

THE INWARD-OUTWARD CONUNDRUM IN SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING: WHERE PSYCHOLINGUISTICS MEETS THE SOCIOCULTURAL THEORY IN THE INDIAN ESL CLASSROOM



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ABSTRACT

Does a fairly good knowledge of applied linguistics improve the professional in a second language teacher? If ready- made methods really worked, why do we still research, theorize and problematize second language learning? These are the two main questions this paper tries to answer in some detail. After surveying the methods of the past, the Vygotskian sociocultural theory has been analysed in some length so as to find whether it might work better in the Indian context. It has been argued in this context, that a teacher who is rather well-informed in the Vygotskian pedagogic theories may function more effectively in the Indian English classrooms.