In the century spanning the mid-1880s to the mid-1980, the language-teaching profession was involved in a search. That search was for what was popularly called "methods", or ideally, a single method generalizable across widely varying audiences, that would successfully teach students a foreign language in the classroom. Historical accounts of the profession tend therefore to describe a succession of methods, each of which is more or less discarded as a new method takes its place (Brown, 2001).

In the links in this section, you can see practical examples of lessons in real classrooms according to the methods stated below.

