

***Sound Bites for Better Teaching***  
***Authentic Materials Advantages and Disadvantages***  
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<p><b>The real world of communication</b>  <b>Quick, easy, and plentiful to find</b>  <b>Provides sense of achievement</b>  <b>Up-to-date, topical, and relevant</b>  <b>Contains various language styles</b>  <b>Contains informal language</b>  <b>Reading for pleasure</b></p>	<p><b>Has unfamiliar language</b>  <b>Has unfamiliar structure</b>  <b>Idiosyncratic speech</b>  <b>Contains incorrect language</b>  <b>Culturally biased</b>  <b>Current events easily outdated</b>  <b>Has irrelevant vocabulary</b></p>
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>

Using authentic materials will prepare the students to cope with the language in its natural setting by exposing them to various accents, pronunciations, writing styles, and language functions as opposed to the controlled language found in carefully scripted textbooks. On the other hand, unless used effectively, authentic materials can immerse the students in language that is overly difficult and above their head. The teacher needs to choose carefully those materials that will supplement the curriculum and introduce interesting topics whose vocabulary and structure conform to Krashen’s Input + 1 Hypothesis. Used efficiently, authentic materials will help to develop the four language skills that are culturally appropriate and accurate.

***Self Evaluation*** (no right or wrong answers)

*Which of the following authentic L2 materials have you used in your classroom?*

<i>Newspapers</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Magazines</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Videos</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>TV commercials</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>News clips</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Movies</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Songs</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Documentaries</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Comic books/strips</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Menus</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>TV guides</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Movie ads</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Internet articles</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>
<i>Catalogs</i>	<i>never</i>	<i>sometimes</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>always</i>

***TIP***

Develop a collection of authentic materials to be used to supplement the theme of each chapter in your textbook and include them in your lesson plans.