

Krashen SLA notions

"Applications of Psycholinguistic Research to the Classroom"
Stephen Krashen(1983)

Five hypotheses or notions:

The Acquisition/Learning Hypothesis. This states that there are two ways of learning a second language: acquisition, which occurs subconsciously, and learning, which needs to be developed consciously through education.

The Natural Order Hypothesis. [see overview of the Natural Order] Krashen believes that the evidence in this area shows that teachers should not follow any ordered pattern at all when teaching grammatical structures.

The Monitor Hypothesis. This describes the relationships that exist between acquisition of language and learning of language. Acquisition is responsible for becoming fluent in a language while the learning process is only good for correcting or "monitoring" what has been acquired. Krashen presents three difficulties in monitoring:

- (a) not having enough time,
- (b) not being focused on what is correct, and
- (c) simply not knowing the formal rules.

The Input Hypothesis. This states that ideal language input has three characteristics:

- (comprehensible input)
- (a) The focus is on the meaning, more than on how it is spoken.
- (b) Speaking emerges on its own when the learner's understanding is good enough.
- (c) The best input is not grammatically sequenced.

The Affective Filter Hypothesis. Low anxiety, high motivation, and self-confidence are ideal.

Comprehensible input: the idea, in short.

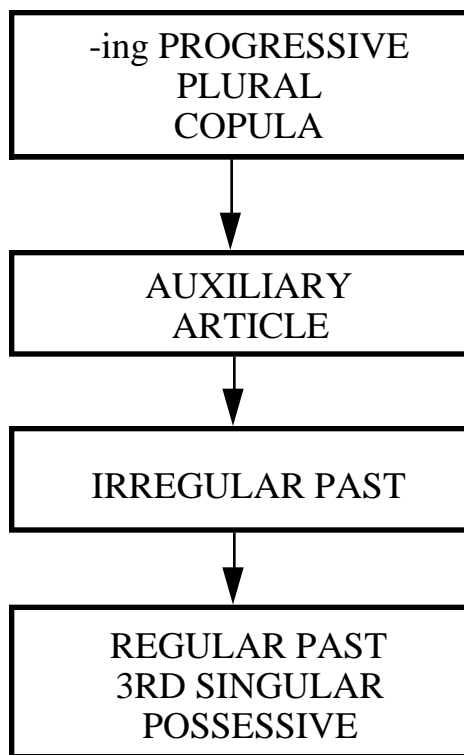
Krashen suggests that having "comprehensible input" is the one and only common variable in all of these hypotheses. The implications for teaching are that programs should have the following traits.

- 1) Understandable input, ideally both interesting and relevant to the learner.
- 2) Speech emerges on its own and teachers should be tolerant of early errors in speech.
- 3) Grammatical sequencing is not ideal.

Morpheme studies:

Brown (1973) study of L1

Dulay and Burt (1973, 1974) L2



Krashen's (1977) 'Natural Order' for ESL

The Natural Order Hypothesis