



ESL Strategies for Mainstream Classrooms

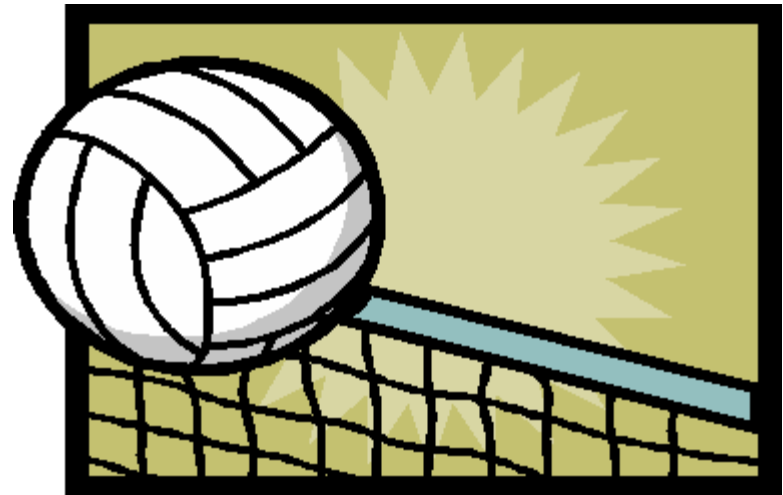
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Affective Filter

- Emotional state
- Culture shock
- Acts like a shield
- Blocks input
- Stops the learning process



Lowering the Affective Filter

- Respect the Silent Period
- Allow me to use my home language
- Collaborative work
- Buddies
- Hands-on activities
- Stick to a routine
- Praise me
- Make me feel welcome
- Pronounce my name correctly
- Let me respond non-verbally
- Give me time to think

BICS

vs.

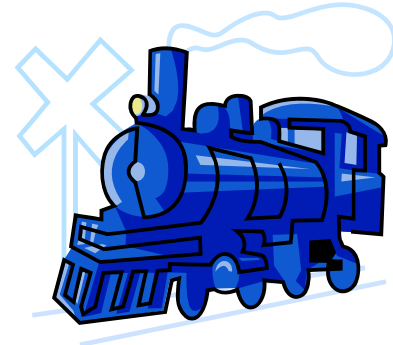
CALPS

- Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills
- Playground talk
- Socialization
- Survival English
- Seems effortless
- 1-3 years

- Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency Skills
- Classroom language
- Necessary for academic success
- 5-7 years

Comprehensible Input

- English is a speeding train - ESL students are trying to keep up!
- Slow down the speeding train – make input *comprehensible*
- Now students can get on the train and learn even more!



Making Input Comprehensible

- Total Physical Response
 - Hands-on activities
 - Skits
 - Gestures
 - Dances
- Comprehension checks
 - Point
 - Match
 - Act it out
 - Non-verbal responses
- Scaffold instruction
 - Build on the known
 - Use visuals and realia
 - Act it out
 - Allow use of home language
- Modify
 - Your language
 - Classwork
 - HW
 - Tests

The Home Language

- No language = no learning
- Literacy skills will transfer from L1 to L2
- Remember the affective filter!
- Benefits and challenges



Benefits of Bilingualism

- Provides multiple pathways to knowledge
- Makes language learning easier
- Opens windows into two worlds
- Broadens job opportunities



Challenges Presented by L1



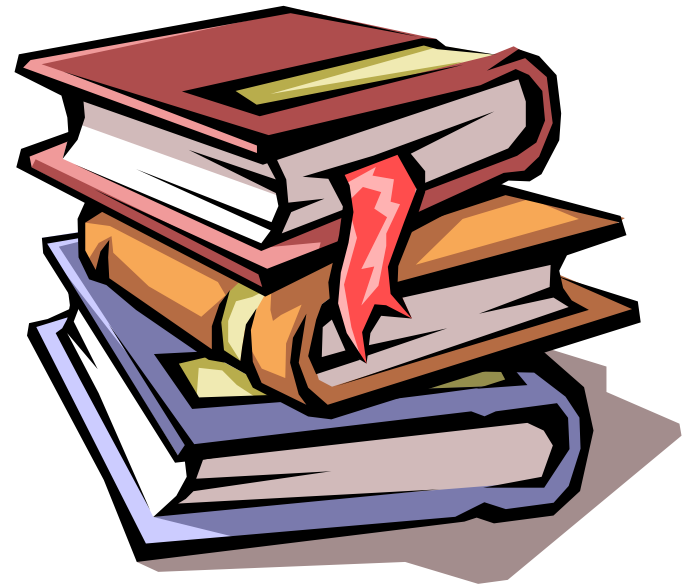
Linguistic Interference

- Phonetics
 - Some English sounds don't exist in L1
 - Two sounds in English are variants of the same sound in L1
- Syntax
 - Gender
 - Articles
 - Word order
 - False cognates



