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Box No. | Series number - Control symbol | Attributes
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1 | 1 | Series description: Correspondence, articles, speeches and other miscellaneous documentation compiled by Dr. Stanley J. Scott in defense of his and Frank P. Just's opposition to the introduction of the Audio-Lingual Method of Language Learning in Victorian High Schools.

1/1/2-2. | 1/1/2-2. | Sub-item no 2.
Condition note: Due to preservation concerns, all paper clips and/ or staples have been removed, and contents placed in plastic sleeves.

1/1/2-3. | 1/1/2-3. | Sub-item no 3.
Sub-item title: Issues No. 43 and No. 45 of the Victorian Universities and Schools Examinations Board (V.U.S.E.B.) Supplement to Circular to Schools.
Descriptive note: Three copies of Issue No. 43 and four copies of Issue No. 45 of the Victorian Universities and Schools Examinations Board (V.U.S.E.B.) Supplement to Circular to Schools.
Condition note: Due to preservation concerns, all paper clips and/ or staples have been removed, and contents placed in plastic sleeves.

1/1/2-4. | 1/1/2-4. | Sub-item no 4.
Sub-item title: “A Circular letter to all Victorian Modern Language Teachers concerning the Audio-lingual investigation conducted by the V.U.S.E.B. French Standing Committee” dated October 1970.
Contents date range: October 1970.
Condition note: Due to preservation concerns, all paper clips and/ or staples have been removed, and contents placed in plastic sleeves.
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<td><strong>Series description:</strong> Correspondence, articles, speeches and other miscellaneous documentation compiled by Dr. Stanley J. Scott in defense of his and Frank P. Just's opposition to the introduction of the Audio-Lingual Method of Language Learning in Victorian High Schools.</td>
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| 1/1/2-5.| Sub-item no. 5. | **Sub-item title:** Various other articles regarding the V.U.S.E.B. Audio-Lingual Investigation.  
Descriptive note: Various academic and other articles regarding the V.U.S.E.B. Audio-Lingual Investigation collected, dated and annotated by Stanley J. Scott.  
Condition note: Due to preservation concerns, all paper clips and/ or staples have been removed, and contents placed in plastic sleeves. |
| 1/1/3. | Item no. 3. | **Item Attributes:**  
Item title: Talks given by either Frank P. Just or Dr. Stanley J. Scott against the introduction of the Audio-Lingual Method of Language Learning in Victorian High Schools.  
Descriptive note: Talks given by either Frank P. Just or Dr. Stanley J. Scott against the introduction of the Audio-Lingual Method of Language Learning in Victorian High Schools dated between 1963 and 1966.  
Condition note: Due to preservation concerns, all paper clips and/ or staples have been removed, and contents placed in plastic sleeves. |
| 1/1/4. | Item no. 4. | **Item Attributes:**  
Item title: Other documentation supporting Just's and Scott's arguments against the Audio-Lingual Method of Language Learning.  
Descriptive note: Miscellaneous papers and quotations compiled by author in support of his arguments against the Audio-Lingual Method of Language Learning.  
Condition note: Due to preservation concerns, all paper clips and/ or staples have been removed, and contents placed in plastic sleeves. |
NAME: Frank P. JUST (dec. 1974) and Dr. Stanley J. SCOTT.
ADDRESS;
MAIN ACTIVITY: University lecturers in French.
PLACE OF ACTIVITY: University of Melbourne.
TRANSFEROR: Dr. Ann Trindade, French Department, with permission of Dr. Scot
DATE TRANSFERRED: \( (1987) \)
ACCESS: 0

HISTORICAL NOTE: In 1963, Melbourne Studies in Education published an article by F.P. Just and S.J. Scott, "Structuralist Methods in Modern Language Teaching", a critique of those methods and particularly of the structuralist approach promoted by R.L. Politzer in Teaching French. An Introduction to Applied Linguistics (Boston, 1960). In 1964 the Standing Committee for French, VUSEB, introduced an experimental course using the audio-lingual method for the Higher School Certificate as an alternative to course using the traditional method. These papers document Dr. Scott's and Dr. Just's opposition to the experiment and their attempts to obtain information concerning its results.

List of Records

24 Oct. 1963 A.R. Chisholm to Scott, congratulating him and Frank Just on challenge to the "laboratory" business: their job "to train minds, not to provide polyglot waiters for restaurants".

May 1964 Talk (by Scott?) on use of audio-visual equipment as "a principal instrument in a structuralist-behaviourist teaching method". 5pp.


Undated (by F.P. Just?) "Some Fallacies underlying the use of 'Structures' in the Teaching of French (or other foreign languages) by so-called Structural Linguists". Article intended to serve as a pendant to the "more general survey made by my colleague, Dr. S. Scott". This also relates to Politzer's book. Draft.


24 Mar. 1964 Gordon T. Fish, Florida, U.S.A., to Scott and Just, expressing agreement with the above.
Undated F.E. Dayan, "Directed Composition and Spontaneous Self-expression in Language Teaching", from journal unnamed.

