

**TeachingEnglish webinars for teachers** 

#### Teaching heterogeneous groups in CLIL primary classes

Julia Mena Dobson



#### **Supporting English teaching and learning**



#### Newsletter



#### english.programmes@britishcouncil.fr

#### **Resources, training and partnerships**

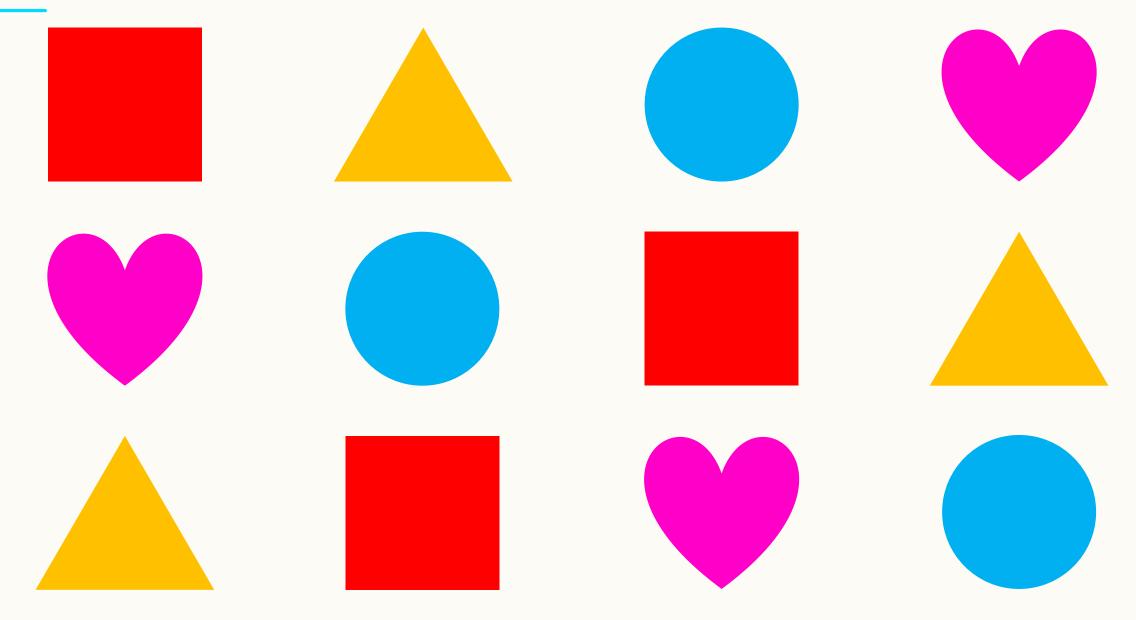


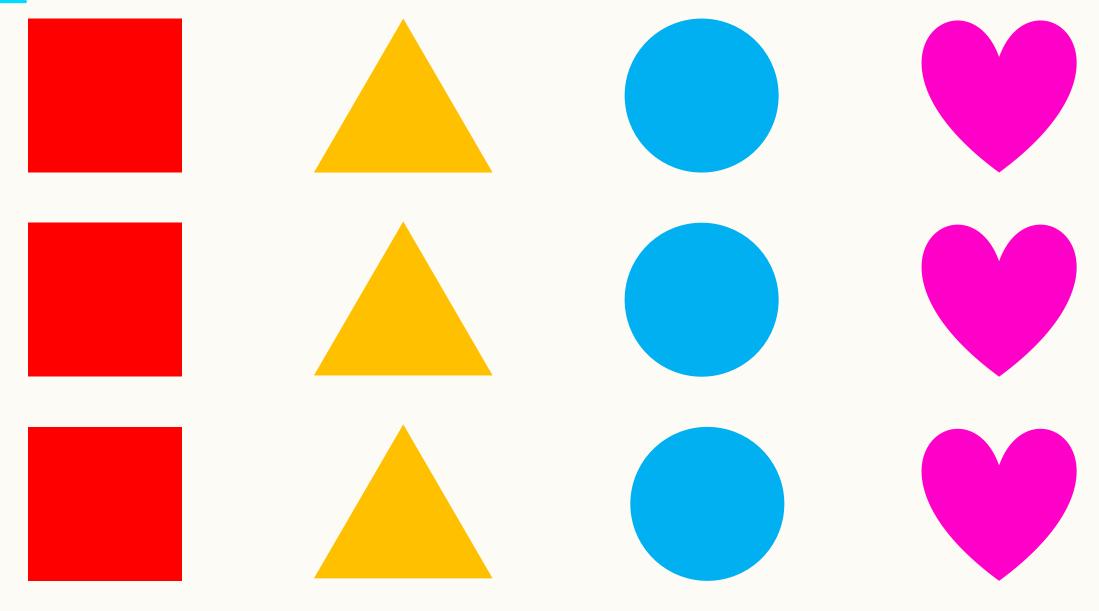
#### TeachingEnglish

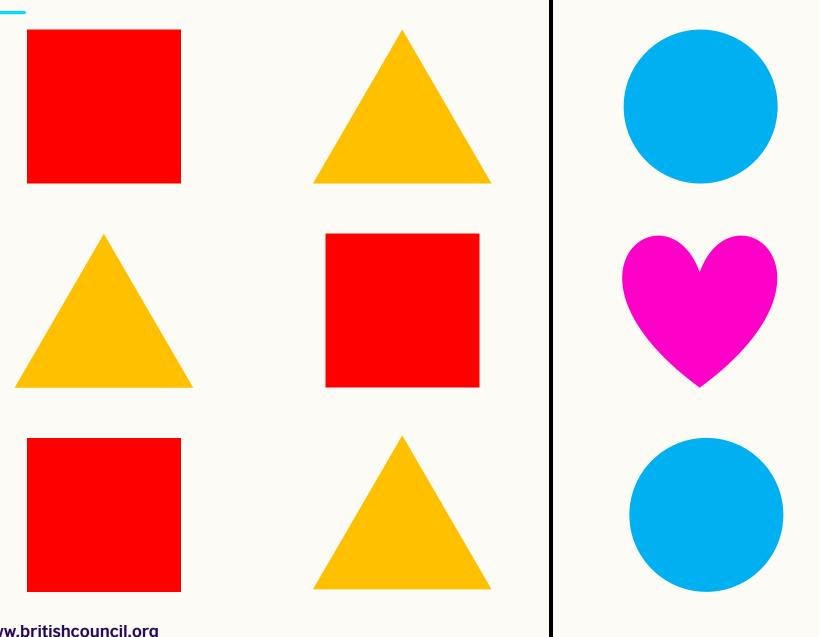
#### www.teachingenglish.org.uk



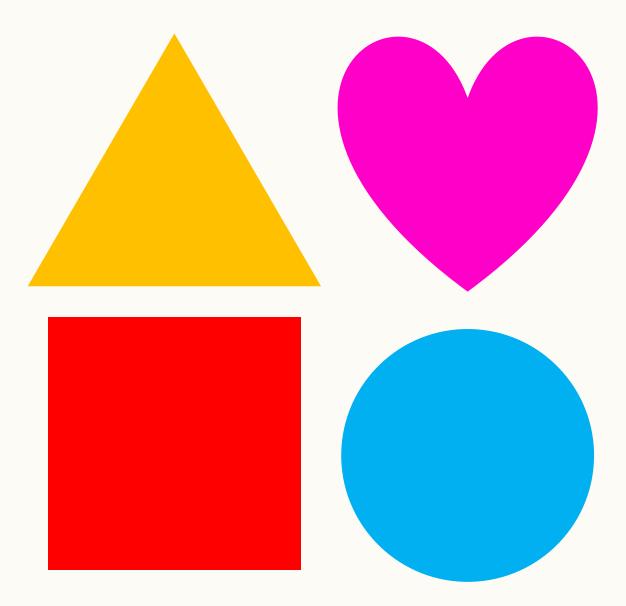
