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Vygotsky's Classic

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Abstract

Originally published in *Contemporary Psychology: APA Review of Books*, 1987, Vol 32(11), 932–934. Reviews the book, *Thought and Language* edited by Lev S. Vygotsky and Alex Kozulin (1986). The insights that *Thought and Language* has to offer psychologists concerned with development, cognition, education, and many other topics first came to be appreciated in the West when MIT Press published the first English translation of this work in 1962. Since then, we have seen a great deal of research motivated by the approach Vygotsky outlined before his death of tuberculosis in 1934. In *Thought and Language*, one can find the best presentation in a single volume of this approach, which provides a sociocultural account of mind that goes beyond the bounds of any discipline taken in isolation. Vygotsky managed to incorporate ideas from psychology, history, linguistics, philosophy, anthropology, and other disciplines in such a way that no single label captures his vision. He revealed vision in *Thought and Language* by

dealing with several theoretical issues and types of empirical evidence. For example, it is here that he outlined his ideas on the methodological issue of units of analysis, an outline that has been extended by authors such as Zinchenko (1985). (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2006 APA, all rights reserved)

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