MA-TESL Comprehensive Examination Study Guide

Second Language Acquisition

Major Issues

The difference between first and second language acquisition
Social, linguistic, developmental, and individual factors that affect L2 learning
The affect of the first language on the second
The cause of learner errors
The relationship between learning processes and language teaching
The role of instruction in L2 learning
The role of correction in L2 learning

Key Terms and Concepts

Affective Filter Hypothesis  Individual Differences
Attrition  Information Processing
Backsliding /U-Shaped Curve  Interaction Hypothesis
Comprehensible Input  Language Acquisition Device
Connectionism  Language Transfer
Contrastive Analysis and Error Analysis  Monitor Model
Corrective Feedback  Motivation
Critical Period Hypothesis  Noticing Hypothesis
Developmental Readiness and Order of  Pushed Output
Acquisition
Explicit/Implicit Learning and Teaching  Recast
Focus on Form and Focus on FormS  Theories of Language Learning
Fossilization  UG and Language Universals
Ultimate Attainment