#### https://www.britishcouncil.fr/en/education/schools







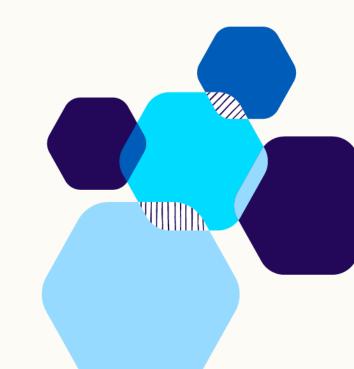




#### **Teaching heterogeneous groups in CLIL primary classes**

#### Learning outcomes

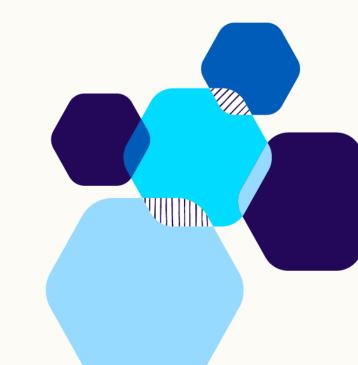
- We will ask ourselves:
  - who are our learners?
  - what is CLIL?
  - how can CLIL help us teach heterogeneous groups?
- We will talk about:
  - how to use CLIL's specific criteria to support all learners in heterogenous groups.