Undated Typed sheet on "insane insistence on 'structures'". In MS, "Bill MacBain".

2 Dec. 1965 Scott and Just to Editors, ML Newsletter, expressing amazement at opening sentence of article on aural comprehension "since oral examinations and dictations have been part of the examining system in Victoria for decades".

Feb. 1966 ML Newsletter, with article "The French Audio-Lingual Investigation".

Feb. 1966 Scott and Just to Editors, ML Newsletter, commenting on contributions and quotations in the 3rd Newsletter on structuralism and audio-lingual methods. 2pp. + copy.

Apr. 1966 ML Newsletter No.4, Apr. 1966, containing letter to Editors from Just and Scott.

Apr. 1966 pp.101-102, The Educational Magazine: part of article suggesting the need for revision of audio-lingual theory with passage underlined. Author's name does not appear.

Modern Language Teachers' Association of Victoria, Italian Department, University of Melbourne, Schools' Night 1966. Programme for Melbourne, Monash, Hamilton and Traralgon and Wangaratta.

9 June 1966 Professor R.H. Samuel to Editors, ML Newsletter, commenting on discussion started by Just's and Scott's letter and the replies appearing in No.5, and calling for dispassionate debate.

21 July 1966 F.P. Just to Chairman, French Standing Committee, asking for further consideration of the Committee's resolution on 30 June that a mark be arrived at independently by the examiner and the listening examiner, and that the final mark be an average of the two assessments. As the person who assisted in carrying out the detailed organisation of Matriculation Oral he explains the system hitherto used and asks that the matter be reopened.

15 Sept. 1966 R.H. Samuel to Editors, ML Newsletter, wondering why the above letter had not been published.

21 Nov. 1966 F.P. Just to Secretary, VUSEB, resigning from the Committee. He includes the text of his letter to the Chairman, explaining his wish not to be associated with the examination the Committee has just instituted for 1968 and thereafter. This reduces translation to 22% of the total mark.

21 Nov. 1966 Just to Chairman, Standing Committee for French, Monash University, confirming resignation from the Committee because of opposition to the proposed examination.


Drafts of Circular letter from Scott and Just, above.
17 Mar. 1970 Just to Forsyth. Appreciates concern about the problem of control (though Committee should have thought of it at the outset); asks that names of those who participated be recorded with duration of participation or other information Committee may think relevant, so that after the marking of the 1970 examination their marks may be ascertained, and asks that they may be made available to himself and Scott. Also asks that the results of last year's evaluation be published. 2pp.


2 July 1970 "Ron" (Professor Jackson) to Just, suggesting that delay is due to the desire of the Chairman and Committee to have the projected enquiry placed on an "official" footing. Offers his support, listing objectives of interest to the Department of French, Melbourne. Advises forestalling queries about the adequacy of the sample and of the statistical checks by associating a colleague in Statistics as a consultant. 2pp. Attaches copy of the revised "Report on the Investigation into Audio-Linguual Methods" adopted at the last meeting of the French Standing Committee. 4pp.

8 July 1970 Forsyth to Just, asking for research proposal if he wishes to undertake an official project under the auspices of the Standing Committee. Only for such official projects can the Standing Committee make confidential information available.

12 Aug. 1970 Just to Chairman of Standing Committee. Formally applies for investigation as official project, being the right of responsible individuals to have access to statistical information.

16 Sept. 1970 Forsyth to Just. Application has gone to Examination Procedure and Research Committee. Enclosed: copy of letter to Secretary of the Board.

25 Nov. 1970 Forsyth to Just. Reply is on the way.

16 Dec. 1970 R.G.Rowlands to Forsyth (copy) Committee needs information concerning matching of groups before giving approval.

4 Jan. 1971 Just to Chairman, Standing Committee for French. Comments on the above, surveying the progress of the four-year investigation. 2pp.

8 Mar. 1971 Ivan Barko, Chairman, French Standing Committee to Just, suggesting that he write to Rowlands.

28 Apr. 1971 Just to Research Officer (Rowlands).

6 May 1971 T.H. Timpson, Secretary, VUSEB, to Just, explaining the position of the Examination Procedure and Research Committee. 2pp.

13 May 1971 Just to Timpson. 2pp.

20 May 1971 Timpson to Just.

30 June 1971 Timpson to Just. Policy reaffirmed: need to know what hypothesis is to be tested, what data are requested; what procedures will be used in analysis.

30 Aug. 1971 Just to Timpson, setting out hypothesis, data requested and procedures (the last "recognized statistical techniques under the supervision of a member of the Melbourne University Statistics Department") 2pp.

