Simple Activities for Successful CLIL Lessons

TESOL Italy 2014  Jon Wright
• Quick warmer
• Key CLIL elements (and values)
• Classroom routines and promoting fluency
• Characteristics of a ‘successful’ activity
• Activities using visual organisers
Quick warmer(s)

Focus on what you did yesterday

Partner A

Partner B

Focus on your last holiday

What goes where?
Key CLIL elements – word partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skills</th>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Cooperative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pair</td>
<td>Learning</td>
<td>Thinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handle</td>
<td>Solving</td>
<td>Work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which word does not belong in the set?
What are classroom routines?

• Short and predictable activities that occur as a regular part of a lesson
• Generally a sequence of two or more stages
• Generally they involve phrase-level language
• They relate to ‘normal’ classroom behaviours
## Classroom routines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>?</th>
<th>?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greeting the class</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Introducing lesson aims</td>
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<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>Taking the register</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Can you complete the grid with others?
Common classroom routines...

Arranging seating  
Introducing the topic  
Explaining tasks  
Explaining procedures  
Correcting errors  
Calming the class  
Enthusing the class  
Setting time limits  
Asking for examples  
Asking questions  

Checking comprehension  
Forming pairs and groups  
Returning homework  
Handing out equipment  
Giving examples  
Giving feedback  
Assessing performance  
Managing noise levels  
Reviewing previous learning  
Monitoring activities
What % of YOUR class is ‘routines’?

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55%</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>40%</td>
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</table>

My observation: 20 – 40% is common
Examples of ‘routine’ language

What I want you to do now is ...
Work together and discuss ...
I’ll give you five minutes for this.
First of all, ...
Could you explain why ...?
Sorry, I didn’t hear what ...
Let’s think about this for a minute.
Key idea for promoting fluency

Involve learners in routines

• Create and display a poster of ‘routine’ language
• Elicit the routine from the learners
• Ask learners to predict the routine
• Choose a group of learners to ‘orchestrate’ the routine
• Ask learners to recap on the routine (we did x, you asked us to ... after 5 minutes we ..., we found that ...)
Elements of a ‘successful’ activity: teacher’s view

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Simple</th>
<th>Productive</th>
<th>Re-usable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interesting</td>
<td>Not level-specific</td>
<td>Memorable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flexible</td>
<td>Social</td>
<td>Effective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which are the most important for you?
Teacher vs Student views

Successful activities can be ...

- Fun
- Clear
- Re-usable
- Useful
- Short
- Confidence-boosting
- A chance to work with friends
- Personalisable

Which belong more to A (teacher) or B (learner), and which are shared?

A

B
Visual organisers

Venn Diagrams

Tic-Tac-Toe Grids

What examples have we used in this session?
Ways of using Venn Diagrams

Venn Diagrams

Compare/contrast:
- two countries/types of music/religions/sports/writers etc
- two periods in time
- two paragraphs of a text
- two viewpoints
- two articles on a topic

Think of an example for your lessons
Ways of using Tic-tac-toe grids

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Tic-tac-toe grids

- Prioritise 9 items
- Complete the set
- Spot the odd-one-out
- Guess the theme
- Choose 9 words to summarise a text/video/lesson
- Sequence 9 events
Review

Venn Diagrams

1 Work individually. Make a list of the 3 – 5 most interesting/useful things for you in this workshop.

2 Now compare your list with a partner. What sort of Venn Diagram represents your two lists?

3 Talk with as many people as possible in 3 minutes to find which Venn Diagram best represents your shared views.
## Review 2

### What’s the message?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>And</th>
<th>For</th>
<th>Me</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>To</td>
<td>Thank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coming</td>
<td>You</td>
<td>Listening</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Keep in touch:

1. Take my business card
2. My email
   - [Jon.wright@live.co.uk](mailto:Jon.wright@live.co.uk)
3. Link to me on LinkedIn
4. Write a ‘question for Jon’