- Enhanced Classroom Management Skills:** The book provides practical strategies for managing diverse classrooms, dealing with challenging behaviors, and creating a positive learning environment. This is particularly helpful for novice teachers.
- Improved Lesson Planning:** The book guides teachers through the process of creating engaging and effective lesson plans, emphasizing the importance of clear learning objectives and appropriate activities.
- Development of Communicative Language Teaching Skills:** *Learning Teaching* strongly advocates for communicative approaches, providing numerous examples and activities to support the development of these crucial skills. This aligns with modern ELT best practices.
- Increased Teacher Confidence:** By providing practical strategies and fostering reflective practice, the book helps build teacher confidence and encourages experimentation in the classroom.
- Building a Professional Teaching Identity:** The book encourages teachers to develop their own unique teaching style, fostering a sense of professionalism and ownership over their craft.

Practical Applications and Implementation Strategies

Learning Teaching isn't just a theoretical text; its practical value lies in its immediate applicability to classroom settings. Teachers can use it to:

- Reflective Practice:** Regularly engage in reflective journaling after lessons, considering what worked well, what could be improved, and how the principles in the book can inform future teaching.
- Lesson Planning Template:** Adopt and adapt the lesson planning templates suggested in the book to create clear, focused, and engaging lesson plans.
- Classroom Observation:** Observe experienced teachers and analyze their techniques in light of the concepts discussed in the book.
- Peer Teaching and Feedback:** Collaborate with colleagues, sharing lesson plans and providing constructive feedback based on the principles outlined in *Learning Teaching*.
- Professional Development:** Use the book as a basis for discussions and workshops during professional development sessions.

Strengths and Limitations

While *Learning Teaching* is widely acclaimed, it's essential to acknowledge both its strengths and limitations. Its strengths lie in its comprehensive coverage, practical approach, and emphasis on reflective practice. However, some might find the sheer volume of information slightly overwhelming, especially for novice teachers. Additionally, the book's focus on communicative language teaching

might not be universally applicable to all teaching contexts or curricula. Ultimately, the book's value depends on the teacher's ability to adapt its principles to their specific classroom environment and learner needs.

Conclusion

Jim Scrivener's **Learning Teaching** (3rd Edition) remains a highly valuable resource for anyone involved in English language teaching. Its comprehensive approach, practical activities, and emphasis on reflective practice make it an essential guide for both novice and experienced teachers. While it might require some selective reading and adaptation to suit individual needs, its overall impact on teacher development and classroom effectiveness is undeniable. The book's emphasis on learner autonomy, communicative approaches, and a holistic view of teaching makes it a key text for anyone serious about improving their teaching practice.

FAQ

Q1: Is **Learning Teaching suitable for novice teachers?**

A1: Yes, while the breadth of information may seem daunting, the book's clear structure and practical examples make it highly accessible to novice teachers. It provides a strong foundation for developing essential teaching skills and fosters confidence in the classroom. However, it's best approached selectively, focusing on areas of immediate relevance.

Q2: How does this book compare to other ELT methodology books?

A2: Unlike some books that focus narrowly on specific methodologies, **Learning Teaching** provides a broader perspective, examining various approaches and encouraging teachers to develop their own unique style. It acts as a valuable overview, incorporating elements of communicative language teaching, task-based learning, and other modern ELT methodologies.

Q3: What kind of support materials are available for **Learning Teaching?**

A3: While there isn't a dedicated online platform for the book, many universities and ELT institutions use it as a core text, often supplementing it with accompanying materials or workshops. Many online communities and forums also provide resources and discussions relevant to the book's content.

Q4: Is this book only relevant to English language teachers?

A4: While the examples are primarily English-language focused, the core principles of effective teaching discussed in the book are transferable to other subject areas and language contexts. The emphasis on learner-centered approaches, reflective practice, and creating a positive learning environment are universally applicable.

Q5: What are the key differences between the 2nd and 3rd editions?

