

Nurturing Competent Communicators

Andrew Pudewa

Director

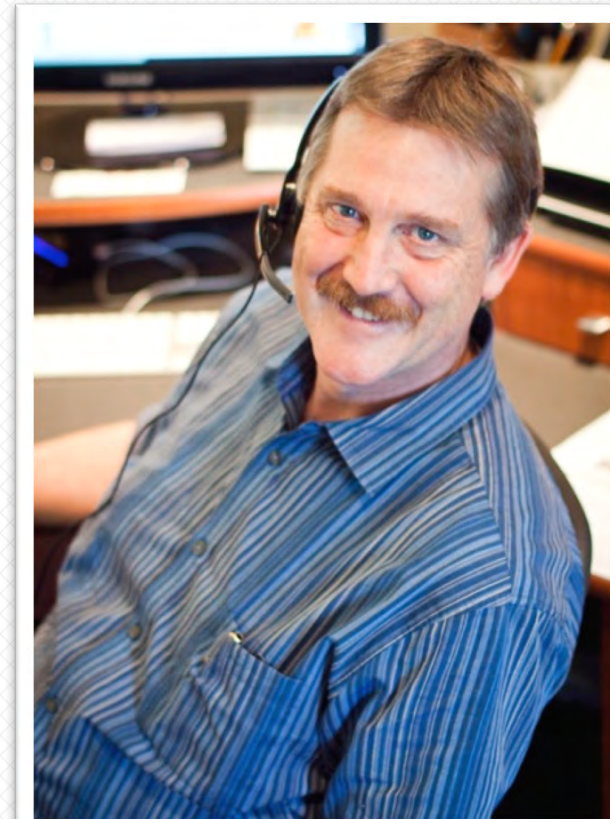
Institute for Excellence in Writing

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**Institute for
Excellence in
Writing**

Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!





Truth:

You can't get something out of a brain that isn't in there to begin with!

One myth:

Good readers
will naturally
become good
writers.



To communicate well:

You need a database of reliably correct and sophisticated language patterns.



Where does the average child get most of their language?

1. Media
2. Peers
3. Parents/Teachers/Adults
4. Books



Reading - FAST

When children read fast, they skip stuff—words, idioms, sometimes whole sentences.

They don't store the complete language patterns.



Number one way to store reliably correct and sophisticated language patterns:

**Read aloud
to your
children!**



One of the biggest mistakes
parents and teachers make:

When do we
stop reading out
loud to
children?



Challenge:

Increase the amount of time you read to your children, no matter their ages.

Two hours a day wouldn't be too much, just to counter the shortcomings of the modern environment.



Second Best Option

Audio Books

- Redeem the time
- Particularly helpful for dyslexic children
- Chris' story—more sophisticated language because he couldn't read...he listened!



Where To Obtain Audio Books:

- ❑ Audible.com
- ❑ Audiobooks.com
- ❑ Librivox.org
- ❑ Your local library



Number two way to store reliably correct and sophisticated language patterns:

Memorized Language

My experience in Japan

Rose's story

Nursery Rhymes,
Poetry, Scripture,
Speeches



Why Poetry?

- Poets are inclined to use a more sophisticated vocabulary
- Poetry is engaging and has more predictable patterns
- Poetry is enjoyable (humorous, dramatic)

How to Memorize Poetry

- Frequency
- Intensity
- Duration
- “Suzuki Style”
- Mastery Learning



Two Truths:

- (1) Reading out loud to your children
- (2) Having them memorize poetry

...are the two most powerful ways to furnish their minds with reliably correct and sophisticated language patterns, thereby nurturing truly competent writers and speakers.



Any Questions?



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