30 Sept. 1971 Timpson to Just. Information will be made available where possible.

Nov. 1970 The Victorian Universities and Schools Examinations Board
15 Sept. 1970 Forsyth to Marion Adams, conveying Standard Committee's willingness to have Report on the investigation into audio-lingual methods discussed in Babel. However, the preliminary report mentioned in the article is confidential and a working document only. Attached: copy of open letter to Chairman of French Standing Committee.

25 Sept. 1970 Professor E.C. Forsyth to Dr. Marion Adams, Editor of Babel, Germanic Studies Department. Acknowledges her letter of 22 Sept. and text of the open letter submitted for publication by Just and Scott. Explains his unwillingness to write a reply, mentioning that a report of which they complain has been modified by the investigator, and the open-mindedness of the French Standing Committee to a serious experiment. photocopy, 2pp. with underlinings in red.

Second copy of the above with letters from Dr. Marion Adams to Scott concerning the open letter and Professor Forsyth's refusal to reply to it (so she cannot publish it).

14 Sept. 1970
15 Sept. 1970
18 Sept. 1970
24 Aug. 1970

6 Oct. 1970 Scott to Forsyth commenting on the above. Invites the publication of all the evidence of the recent audio-lingual investigation; denies having accused the Standing Committee of fanaticism, but asserting that it has recast the H.S.C. examination under the influence of an unproved method.


27 Oct. 1970 Scott to "Richard" (R.H. Samuel), thanking him for his remarks on circular letter, though fearing that they do not agree substantially since he and Just believe faults of audio-lingualism to lie in its very nature and not just in its misapplication. (Samuel's letter not present)

7 Nov. 1969 Just to Chairman of the Standing Committee for French. Request information concerning performance of candidates who have undergone the audio-lingual experiment in matriculation, for research purposes.

20 Nov. 1969 Wilga Rivers, Chairman of Standing Committee to Just. Examination Procedure and Research Committee will examine the feasibility of any such study and may arrange for the research to be conducted by suitably qualified persons under its supervision.

26 Nov. 1969 Just to Professor Rivers. He and Dr. Scott will approach the EP and R. Committee; meanwhile hope that records allowing identification of future Matriculation who have participated in such project will be preserved.

15 Dec. 1969 Rivers to Just. Letter has been passed to new Chairman, Prof. E. Forsyth, La Trobe University.

6 Mar. 1970 Forsyth to Just. Standing Committee being sympathetic to the idea of a study being made, a sub-committee will report on the question of collecting data relevant to such an investigation. Summarizes the views expressed by the Examination Procedure and Research Committee, and the difficulties in conducting the study, making it premature to attempt an analysis of the results of students taking part in the project at this year's HSC. Nevertheless invites a proposal for research for consideration by the Standing Committee. 3pp.

17 Mar. 1970 Just to Forsyth. Appreciates concern about the problem of control.

16 Dec. 1970  R.G. Rowlands, Research Officer, VUSEB, to Professor Forsyth, conveying The Examination Procedure and Research Committee's refusal to make available to Scott and Just the names of secondary school students who took part in the Audio-lingual investigation and their marks without information concerning hypotheses to be tested, the experimental design and methodology of approach. photocopy.

Undated  F.P. Just to Chairman, Standing Committee for French concerning denial of request for information. 2pp. draft.

16 Jan. 1971  Just to "Ivan" defending the battle of the early and mid-sixties and countering his arguments. 2pp.

15 July 1971  J.R. Bainbridge to Just, commenting on recent correspondence (he has been absent for 10 months) and challenging him and Dr. Scott to say what investigation is proposed.

5 Oct. 1971  Bainbridge to Just, inviting him to dine and discuss problems relating to Just's problems in teaching/examining French and audio-lingual methods. Invitation arises out of Just's letter to Mr. Timpson, VUSEB 30 Aug. concerning scores, which Bainbridge sees as a statistical problem.

21 Oct. 1971  Just to Bainbridge, declining: will not at present be calling in further statistical consultants and has no problems with teaching or examining French and audio-lingual methods which might be fruitfully discussed.

27 Oct. 1971  Just to Miss Brooks, VUSEB, asking her to identify candidates who took part in the audio-lingual investigation at certain schools, and to follow their results in 1969 Leaving French (noting which examination was taken) and then in 1970 HSC French and HSC Best-3. Investigation control candidates need not be separated from the other non-investigation candidates for the present.

Sheet showing numbers participating in audio-lingual investigation at 16 schools, with numbers who presented and passed in Leaving French 1969 and H.S.C. French 1970; total scores in 3 best subjects; and mean per subject of best three.

10 Sept. 1974  Constance Thomas, Atherton, to Scott, asking for material to assist her in taking up the cudgels for the traditional method of teaching.

14 Sept. 1974  Scott to Mrs. Thomas, enclosing information and mentioning the local experiment and its failure.

Grammar: Chaos or Cosmos? 4ts. Article by S.J. Scott for publication in Rabe.

Untitled talk on deficiencies of the New Key. 5pp. By F.P. Just S.J. Scott, given to MLTAV Annual Congress 1960's (1966?)