Teaching and Assessing Listening - Final Course Reflection

Instructions: Complete the blue areas with your own ideas.

So, this is it. It's Week 14 and that means this is the final lesson of the course Teaching and Assessing Listening for the Master's in English Teaching at ULACIT. As we are reaching the end, I can say I feel satisfied with what I have learned because before taking this course I didn't really think much about teaching and assessing listening. I may even say that the activities I thought of were reduced to listen to main ideas and details.

Before the term began, my expectations for the course were high, especially knowing that the professor keeps the bar high.

In this course we talked about different levels of processing involved in listening including physiological processing of sound, linguistic processing of individual speech units, semantic processing of meaning encoded in language, and pragmatic processing of language in social situations. Of those topics, my favorite was semantic processing because I have always been interested in how individuals construct meaning I didn't care much for (hard to say) because I do care about every single topic even though I'm not applying related knowledge immediately.

We also learned about different approaches to teaching and assessing listening. One of my takeaways regarding these topics is the interaction model because I strongly believe that meaning is the result of the activation of students' semantic mapping and the input of the interlocutors.

Overall I feel satisfied regarding my participation in this course. If I could give some advice to future students of this course, I would tell them to read as much as they can about teaching and assessing listening and to give this skill the importance it deserves in both planning and teaching.