Discourse Analysis for Language Teachers

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Discourse Analysis for Language Teaching gives a practical introduction to the field of discourse analysis and its relevance for language teaching. It begins by introducing the subject of discourse analysis and its relationship to language teaching. Discourse analysis is concerned with the study of the way people use language in real situations. Different genres of discourse are presented, and teachers are shown how to apply discourse analysis to language teaching and learning.

Key terms include discourse analysis, language teaching, pragmatics, language awareness, contribution of discourse analysis to language teaching, and study of the relationship between discourse and language teaching.

Recent versions of this chapter were presented at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) in Dallas, Texas, in November 1999. Discourse analysis is an area of immediate interest to language teachers because it involves the way people use language in real situations. The central focus is on "how real people use real language," and discourse analysis has become an increasingly influential area of research. Publications on language learning and teaching as discourse analysis have been increasing.

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