Tweets from Exploring Effective Approaches to Improve Pronunciation 06/17/14

The following is a “twitter-feed” by @uscitizenpod (Jennifer Gagliardi) of the CASAS 2014 Summer Institute Workshop: B10 Exploring Effective Approaches to Improve Pronunciation 06/17/14 2-4 pm

In this session the team of Dr. Michael Jones and Donna Vanderhoff demonstrate how to teach pronunciation for citizenship from a brain-based perspective. They also introduce various approaches through modeling and provide insight into their methodological effectiveness. The implications of pronunciation practice within the comprehensive curriculum will be discussed.

- Michael Jones, Office of Citizenship, USCIS, Dept. of Homeland Security, DC
- Donna Vanderhoff, Office of Citizenship, USCIS, Dept. of Homeland Security, DC

Note: all workshop tweets contained the following hashtags: #casassi2014 #naturalization #pronunciation

- #casassi2014 #naturalization #pronunciation with @uscis Dr Michael Jones: Better stdnts can pronounce, the better they can read/understand
- casassi2014 #naturalization #pronunciation @uscis Phonemic Awareness and Teaching #pronunciation in the Adult #Citizenship classroom
- Adult #citizenship Education prepares permanent residents for the #naturalization process, Civics, English reading, writing, speaking tests
- Pronunciation affects all aspects of the oral #citizenship interview.
- wksp more focused on pronunciation as opposed to accent reduction.
- stdnts not only need to be understood, but need to understand @uscis officers w/ foreign and regional accents
- Where is accent in the brain? EVERYWHERE! But it is plastic and is constantly changing.
- Typical problems in English, TH, shwa (any vowel can be "shwa-ed"), and R/L.
- teach students to mimic American stress and accent because people naturally resist correction.
- segmenting, blending, and manipulating sounds.
- Phoneme awareness should be part of #citizenship course content.
- activity; "how many words?" then "how many syllables do you hear?" Very valuable exercise!
- vowels and symbols on color flash cards facilitates automaticity
- @uscis DrMichael Jones ROCKS his super useful vowel chart pic.twitter.com/OdXuYexDK4
• methods: partner taping, re-telling, visualizing, mimicry, hand symbols and signs...
• deconstruction and practice, emotional dialoguing, time pressure activities...
• more methods: pre-training of formulaic sequences, shadowing.
• with @uscis Donna Vanderhoff discusses primary and secondary stress of multi-syllabic words
• If students can’t hear the different sounds, they can’t say the different sounds.
• Students circle the words that the teacher says in a sentence. pic.twitter.com/dD04h1mJZY

• practice practice Practice PRACTICE number pairs 13/30, 14/40. Fast is not fluent.
• #casassi2014 #naturalization #pronunciation 3 to 2 syllable reductions: family, history, general, governor.
• workshop LOVE!!!! If you have an opportunity, take a @uscis workshop.