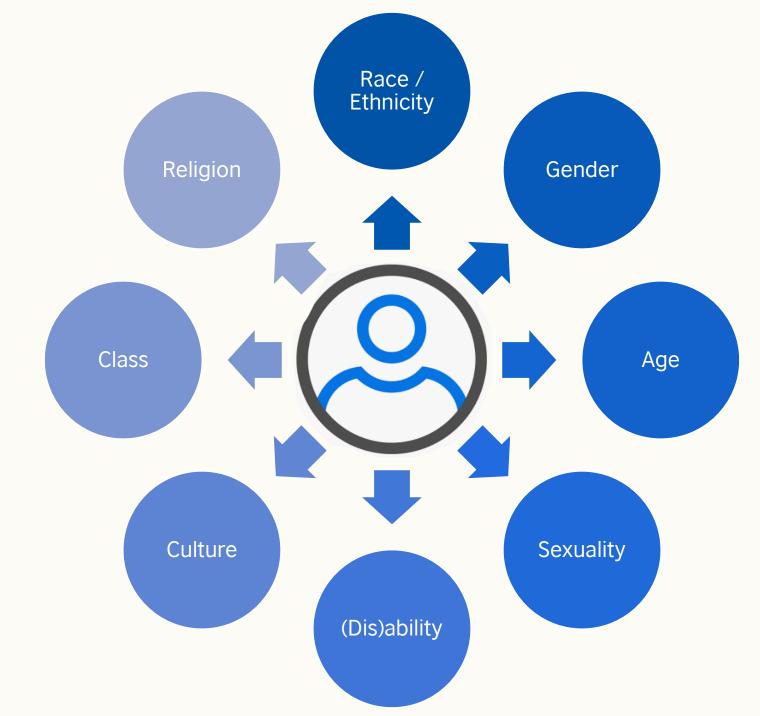


# Who are our learners?

#### "The idea that we all have the same life is false. Race, class, gender come together to shape the life chances of people in very different ways."

**Kimberlé Crenshaw** Lawyer, civil rights advocate and intersectional feminist

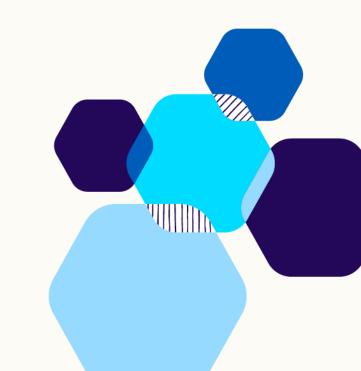




#### Our primary learners today have many pressures in modern life:

- Affected by parents' economic worries
- New school or class
- Worried about environment / sustainability
- Social media influence
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Trauma
- Learning differences
- etc.

Öner, Rachel. Learning differences and inclusion in language teaching. NILE.

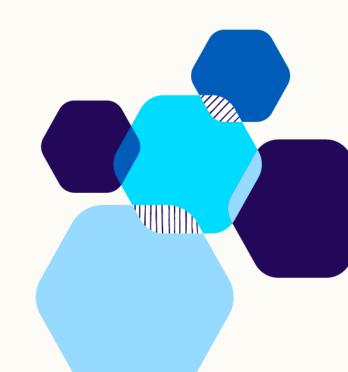


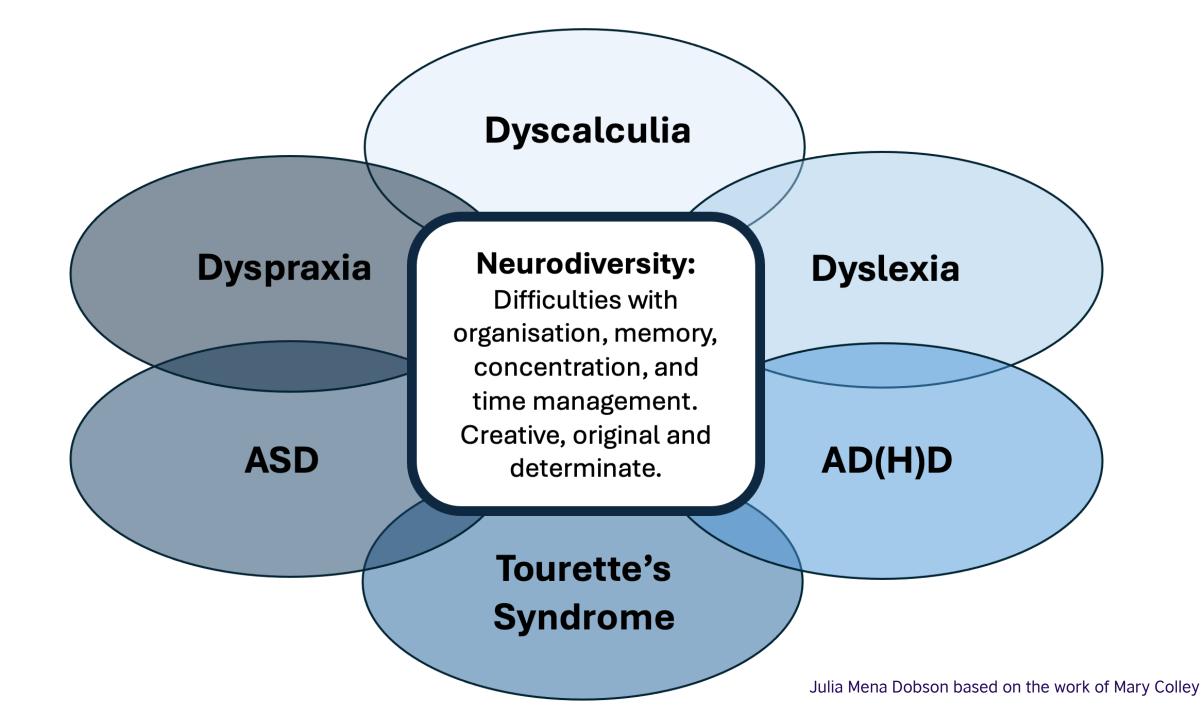
#### What are learning differences?

"The term 'learning differences' refers to the diverse ways all students learn and the rates at which they learn.

Learning differences take into account individual learning motivators; learner aspirations, interests, experience and cultural background; and individual students' strengths and needs."