A5: The 3rd edition incorporates updated research, revised activities, and incorporates current trends in ELT, making it more relevant to contemporary teaching practices. While many core concepts remain, the 3rd edition offers a refined and enriched learning experience.

Q6: Can I use this book for self-study?

A6: Absolutely! The book is designed to be highly effective for self-study, and the emphasis on reflective practice encourages active learning and personal development. However, engaging in discussions with fellow teachers or seeking feedback on your teaching can significantly enhance the learning experience.

Q7: Is this book expensive?

A7: The cost of the book can vary depending on where you purchase it (new vs. used, online vs. bookstore). However, considering the comprehensive coverage and enduring value for professional development, many teachers consider it a worthwhile investment.

Q8: How can I best incorporate the book's ideas into my existing teaching practice?

A8: Start by focusing on one or two areas that you'd like to improve. Read the relevant sections carefully, then experiment with the suggested activities or adapt them to your own context. Consistent reflection on your teaching and how it aligns with the book's principles is key to successful integration.

Decoding Jim Scrivener's Learning Teaching: A Deep Dive into the Third Edition

Jim Scrivener's **Learning Teaching** (3rd edition) is a keystone text in the realm of English Language Teaching (ELT). It's not just a manual ; it's a thorough exploration of the complexities of teaching, offering applicable strategies and a thought-provoking framework for teachers at all levels of their professions. This article will examine into its central aspects , highlighting its potency and offering practical advice on how to harness its material effectively.

The book's potency lies in its comprehensive method to teaching. Scrivener doesn't just present a collection of techniques ; he thoroughly develops a consistent belief system underpinning effective pedagogical performance . This belief system emphasizes the importance of teacher independence, encouraging creativity and adaptability in the classroom.

One of the text's most beneficial gifts is its focus on the connection between concept and practice . Scrivener masterfully integrates conceptual debates with experiential illustrations , making the content comprehensible to teachers of all experiences . He uses concise language and a conversational style , eschewing specialized vocabulary wherever possible.

The book is arranged logically , advancing from elementary principles to more complex topics . Early chapters focus on the basics of

lesson development and classroom management , while later chapters delve into more specific areas such as materials development , judgment, and educator training .

Throughout the book , Scrivener emphasizes the importance of reflective execution. He encourages teachers to constantly assess their own teaching, recognizing areas for enhancement and modifying their methods accordingly. This attention on reflection is crucial for occupational development and ensures that teachers are perpetually learning and improving their skill .

Applying the principles outlined in *Learning Teaching* requires a dedication to self-reflection and a willingness to test with different approaches . Teachers can begin by meticulously examining the relevant chapters , pinpointing central principles and tangible approaches. They should then translate these principles into their own teaching settings , modifying them to suit their pupils' demands.

In summary , Jim Scrivener's *Learning Teaching* (3rd edition) remains an essential resource for ELT professionals at all levels . Its integrated approach , attention on reflective execution, and wealth of tangible approaches make it a worthwhile expenditure for anyone wanting to refine their teaching. The book's persistent significance is a testament to its discerning perspective on the craft and practice of teaching.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

- 1. Is this book only for experienced teachers?** No, *Learning Teaching* is beneficial for teachers at all levels, from trainees to experienced professionals. The book provides a solid foundation for beginners and offers valuable insights for those seeking to refine their practice.
- 2. What makes this edition different from previous editions?** The third edition incorporates updated research, new examples, and expanded coverage of current pedagogical trends in ELT. It also reflects developments in the field since the previous edition was published.
- 3. Does the book focus on a specific teaching methodology?** No, the book promotes a flexible, adaptable approach to teaching, drawing on various methodologies and encouraging teachers to develop their own personalized styles.
- 4. How can I best use this book in my professional development?** Use it as a reflective tool, working through the concepts and applying them to your own classroom. Consider using it as a basis for discussions with colleagues and mentors.

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