

STRATEGY GROUP: Metacognitive

STRATEGY SET: Arranging and planning your learning

STRATEGY: Planning for a language task

Regardless of the language skill involved, this strategy always involves identifying the general nature of the task, the specific requirements of the task, the resources available within the learner, and the need for further aids.

Felicia, a student of Russian, wants to listen to the Radio Moscow news. In planning for this task she first identifies the nature of the task, that is, listening to a news program that is likely to be mainly political and economic. Then she figures out the probable elements, like nuclear arms, diplomatic talks, warships, American and Soviet attitudes, economic change. Next she checks her own internal resources and decides she knows most of the political words but not the economic terminology. Therefore, she looks up terms which she might need but does not yet know. Of course, she cannot determine everything in advance, but she can anticipate and prepare for many of the topics and thus become better prepared for the listening activity.