Adopting Authentic Material

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What is Authentic Material!
Nunan and Miller (1995) define authentic materials as those which were not created or edited expressly for language learners. This means that most everyday objects in the target language qualify as authentic materials.
Where is authentic material?
• Everywhere: Everything in our daily life is authentic.
• train schedules
• advertisements
• song & music
• road signs
• business cards
• labels, menus, etc.
Why authentic material in the class?
• While academic videos, audio recordings and textbooks are very good as teaching tools, they do not represent "real life". Therefore it is important to introduce ‘real material’ of all sorts into your class on occasion because it gives the learners experience with the ‘real life’ application of the target language
Which students need authentic material?
• Class room authentic material must be selected with consideration of student language ability. For example, target language job advertisements are likely not very well suited for beginners!

• Instructors must choose authentic material according to their students’ proficiency/skill in the target language.

• Have you tired children’s show animation for your 1st grade Arabic learners!
How do you introduce authentic material in your class?
• Instructor can present a short video in the class on a topic that the students have some prior knowledge. Instructors can bring a newspaper to the class and ask students to read certain topics, and then ask questions about it.
How to introduce content by authentic materials & technology?
• Authentic material comes from authentic language. Thus its content or linguistics is related to language tools. Technology based classroom aids can highlight content and grammar and help learners language comprehension. For example, instructor can introduce the use of the past tense in Arabic by 5-10 minute news from Aljazeera or BBC Arabic website. Thus, he/she has achieved two goals introducing the past-tense and have the students explored the grammatical tool in the authentic material/language.
Does authentic material meet the goals of the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning?

- Yes it is. It integrates content, language and culture.
Think Think Think!

• What kind of authentic material first comes to your mind to present to your elementary students!
How do we involve our audience in our session?

- Several pedagogical components synergistically promote interactivity. Students will review ample preparatory material posted on our website prior to the interactive sessions, material that defines session activities, assignments and expectations in detail.

- All session components are interactive with all student responses invoking further responses from the instructor and from the other students.
What student can do?

my UVa 2012 students videos

• https://docs.google.com/?tab=mo&authuser=0&pli=1#home