

When asked to identify the most powerful influences on language learning, motivation factors probably are high on most teachers' lists. Because of the multifaceted nature of the concept of motivation, I shall begin this article by mentioning an idea by Elkind: "The ability to think abstractly, a characteristic of formal operation, leads the adolescent to conceptualize his own thought. Another consequence is that the adolescent can now also 'conceptualize the thoughts of other people'. The adolescent's resulting self-consciousness, his reluctance to reveal himself, his feeling of vulnerability, may have a great effect on second language learning' discussing the four questions."

1. What is meant by the term *motivation*?
2. What are different types of motivation?
3. What are the characteristics of motivated learners?
4. What is the role of the teacher in English learning?