

CREATIVITY and INNOVATION
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using films as a second language acquisition resource

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Abstract

Teaching with the objective is a teaching crucial point.

Many efforts have been made to reach this aim as well as experimentation in teaching methodology.

As a matter of fact, the complexity of language teaching, together with the wide usage of new technologies to support teaching, perfectly suits this kind of experimentation.

Nowadays, there are recurring publications of reviews concerning teaching foreign languages through the latest fashionable multimedia tools. This was the case, for instance, of the worldwide usage of *Second Life* supplanted at the moment by the extraordinary spread of *Facebook* that replaced chats and similar tools for on-line communication and has become a phenomenon of worldwide dimensions. But fashions are transitory and IT instruments are short-lived. Students are thrilled by the usage of the latest new technology as long as it is used during its period of success; when it is over, also its glamour vanishes and it quickly becomes out-of-date. What could be very interesting both from a language teaching and a sociological point of view, would be a follow-up concerning the length of usage and the results obtained in foreign language and culture acquisition and teaching by using one of these glamorous tools. The aim of this essay is not to analyse a fashionable and shortlived multimedia tool, but an everlasting "classic" one: films. Concerning this, it has to be said that, even if films have always been used as supporting tools in teaching foreign languages and cultures, there are less essays on the matter than expected. This essay is based on the data collected and the experience done by organizing film festivals of foreign not dubbed films. These festivals are organized by the Language Centre of the University of Naples Federico II at the university cinema. This experience was

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the starting point for an analysis of the usage of films as an extraordinary effective tool in teaching English, French, Spanish, German and Italian as a Second Language at a university level.

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