New perspectives on teaching the four skills The teaching of the four language skills (see Chapter 13.Bottom-up processing depends on language resources – lexico– grammar and phonology (pronunciation) or orthography as aids to the accurate decoding or interpretation, or encoding or realization, of meaningful text. Listeners and readers work to decode and construct meanings and messages, whereas speakers and writers use language resources to encode and express meanings and messages. Top–down processing utilizes shared knowledge, pragmatic knowledge and con– textual information to achieve an appropriate interpretation or realization of textual meanings and messages. Listening. Chapter 14.