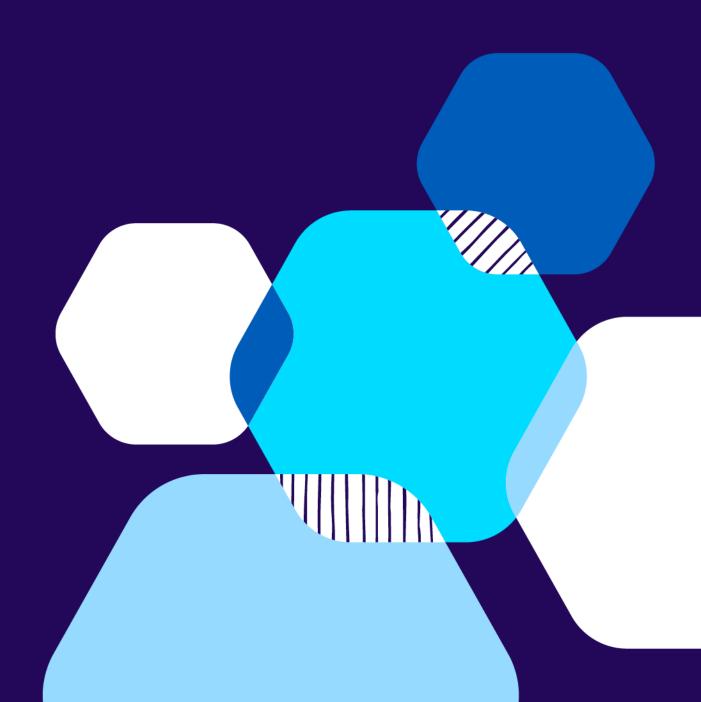
> Learning differences, learning difficulties, learning disabilities and the NCCD - Nationally Consistent Collection of Data. (n.d.).

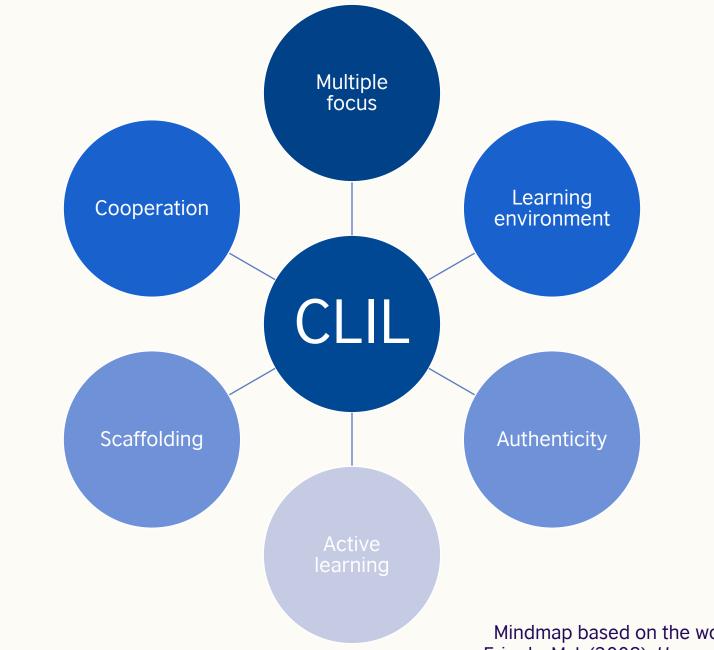




# What is CLIL?

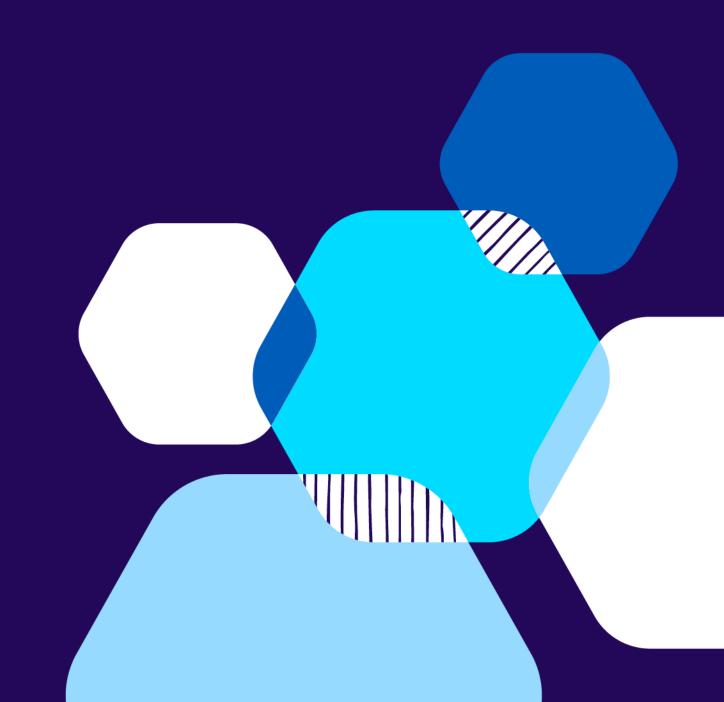
In one minute, write in the chatbox what you consider CLIL's most important features.





