

## DESIGNING AND IMPLEMENTING FOCUSED TASKS

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### ABSTRACT

A focused task is a task that is intended to elicit the use of some specific grammar feature either through the design of the task or by the use of methodological procedures that focus attention on the specific form when the task is implemented. Focused tasks differ from other kinds of grammar tasks in that they aim to create a communicative context for using the target feature.

The talk will explain the rationale for the use of focused tasks and then examine a number of different types of focused tasks:

1. structure-based comprehension tasks
2. structure-based production tasks
3. consciousness-raising tasks

The talk will also examine how teachers can implement focused tasks to assist students to pay attention to the target feature while they are communicating.



Rod Ellis is a Distinguished Research Professor in Curtin University (Australia), a longstanding professor at Anaheim University, visiting professor at Shanghai International Studies University and Emeritus Distinguished Professor of the University of Auckland. He is also a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He has written extensively on second language acquisition and task-based language teaching. His most recent (co-authored) book is *Task-based Language Teaching: Theory and Practice* (2020) published by Cambridge University Press.