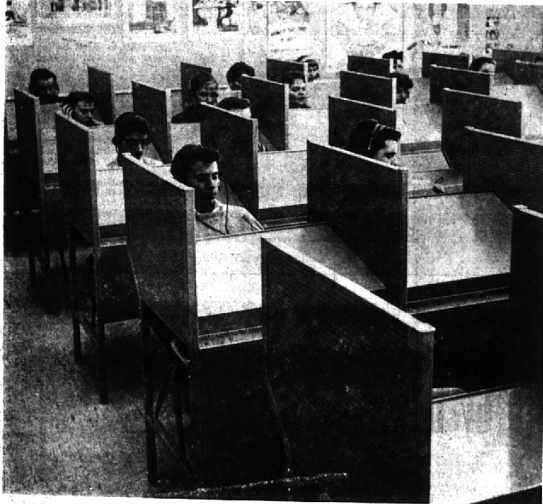


# Language Labs at High Schools Teach Students This Way Today



Students can be on speaking terms with themselves—or with their teacher or recorded voices—in newly installed foreign language labs at Seaholm and Southfield high schools.

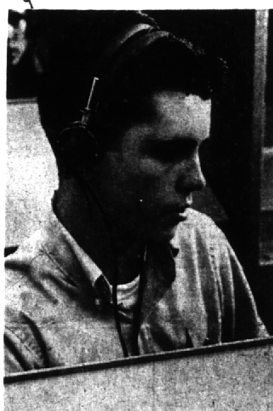
Recording and playback equipment, sound-proofed booths, audio-visual aids, headsets and other facilities are provided to enable budding linguists to "speak when they are spoken to" in French, Spanish, German and perhaps even conversational Latin.

Based on the method by which young children learn to talk, the labs give systematic audio-oral practice and opportunity for large amounts of imitative and repetitive oral drill. Developing at their own speed, students no longer have to "hold their tongues."

Left: At Southfield high, they do it this way. Students seated in individual booths are ready for practice sessions in the language of their choice. For inspiration, travel posters line the walls of the room.

Lower left: The teacher, Mrs. Donna Melcher, may look like she's ready to take off but she's really not sitting in an airplane cockpit. She can, however, monitor a student, advise and correct him, record his performance or talk to the entire class at once.

Lower right: Student Eran Kleckner need not be tongue-tied for he has privacy in which to practice tongue-trippers, to hear models of good conversation in another language and to hear himself "parley-vous." The walls do not have ears but the "mike" does.



## They Do It The Same At Seaholm

Left: Instructor George Cooch at the control panel in Seaholm high's lab reels off an explanation to students Pat Hall (second from left), as well as to Chris Dziekonski and David Bee. They will soon be using teacher recorded tapes and others of native linguists.

Right: "The time has come . . . to talk of many things," Bill Prachar won't talk "of shoes—and ships—and sealing-wax . . ." but he will speak in a language other than his own and, later, do lots and lots of listening. Among other things, he will learn that the miracle of language is not lightly earned.

Lower bottom: To set the record straight, a class of language students work in individual booths. This post-war method of speaking, hearing, reading and writing a foreign language with electronic aids is a far cry from traditional learning methods. Nevertheless, students still mutter to themselves, "Now, what's the word for . . ."

Staff Photos  
By Mary Stasak

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Thursday, November 10, 1960

SECTION D



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