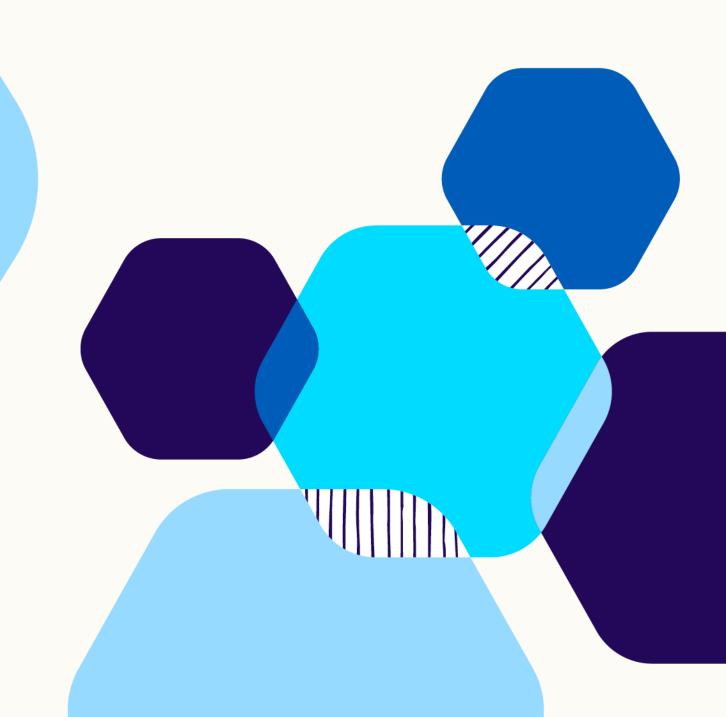
Mindmap based on the work of Mehisto, P., Marsh, D. & Frigols, M.J. (2008). *Uncovering CLIL*. Oxford: Macmillan.

How can CLIL help us teach heterogeneous groups?



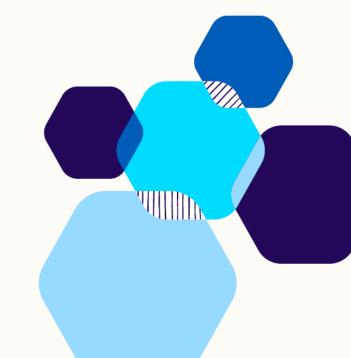
A safe and enriching learning environment





#### **Get to know your learners**

- Hobbies and interests
- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Favourite activities
- Dislikes



#### Don't underestimate the power of feeling heard and seen

- Highlight similarities rather than differences.
- Plan your class activity and content carefully. Avoid topics that may be the cause of trauma (e.g. war or family conflict), and themes which may only be familiar to particular socio-economic groups (e.g. overseas holidays).
- Show:
  - accessible environments,
  - a range of gender expressions,
  - non-traditional families,
  - ethnically diverse images,
  - different home and outdoor environments,
  - a range of body shapes and sizes.
- Ensure an equal balance of gender, and use gender inclusive terms and job titles.
- Keep in mind what activities or resources will be affordable. Having a recycling box, where children bring in specific materials for future classes can help families and the planet.

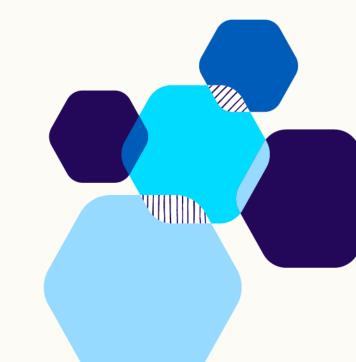
Cox, B. (n.d.). Foundations for inclusion: Beth Cox: Inclusion and equality consultant. Beth Cox.



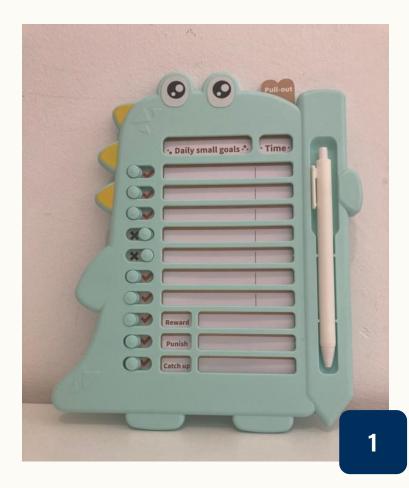
Future Classroom Lab. (Creative Commons)

#### **Routines are everything**

- Hello!
  - Classroom helpers
- Circle time:
  - Introduction song
  - New / Old vocabulary games
  - Experiment
- Transition to table time
- Table time:
  - Controlled practice
  - Freer practice
- Tidy up time
- Daily reflection
- Goodbye!



