

Top Tips for Effective MFL Teaching

From Julie Hall, ALLNE

1. Motivating learners

- Make the lesson relevant and fun – be creative
- Ensure that you use essential language – big impact for small input
- They need to feel successful to want to continue
- Have high expectations – they need to know you think they can do it!!

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2. Incorporating Culture

- All learners enjoy this!
- Lower ability – it means if they don't make much away in terms of language, they will have learned some thing about other people – focus on tolerance
- Look out for interesting news articles, memes on social media you can use as a starter, have a conversation about it, maybe it could take over the lesson!

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3. Lesson Planning

- Don't fall into a back to front approach!!!

Before lesson:

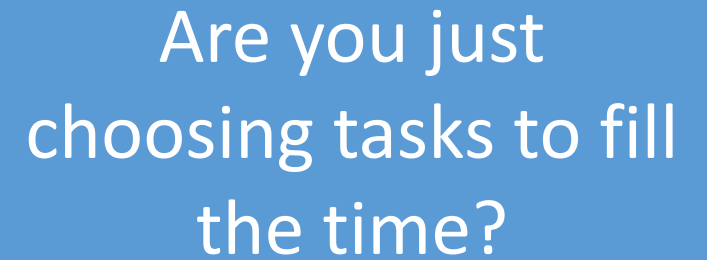
- What do I really want them to learn?
- What is the best way to get them there?
- I want them to retain this language by the end of the lesson – do the tasks support that?

During Lesson:

- How much have they learned? Do they understand it? Can they pronounce it? Can they produce it with support? Can they produce it independently?

After the Lesson

- If they haven't retained/learned the language, what will I do next?



Are you just
choosing tasks to fill
the time?

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4. Guilt marking versus Effective Feedback

Are they learning anything from the correction process? How do you know?

- Focus on one error
- Just mark key pieces ...
- Live mark where possible
- Feedback from whiteboard work is effective
- Weaker groups –look through all books and find the common error – do a follow-up lesson on that
- 1-1 feedback for smaller groups / key students
- Detentions –use this as an opportunity to have a conversation and share a success together?

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5. Your Development

- Continue to observe lessons (even through Zoom)
- Mentor meeting - you set the agenda as well as the mentor
- Widen your support group outside of the school – ALL / ALL Local / FB groups/ Twitter etc.
- Spend the summer doing the GCSE / A level exam papers – note down key aspects / language to help you plan and teach
- Is your subject knowledge good enough? How can you improve that?