

One way coaches can help their learners is to maintain a resource center with information, materials and other items that learners can check out or copy for their own use.

What kinds of items are typically included in a resource center?

1. **Books, articles, dissertations and theses, CD-ROMs and Web sites with information about the target language and culture.**

If your learners are studying French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian or Spanish, you will want to have available a copy of one of Morton's grammar reference books. These simple, practical, self-study manuals help beginning learners to overcome their lack of formal grammar knowledge by providing information about basic elements of grammar which they can apply to their study of the target language. Defines terms such as relative pronoun, conditional, imperative and reflexive verb, contrasting their use in English and the target language.

- Morton, Jacqueline, ed. *English Grammar for Students of French, English Grammar for Students of German, English Grammar for Students of Italian, English Grammar for Students of Japanese, English Grammar for Students of Russian, English Grammar for Students of Spanish*. Ann Arbor, MI: Olivia and Hill Press.

2. **Books, articles, CD-ROMs, DVDs, and lists of Web sites with information about how to be a more effective language and culture learner.**

- Rubin, Joan & Irene Thompson. 1994. *How to Be A More Successful Language Learner*, 2nd ed. Boston: Heinle & Heinle.
- Brewster, E. Thomas & Elizabeth S. Brewster. 1976. *Language Acquisition Made Practical (LAMP)*. Pasadena: Lingua House.
- Schmidt, Todd. 2003. *Effective Language Learning: A Story of Hope*. Richmond, VA: IMB (DVD and CD set)
- *LinguaLinks* CD-ROM
- Dickerson, Lonna J. Compiler. 2004 *Resources for Second Language Learners*, version 2.3 (ICCT CD-ROM with about 1,500 pages of resources for second language and culture learners)
- Chinese Language Learners' Corner (<http://members.aol.com/ChineseLLC/index.html>). (Sixteen very easy-to-understand articles, with most equally applicable for coaches and learners of any language. Articles deal with learning styles and strategies, barriers to learning, tips for effective language study, etc.)
- ICCT FAQs (<http://www.wheaton.edu/bgc/icct/>). (Series of practical articles for second language learners.)
- Language Impact (<http://www.languageimpact.com/articles/articles.htm>). (Longer articles generally addressed to self-directed on-field language learners. Most deal with practical topics and are divided according to the stage or level of language learning, from beginning to advanced.)

3. Learning programs and articles such as the following:

- Claussen, Dan. *Language and Culture Learning Program*
- Schmidt, Todd. *Learner-Helper Basic Workbook*
- Dickerson, Lonna. *Communicating Heart to Heart: Guidelines for Learning Worship and Ministry Language*
- Thomsen, Greg. A number of practical articles for language learners.

The first three items are on the ICCT CD, *Resources for Second Language Learners*. The *Learner-Helper Basic Workbook* is also on the DVD and CD set, *Effective Language Learning: A Story of Hope*. The Thomsen articles are on the Language Impact Web site; the CD, *Resources for Second Language Learners*; and *LinguaLinks*.

4. A variety of learning materials for second-language learners

- tapes and/or CD-ROMs for listening comprehension activities
- tapes and/or CD-ROMs for pronunciation learning
- commercial tape and/or CD-ROM language learning programs (e.g., *Rosetta Stone*)
- textbooks and other materials (items that can supplement those used in structured program)
- dictionaries for learners, including picture dictionaries
- pictures, or drawings that can be used for conversation practice
- Moran, Patrick R. 2002. *Lexicarry: An Illustrated Vocabulary Builder for Second Languages*, Third, Revised Ed. Brattleboro, VT: Pro Lingua Associates.

5. Target language materials also used by native speakers

- small items such as menus, bus schedules, train schedules, advertisements
- newspapers, magazines
- articles and books
- videos and tapes of various events (e.g., church services, speeches, news broadcasts, movies)
- Sunday school materials, materials for new believers, etc.
- Bibles, including those in more simplified language
- dictionaries

While some of these materials may be professionally made, often the most useful materials are those made by the coach or other learners.

6. Self-assessment checklists

7. Sample assessment instruments, such as sample quizzes, tests, and tapes

8. Notes of encouragement and advice from past learners.