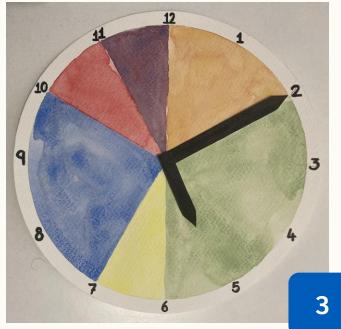
#### **Resources for the teacher**



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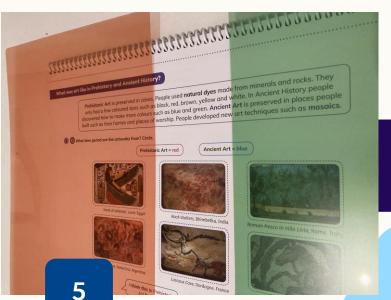


#### All photos taken by Julia Mena Dobson

#### **Resources for the learners**





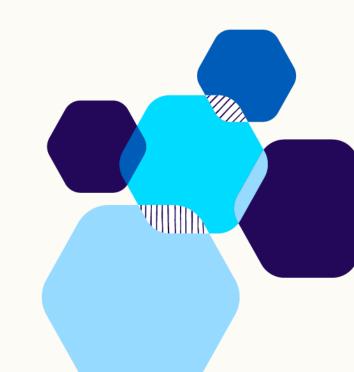




All photos taken by Julia Mena Dobson

### **Active learning**

Active learning encourages children to learn through trial and error, discovery and social interaction rather than listening or reading to absorb knowledge.







# minute!

Bonnie Tsai

#### **Multisensory learning**

- Visual: learning through watching and seeing (e.g. videos, drawing, etc.).
- Auditory: learning through listening and hearing sounds (e.g. songs, listen and do, etc.).
- **Kinaesthetic:** learning through physical activity or body movement (this involves the vestibular and proprioceptive senses) (e.g. TPR (Total Physical Response), roleplays, etc)..
- Tactile: learning through using the sense to touch (e.g. mystery bag, sensory boxes, etc.).
- Olfactory and Gustatory: learning through smell and taste (e.g. picnics, walk outside, etc.)

https://www.structural-learning.com/post/multisensory-learning-in-the-classroom-a-teachers-guide By Paul Main

# Scaffolding

#### **Scaffolding** is the process of supporting your students during their learning process and gradually removing that support as your students become more independent.

# Verbal **Procedural** Instructional

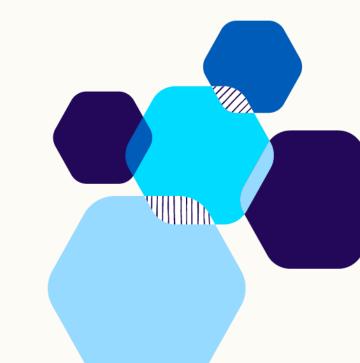
#### **Verbal scaffolding**

1. Modelling: I do, you'll watch.

2. Guided practice: I do one, you'll help.

3. Gradual release: You do one, I'll help.

4. Independent practice: You do one, I'll watch.



#### **Procedural scaffolding**



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Diagrams created by Julia Mena Dobson based on other works.

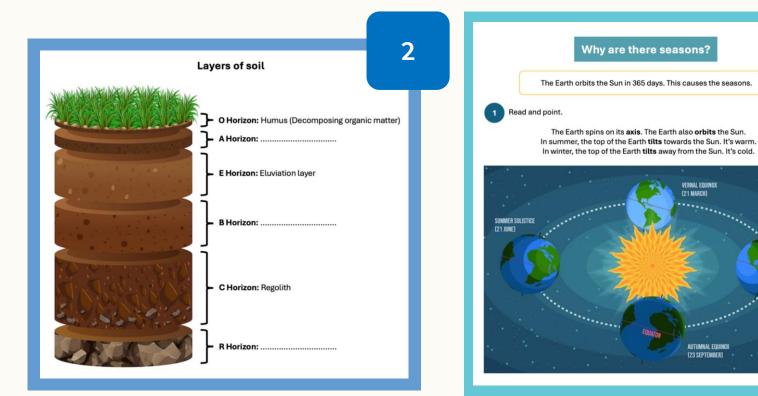
#### Instructional scaffolding

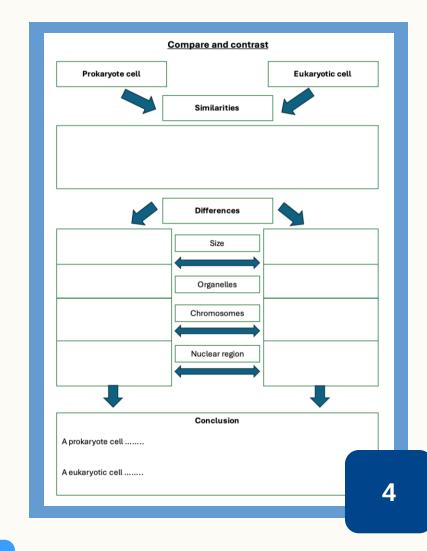
WINTER SOLISTICS

(22 DECEMBER)

3

		47	7	77
Strongly agree	Agree	50/50	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I couldn't agree more!	l agree with you.	That is mostly correct.	l'm afraid I can't really agree.	Sorry, but that is completely wrong
You are absolutely right!	I think you are right.	I agree with you in principle, however	l am sorry, l disagree with that.	l agree to disagree





Samples created by Julia Mena Dobson based on other works.

