

Pronunciation Instruction beyond ‘listen and repeat’ through the body and the mind

Like ‘Sleeping Beauty’ (Sweeting, forthcoming), it seems that pronunciation is finally coming out of slumber. For nearly half a century, its pedagogy, or ‘phonodidactics’ (Szpyra, 2015) has been reduced to ‘listen and repeat’ (Young and Messum, 2011) by Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) and its cogent doctrine. However, with growing awareness of the importance of ‘the learning body’ in English language teaching (Thornbury, 2013), physical and psychological methodologies offer the ‘innovative’ pronunciation teacher a more eclectic pedagogical landscape. This pragmatic, yet academic presentation, will discuss some of these new, or renewed, approaches and give the audience an opportunity to sample several classroom-oriented pronunciation techniques. In general, this presentation will interest both academics and classroom practitioners with an enthusiasm for speaking methodology and pronunciation pedagogy.

References:

Sweeting, A. (2015) ‘Awakening Sleeping Beauty’: Pronunciation Instruction beyond ‘Listen and Repeat’, forthcoming.

Szpyra, J. (2015). Pronunciation in EFL instruction: A research-based approach. Bristol; Buffalo: Multilingual Matter.

Thornbury. S. (2013) ‘The learning body,’ in Arnold, J. & Murphey, T. (eds.) Meaningful Action: Earl Stevick’s influence on language teaching. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press.

Young, R. & Messum, P. (2011). How we learn and how we should be taught: An introduction to the work of Caleb Gattegno. London, UK: Duo Flumina.

BIODATA:

Arizio Sweeting is a published author, teacher and teacher educator with over 20 years of experience in TESOL. After having taught and trained teachers in Brazil, Macau, New Zealand, he now works for the Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education at the University of Queensland, Australia. He is also currently undertaking a PhD entitled *From Cinderella to Sleeping Beauty: Taking Pronunciation Instruction in Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) and TESOL Teacher Training Beyond “Listen and Repeat”* at the School of Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast, Sippy Downs, Queensland, under the supervision of Dr. Michael Carey.