

How To Teach Writing

— Through Teamteaching —

Education guidance division

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1. Preface

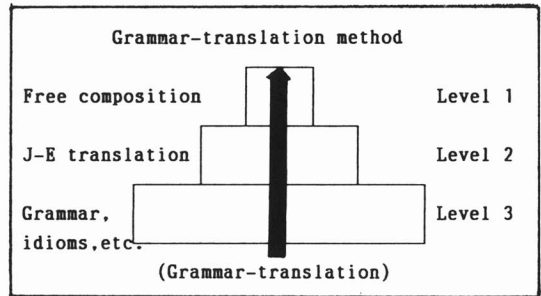
The new course of study for senior high schools will be inaugurated in '94 for 1st year students. Considering the objectives of the course, many kinds of improvements are also happening in foreign language teaching. Presently we teach with English II C text, adding some improvements in accordance with the new subject Writing.

We often hear that writing is more difficult to teach in teamteaching than listening, speaking, and reading. So we decided to pursue how to teach writing with an AET.

2. Grammar-translation method

When we hear "writing," the first thing which comes to our mind is Japanese-English translation. To allow the students to master this it is fundamental for them to learn basic sentences including grammar, idioms, words, etc. At the last stage we assign the students Free English Composition. But we can't give them enough time for it. Up to now the method which was usually used when we taught writing was Grammar-translation method. The students dis-

played a passive attitude, because they didn't begin to study after being given Japanese sentences. In addition we have to admit that it was easy to explain English by using Japanese. If we insert teamteaching into the flow of such an English class, confusion will be inevitable.



3. Communicative-grammar method

The typical aim of writing is that of the new subject Writing: To further develop an ability to write one's ideas and a positive eagerness to try to write English. To get closer to this we inserted teamteaching into the writing class of English II C. The hypotheses were the following.

(1) Through the activities of listening, reading, and speaking, the students will naturally learn basic sentences involving grammar, idioms, and words.

(However we can use Grammar-translation method if necessary.)

(2) Interest in languages and cultures, and international understanding will be deepened through teamteaching.