## Cooperation

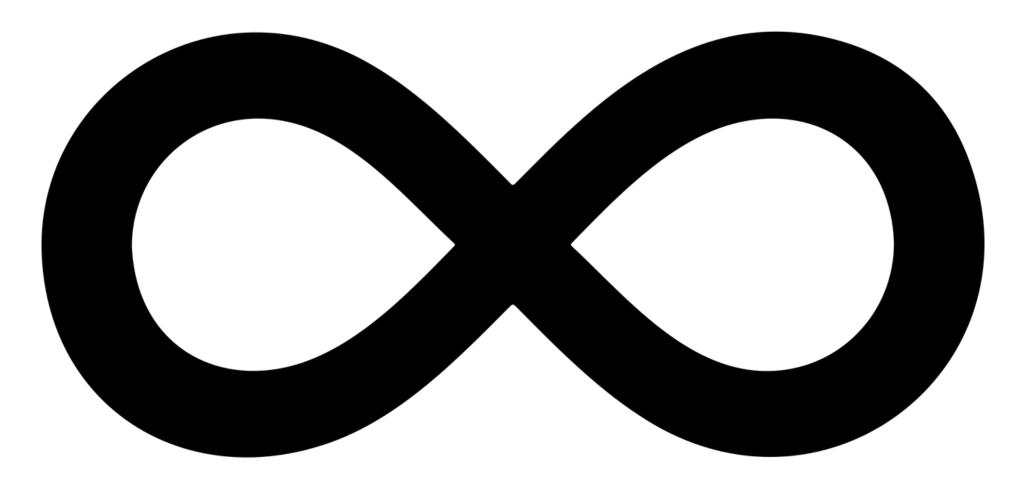
#### **Mixed-ability pairing**

# Same abilityMixed abilityMixed abilitySame ability pairs or<br/>Same ability pairs or<br/>muse for groups for groups to brainstorm ideas<br/>and practise before

Same ability pairs or groups for speaking and writing tasks.

Mixed ability pairs or groups for grammar and vocabulary so they can help to "teach" each other. Mixed ability pairs or groups to brainstorm ideas and practise before regrouping into same ability pairs or groups so less confident learners have support before they do the task.

#### **Brain break!**



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PART OF THE INTE GROUP

# Authenticity



## Adapting materials

- Contextualise
- Personalise



## **Reader-friendly texts**

- Add visuals to help guide understanding.
- Consider the contrast of coloured texts on the background.
- Choose a clear, ideally dyslexia-friendly font (Arial, Calibri, Verdana, Tahoma).
- Use 12-14 font size.
- Ensure the typeface has adequate letter and word spacing.
- Avoid overly designed text. Keep text on a straight line as much as possible.
- Use bold for emphasis rather than italic or underlined.
- Ensure the layout is clear with plenty of white space.
- Where possible use paper thick enough so you can't see the text underneath?

# **Multiple focus**

### **Encourage reflection**



Think

Pair

Share

1

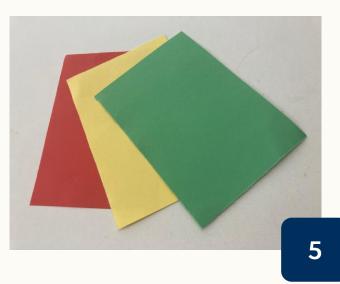


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#### a wish **Two stars** and I enjoyed ... I would like... I learnt... ...was difficult. lused... I tried to use ... ⊀ I wrote/said/read... I would like help I'm proud of myself with... because... 4

#### Writing checklist:

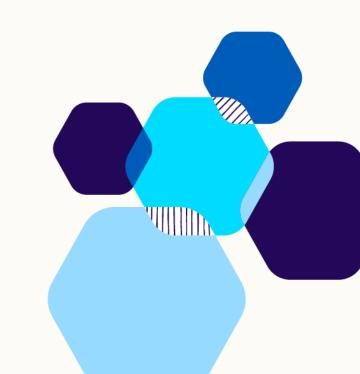
There is a main idea.	
The sentences are logically related to the main idea.	
The sentences start in the left.	
Punctuation and capital letters are correct.	
The spelling is good.	
The writer uses different beginnings for sentences.	
The writer uses varied vocabulary.	
Linkers, sequencers and conjunctions are properly used.	2

