TBL

Task-Based Learning

Source:

Jane Willis, *A Framework for Task-Based Learning,* Longman ELT

- Why task-based learning?
- What is a task?
- Six types of tasks
- The TBL framework

Why Task-Based Learning?

Conditions for Language Learning

Exposure	**Use**	**Motivation**	**Instruction**
to a rich but comprehensible input of real spoken and written language in use	of the language to do things (i.e. exchange meanings)	to listen and read the language and to speak and write (i.e. to process and use the exposure)	in language (i.e. chances to focus on form
essential			desirable

The TBL framework supports these conditions in a classroom environment.

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What is a task?

A task is an activity "where the target language is used by the learner for a communicative purpose (goal) in order to achieve an outcome."

Jane Willis

Types of tasks

1. Listing

- brainstorming
- fact-finding

Outcome:
Completed list or draft mind map.

Types of tasks

2. Ordering and sorting

- sequencing
- ranking
- categorising
- classifying

Outcome:

Set of information ordered and sorted according to specified criteria

Types of tasks

3. Comparing

- matching
- finding similarities
- finding differences

Outcome:

Could be items appropriately matched or assembled, or the identification of similarities and/or differeneces.

Types of tasks

4. Problem solving

- analysing real situations
- analysing hypothetical situations
- reasoning
- decision making

Outcome:

Solutions to the problem, which can then be evaluated.

Types of tasks

5. Sharing personal experiences

- narrating
- describing
- exploring and explaining
  attitudes, opinions, reactions
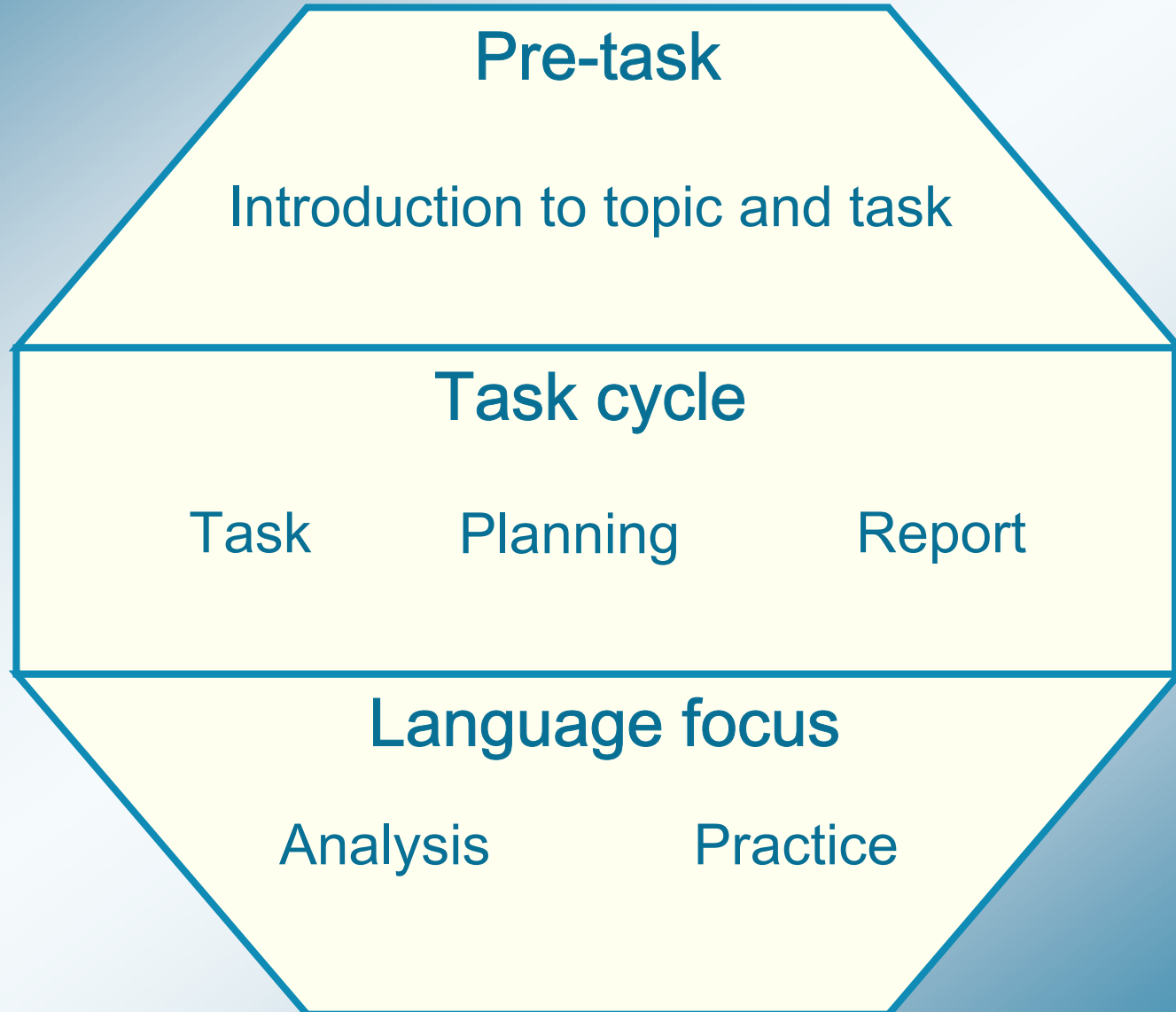
Outcome:
Largely social.

Types of tasks

6. Creative Tasks

- brainstorming
- fact-finding
- ordering and sorting
- comparing
- problem solving and many others

Outcome:

End product which can be appreciated by a wider audience.

The TBL Framework

Pre-task

Introduction to topic and task

Task cycle

Task   Planning   Report

Language focus

Analysis   Practice

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Klaus Leonhardt 2003