

Final Thoughts and Suggestions

- ✦ Try learning a few words or relevant phrases in a student's native language
- ✦ Be aware that a student might seem to converse fluently, but fluency in spoken English is very different from competency in academic English. Literacy skills are more complex and difficult to master than conversational skills
- ✦ Take an extra minute to explain a concept that may be unfamiliar to the ESL student. The other students in class will benefit from the extra clarification also
- ✦ Invest a few moments at the beginning of a learning session to facilitate relaxation. Music, tell or hear a joke or story



Tools and Tips

For Limited English Proficiency (ESL)

Teaching and Learning



Honor Diversity.
Accommodating ESL students allows them to function successfully in mainstream college programs

Tools and Tips



TOOLS

- Provide opportunities for learning by using teaching methods that address visual, auditory, and tactile learning styles
- Use group exercises, pair-shares, and collaborative projects to help bridge social gaps and unblock communication barriers
- Learn and pronounce the student's name correctly. Don't let the student lose his/her name. Write it on the board with a phonetic translation so everyone in class learns it
- Develop positive relationships with all students. Smiles and friendly greetings encourage receptivity.

- Use authentic assessment techniques to offer students multiple ways to show they have learned the material being taught
- Emphasize a pride in other cultures by designing a multi-cultural classroom, playing music in other native languages or styles

TIPS

- Be understanding. It is extremely difficult for a student to learn English and the content of the course at the same time.
- Do not assume. Because a student comes from another culture, there is much that cannot be assumed. Prior knowledge and/or common sense may mean something very different to you than to the ESL student.
- Network with ESL teachers at your school. They may have resources or ideas that you can use in the classroom to the benefit of all students. They may also be familiar with the student and can give insight into helping that student.

Resources

www.eslcafe.com.
The web site includes lessons, quizzes, chat lines, podcasts, and much more!



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