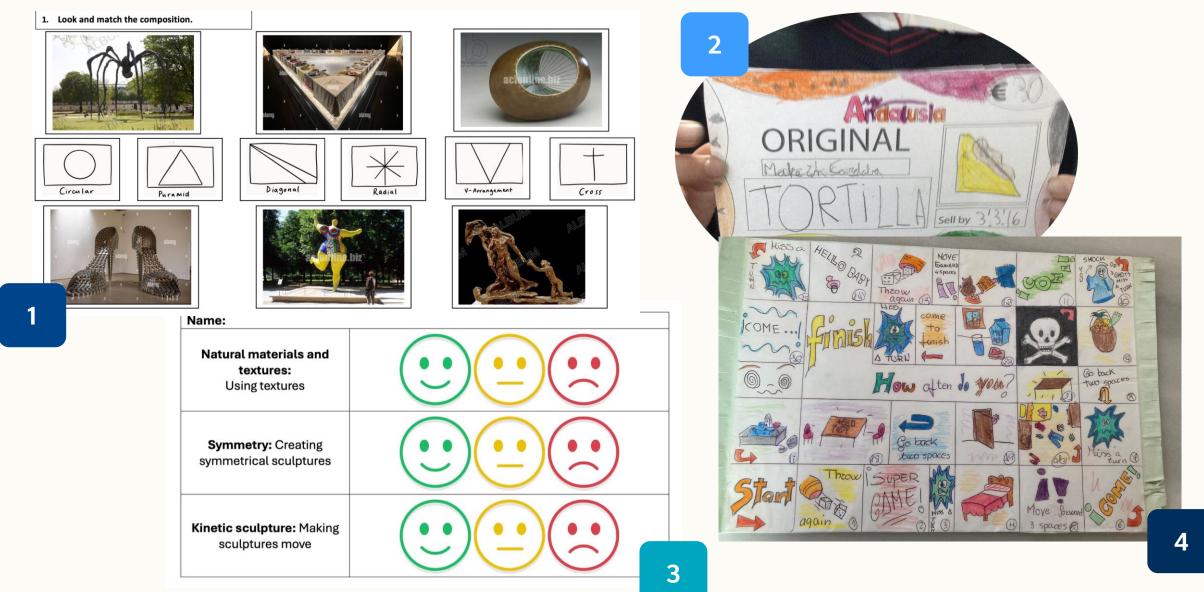


Photos, worksheets and diagram created by Julia Mena Dobson based on other works.

### Assessment

- Think of new ways of assessing learning.
- Offer choices.
- Provide scaffolding (e.g. word lists, sentence prompts, etc.).
- Expect different results.
- Give extra time if necessary.
- Make assessment continuous.





Worksheets created by Julia Mena Dobson. Photos taken by Jennifer Dobson.

## **Using learner's own languages**

#### Translating

When the learner says a sentence in their L1, the teacher translates it in English and asks the learner to repeat it.

- Learner: *La IA es terrible!*
- Teacher: AI is terrible! Please, repeat.
- Learner: Al is terrible!

### Sandwiching

When giving instructions the teacher inserts a word in the learners' L1 when giving instructions.

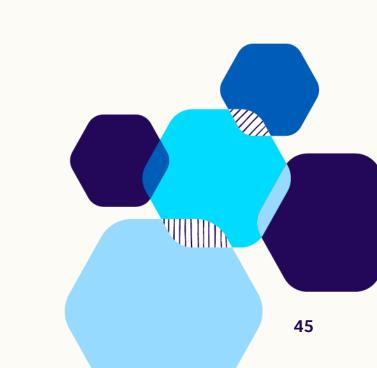
– Teacher: Listen, écouter, listen.



#### L1 for critical thinking – L2 for feedback

Allow learners to use their first language in group settings. However, the learners always use English to speak to the teacher and during feedback stage.

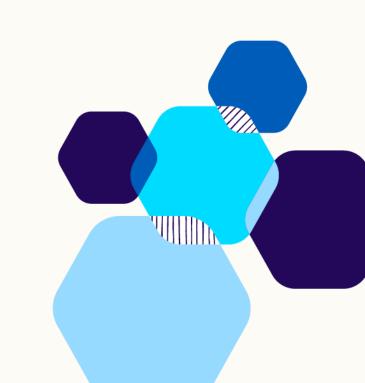
### Controversial



## Work on your own teaching approach

- Patience
- Timing
- Check understanding
- Praise
- Address students by name
- Grade language
- Use body language
- Slow movements

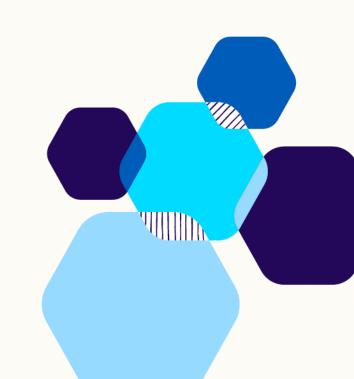




## CLIL supports the holistic development of learners

"A study by Marino, Israel, and Serianni (2015) found that adapting teaching strategies to accommodate neurodiverse learners resulted in a 32% increase in overall student performance."

*Blooms taxonomy*. RSS. (n.d.). <u>https://www.structural-</u> learning.com/post/blooms-taxonomy-a-teachers-alternative



## Poll

What strategies would you like to implement in your classes?



We strongly encourage you to complete the post-webinar task to consolidate your learning.

This task and the recordings of our webinars are available here:

https://www.britishcouncil.fr/programmes/programmesanglais/education/developpement-professionnel/dnl/webinaires

Webinaires : Dynamiser les cours de DNL / EMILE en primaire



## To receive your certificate

Please complete this feedback form: https://bit.ly/CLIL-heterogeneous-groups



If you submit the form, you will see a link to download a certificate of attendance.

The form and the certificate are available until 8 December 2024.

## References

- Mehisto, P., Marsh, D. & Frigols, M.J. (2008). *Uncovering CLIL*. Oxford: Macmillan.
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- Petty, G. (2016). *Teaching Today: A practical guide petty, Geoff*. Oxford University Press.
- Blooms taxonomy. RSS. (n.d.). <u>https://www.structural-learning.com/post/blooms-taxonomy-a-teachers-alternative</u>