

Tips for Clear Communication & Engaging ELL Groups

Scaffold New Content	Adjust What You Say
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examples of pre-teaching language & content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Activating background knowledge → Previewing content (text/photos/images) → Pre-teaching key vocabulary → Making predictions, asking questions 2. Examples of Visual Supports while listening/reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Gestures / expressions → Objects → Images → Text - see it and hear it → Portable white board → Highlighting key vocabulary → Graphic organizers 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speak less! 2. Keep It Simple! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Stick to frequently used words ★ Use simple sentence structure ★ Use active verbs ★ Use present tense & simple past tense ★ Try to avoid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Phrasal verbs, Idioms, Slang, Fillers ◆ Complex sentence structure, long noun phrases/clauses, etc. ◆ Conditionals (would have, might have), passive voice (was written by...) ◆ Long-winded explanations ◆ Culturally specific references 3. Repeat, restate, rephrase! (Indicate - "Again,..."/ "In other words,..")
Adjust How You Say It	Incorporate Comprehension Checks
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slow down: Speak slower, but not too slowly 2. Speak clearly: Enunciate, limit blending / elisions / reductions 3. Chunk: Speak in phrases/thought groups 4. Pause: Give wait time for responses 5. Incorporate visual supports & comprehension checks (see above/right) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask questions (open-ended, yes/no) 2. Check-ins / poll / barometer / on a scale of 0 to 10... / exit ticket 3. Ask for questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ <i>Make sure to give "wait time" for nonnative speakers to formulate responses.</i>
<p>As you LISTEN: Stay present. Stay active. Look for ways to encourage the nonnative speaker. Check for your own biases and assumptions creeping in.</p>	