

Discussing Reasons for Materials Adaptation

Task 1: Materials Adaptation Survey

Instructions: When we plan our lessons, we decide which parts of the materials to use the way they are, which to adapt or modify, and which to leave out. Read the list of reasons for teachers to adapt existing materials. Then rate each one in terms of how frequently you have encountered this issue in your teaching context.		0 - Never 1 - Very Rarely 2 - Occasionally 3 - Frequently			
#	Reasons for Materials Adaptation	0	1	2	3
1	Not enough grammar coverage in general.			X	
2	Not enough practice of grammar points of particular difficulty to these learners.			X	
3	The communicative focus means the grammar is presented unsystematically.			X	
4	Reading or listening passages contain too much unknown vocabulary.		X		
5	Reading or listening comprehension questions are too easy.				X
6	Listening passages are inauthentic and they sound like written material being read rather than true communication.				X
7	Not enough guidance on pronunciation.		X		
8	Subject matter inappropriate for learners of this age and intellectual level.	X			
9	Photographs and other illustrative material are not culturally acceptable.	X			
10	Content is not relatable to students' cultural or social context.				X
11	Amount of material is too much or too little to cover in the time allocated to lessons.			X	
12	No guidance for teachers on handling group work and role-play activities with large classes.			X	
13	Dialogues are too formal and not representative of everyday speech.				X
14	Audio/Video material is too difficult to use because of problems with the room size and technical equipment.		X		
15	Too much or too little variety in the activities.				X
16	The thematic content of the reading or listening is not likely to be motivating to the students.		X		
17	The instructions for the activities do not provide enough opportunities for students to communicate.				X
18	It is difficult to explain the grammar section with the topic given.				
19	Other Reason (please specify)				
20	Other Reason (please specify)				

Task 2: Techniques for Materials Adaptation

Instructions: The chart below shows four techniques for materials adaptation according to the book *Materials and Methods in ELT: A Teacher's Guide*. The first three techniques refer to modifications a teacher can make to an individual activity. The final technique is about the modification of activities across the unit. For each of the types, add a brief explanation of what you think it involves and a justification for why a teacher might apply it. Some parts are done for you.

Techniques	Types	Justification
Adding	● Extending: ● Expanding: Providing a different perspective of the topics.	● We have limited material and students need to consolidate their learning. ● To enrich learning with opportunities to enhance their learning process.
Deleting	● Subtracting: Taking out elements ● Abridging: To summarize the material to present it in the friendliest way.	● More of the same topic. An exercise is not relevant or it would require the teacher to dedicate more to the exercise. ● Students could lose motivation if the exercises are too extensive.
Modifying	● Rewriting: Changing the words for synonyms ● Restructuring: Changing the instructions. ● Simplifying: Reducing the level of difficulty	● To help students understand in an easier way. ● Your group is too large or too small to carry out the activity as proposed. You want to make the activity more dynamic, more communicative, etc. ● To facilitate things for students and not create a frustrating environment.
Reordering	Have students do activities in the unit in a different order than the one proposed by the author of the book.	You think some parts of the unit are more important for students to see first. There is not enough time to see everything so you prioritize. You want to combine different sections of the unit into separate lessons.

References:

McDonough, J., Shaw, C., & Masuhara, H. (2013). *Materials and Methods in ELT: A Teacher's Guide* (3rd Ed.). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.