The Conduit Hypothesis
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STAGE ONE: STORIES (universal interest in stories)
First language research
1. Research: Children who are read to regularly, at home or at school, make superior
gains in reading comprehension and vocabulary.
2. Most children enjoy being read to (Walker and Kuerbitz, 1979; Mason and Blanton,
3. Hearing stories leads to an interest in reading: Sixteen books went home tonight:
Fifteen were introduced by the teacher” (Brassell, 2003)

Second Language Research (storiesfirst.org)
and discussion: A case study. https://tinyurl.com/yd988pgs
Vocabulary acquisition from stories & discussion = 5 wds/hr. From EFL class = .5 wds/hr.
Story Listening: list of prompters, words thought to be unfamiliar- When one of the words
comes up, teacher pauses, uses gestures, drawings, translation to make it comprehensible.
At no time students told that they were responsible for remembering the words; goal =
 enjoy the story.
First year EFL in college in Japan. +study = comprehension questions, retell story, read
story, underline vocabulary they wanted to learn
Delayed test = five weeks later (surprise)

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<th></th>
<th>Gain</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>efficiency</th>
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<tr>
<td>Story only</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>15&quot;</td>
<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Story+study</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>70&quot;</td>
<td>0.16</td>
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STAGE TWO: READING (eventually self-selected)
Correlational studies:
(a) one hour = .6 points on the TOEIC! Mason, B., & Krashen, S. 2017. Self-selected
reading and TOEIC performance: Evidence from case histories. Shitennoji University

(b) Monitor-free test of Spanish subjunctive

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<th>Predictor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Study</td>
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<td>Residence</td>
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<td>Reading</td>
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| Study of
Subjunctive       | 0.044| 0.76|

subjunctive in Spanish: The role of reading and study. https://tinyurl.com/y7akpoe7

(c) UK study – fiction best predictor of vocabulary knowledge- Sullivan, A. & Brown,
M. 2014. Vocabulary from Adolescence to Middle Age. Centre for Longitudinal
Studies, University of London
Case histories:
Starting at grade 3, Sodam has read nearly 4000 books in English! Has won every award in English. Cho, K.S. 2017. A student in Korea discovers the power of reading. [https://tinyurl.com/y9m6yp8s](https://tinyurl.com/y9m6yp8s)
Liz Murray (Breaking Night): "Any formal education I received came from the few days I spent in attendance, mixed with knowledge I absorbed from random readings of my or Daddy's ever-growing supply of unreturned library books. And as long as I still showed up steadily the last few weeks of classes to take the standardized tests, I kept squeaking by from grade to grade."
Bishop Desmond Tutu: “One of the things I am most grateful to (my father) for is that, contrary to educational principles, he allowed me to read comics. I think that is how I developed my love for English and for reading.”

Gradual SSR (Beniko Mason): Between stage 1 & stage 2: MISSING IN NEARLY ALL FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION PROGRAMS. VERY EASY, BUT INTERESTING READING. Books pre-selected by the teacher.


STAGE THREE: Specialized reading: Is stage 2 enough?
Responsibility of school = stages 1 and 2.
HYPOTHESIS: In foreign language education (includes strong background in the first language): stages 1 and 2 are enough. No need for context-based, sheltered?

Michael Faraday!!!! (1791-1867): Faraday: never studied, never took a test