

USING THE RETELLING METHOD TO CONVEY THE CONTENT OF A STORY TO PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

The retelling method plays a crucial role in helping primary school students comprehend and internalize the content of literary texts. This article explores the essence of the retelling strategy, its types, and its effectiveness in developing students' listening, speaking, and critical thinking skills. Practical approaches to implementing the method in the classroom are also discussed, along with recommendations for teachers.

Introduction

One of the primary goals of teaching literature in elementary education is to develop students' ability to understand and express the meaning of texts. Story retelling serves as a bridge between passive listening and active speaking, encouraging children to process, interpret, and communicate the main ideas of a story. It fosters imagination, memory, language acquisition, and a deeper emotional connection with the text. This paper analyzes how the retelling method can be effectively applied in primary schools to ensure comprehensive understanding of a story's content.

Main Body

1. Definition and Importance of the Retelling Method

Retelling is a pedagogical technique where students reproduce the content of a story in their own words. This strategy encourages active engagement with the text and reinforces comprehension. Retelling improves narrative skills, sequencing, vocabulary usage, and attention to detail.

2. Types of Retelling

There are several forms of retelling, including:

- Verbal Retelling: Oral reproduction of the story by students.
- Written Retelling: Students write summaries or rewrite the story.
- Illustrated Retelling: Students draw scenes and explain them.
- Dramatized Retelling: Role-play and acting out story parts.

Each type caters to different learning styles and reinforces key language and comprehension skills.

3. Stages of Story Retelling in the Classroom

1. Pre-listening/Reading Phase: Activation of background knowledge and introduction of new vocabulary.
2. Listening/Reading Phase: Students listen to or read the story attentively.
3. Post-listening/Reading Phase: Guided retelling through teacher prompts, visuals, or story maps.

4. Benefits of the Retelling Method

- Improves memory and sequencing skills.
- Develops vocabulary and grammar usage.
- Enhances speaking confidence.
- Encourages critical thinking and personal interpretation.
- Helps assess student comprehension.

5. Challenges and Solutions

Some students may struggle with retelling due to limited vocabulary or attention span. Teachers can support them by using visual aids, asking guided questions, and allowing peer support during activities.

Conclusion

The retelling method is a highly effective instructional strategy for conveying story content to primary school students. It enhances comprehension, language development, and communication skills. When appropriately implemented, it

transforms the classroom into an engaging space where stories come alive through students' voices and creativity. Teachers are encouraged to integrate various forms of retelling to meet the needs of diverse learners.

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