

COMPREHENSION-BASED VERSUS PRODUCTION-BASED GRAMMAR INSTRUCTION: A META-ANALYSIS OF COMPARATIVE STUDIES

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KEY TERMS

Comprehension-based Instruction

The comprehension approach is a way of language learning that targets understanding of the language rather than producing (writing/speaking) it

Production-based Instruction

The production-based instruction involves interactions either between teacher and learners or between learners

WHAT CAN I LEARN FROM THIS SECONDARY RESEARCH?

A comparison between comprehension-based approach and production-based grammar instruction

WHAT EVIDENCE IS SUMMARISED?

Findings from

35

studies investigating the differential effects of comprehension-based instruction and production-based instruction were used in this study

WHAT DOES IT FIND?

- In immediate post-tests, comprehension-based instruction is superior to production-based instruction
- Both types of instructions are effective in developing receptive skills, but comprehension-based instruction is more effective than production-based instruction
- Production-based instruction is more effective in productive skills
- While comprehension-based instruction has initial advantages, production-based instruction has more durable effects

HOW CAN I USE THE FINDINGS IN MY TEACHING?

- For grammar instruction to be most effective, teachers should consider combining both comprehension-based and production-based instructions
- Although there are some differences between comprehension-based instruction and production-based instruction, the two approaches can be complementary to one another

