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*A qualitative study of the motivation for
learning German in the city of Salvador –
Bahia under the perspective of
sociocultural theory*

by

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RESEARCH ISSUE

- ✓ The reasons for learning German vis-a-vis the current need to speak English in the globalized world;
- ✓ The social aspect of motivation and willingness to learn German as a foreign language in the city of Salvador – Bahia - Brazil.

JUSTIFICATION

✓ *There is not much research related with this area of knowledge in the city of Salvador – Bahia;*

✓ *The teacher would be able to rethink the students' social representations which are frequently fraught with stereotypes created in the collective imagination;*

✓ *This fact could be a tool for German language teachers to work with, to try, and to put an end to certain tenets that underlie the teaching and learning of German as the foreign language in question.*

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

- ✓ To check the identifications and motivations of students about learning German as a foreign language in the city of Salvador

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

- ✓ To check the motives that lead the activity to learn German as a foreign language;
- ✓ To highlight which types of motivation are most prominent among the students;
- ✓ To analyze the linguistic, cultural and social reasons that underlie the choices for learning German as a foreign language;
- ✓ To check the interaction/mediation between social, contextual and personal factors which resulted in the motivation to learn German as a foreign language.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- ✓ How can the identification with the social and cultural field of the target language motivate the students to learn German?
- ✓ How are these motives to learn German as a foreign language presented and how do these elements promote the realization of the activity toward the object?
- ✓ How social constructs such as age, origin, language competence, gender can motivate the search for a German course as a foreign language in Salvador?

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The basic meta-theoretical position that informs this research is the sociocultural theory proposed by Vygotsky (1993; 2007) and Leontiev (1978; 1981), extended by Engeström (1987;1999) and Lantolf and Thorne (2006) .

It is understood that the motivation is not located solely within the individual without reference to the social and cultural contexts with which individual actions take place.

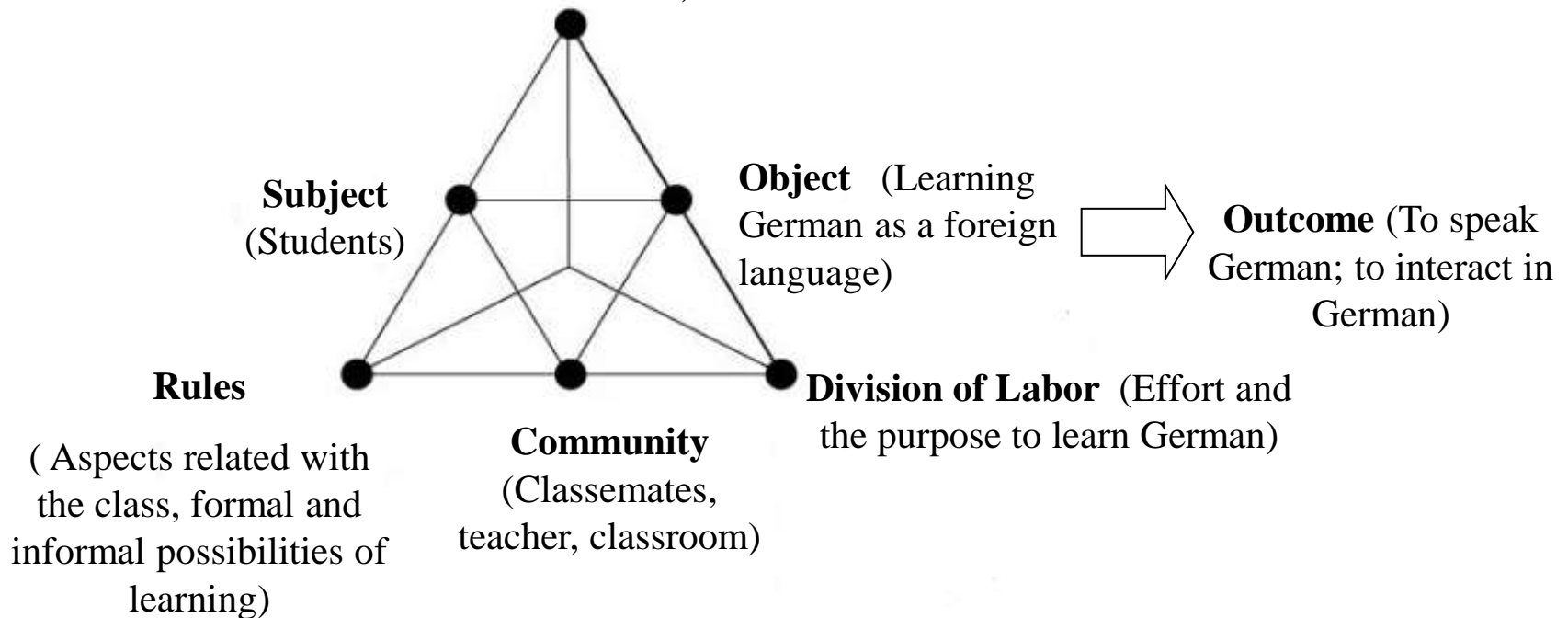
THE RESEARCH

Human conscious activity

The choice to learn German as a foreign language

Instruments

(Cultural concepts, language, family, others contacts)



METHODOLOGY

The study will be carried out according to the principles of ethnographic research, which aims to describe the nature of those who are studied.

SUBJECTS OF THE RESEARCH

Students, who study German as a foreign language at Goethe-Institut – Salvador – Bahia and at the Universidade Federal of Bahia-Brazil including students from elementary to advanced level.

INSTRUMENTS OF RESEARCH

Semi-structured interview, questionnaire and informal meetings will be used in order to collect the data.

The questionnaire will be used to get a general idea about the social networks of the students.

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
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