Literacy Interference

- Sound-symbol correspondences
 - Same symbol, different sound!
- Alphabetic Principle:
 - 1 sound = 1 letter
 - 1 letter = 1 sound
- New alphabet
- Conventions
 - Capitalization
 - Dialogue
- Syntax



Modifying Reading Selections

- Adjust length
- Include charts, maps, diagrams, etc.
- Use text with section headings
- Provide a summary
- Teach the text backwards



Modifying Assignments

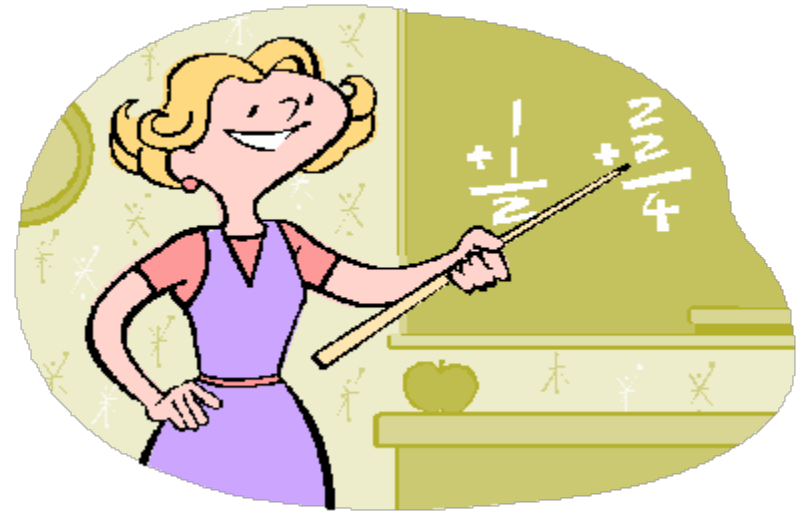
- Highlight key points
- Adjust length
- Use hands-on activities
- Make the work meaningful
- Identify a language objective and a content objective for each lesson



Modifying Instruction - 1

Watch out!

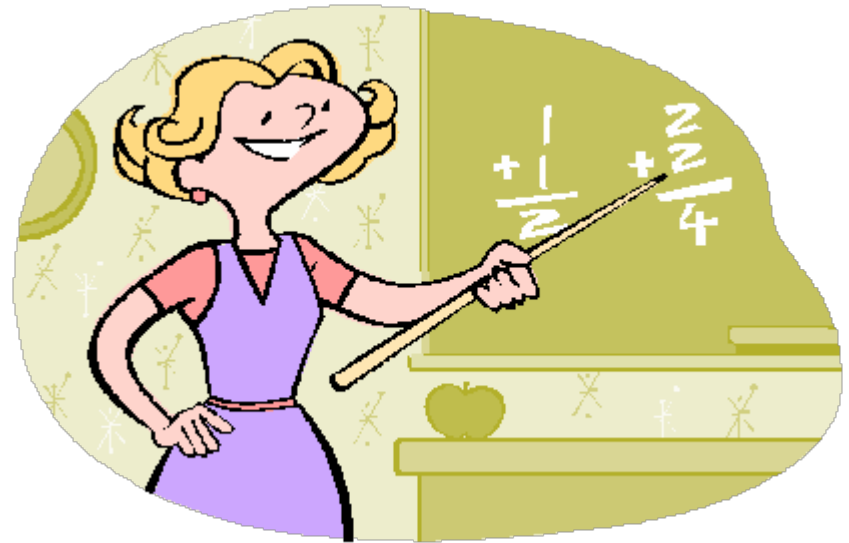
- Idioms
- Passive voice
- Prepositions
- Multiple-meaning words
- Personal space
- Body language



Modifying Instruction - 2

Try to use...

- Slow, clear, friendly speech
- Simple verb tenses
- Names instead of pronouns
- Plenty of wait time
- Either/or questions
- Full forms instead of contractions





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