**Hot Statements**

Read each of the following Second Language Acquisition statements. How closely do they mirror your beliefs? How much do you agree or disagree with each statement? Choose a number to reflect your opinion and/or beliefs.

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*I agree completely with the statement. I totally disagree with the statement.*

*This is what I believe. This is not at all what I believe.*

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| 1. Second language acquisition has nothing in common with first language acquisition.
2. Producing the second language (output) uses the exact same process as the first language: thinking of what to say and then saying it.
3. In order to acquire another language, students only need a teacher to give them information about the language.
4. It's not possible for students to acquire another language if they aren't able to comprehend all the second language input.
5. Learners always process input for meaning first, and the only strategy they need to help them understand meaning is to understand content words.
6. Language and communication are the same thing.
7. When learners read or hear the second language, they automatically acquire it: input equal intake.
8. Learners' errors are always caused by interference from their first language. If we teach them to avoid this first language interference, they will not make any errors.
9. Teachers must always correct students' mistakes while they are learning, or the students will never be able to speak accurately.
10. Second language learners never need to be able to describe the rules or patterns of the language in order to learn it.  (They learned their first language without explicit knowledge of rules.)
11. After puberty (the critical period), learners cannot ever become fluent in another language.
12. Language learning happens only through repetition and imitation.
13. How a student feels in the language classroom does not affect their learning in any way.
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Statements adapted from B. VanPatten. From Input to Output: A Teacher’s Guide to Second Language Acquisition. 2003. McGraw-Hill: USA.