

Supporting English Language Learners During Distance Learning

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Ignore Design Rules For Slides

including key text on static slides provides added support for ELLs in the moment (closed captioning can move too fast, not be accurate, and treat all talk as equally important)

Corollary Guideline - Speak SLOWLY

Text-heavy slides can support ELLs (and everybody else) when posted on Google Classroom so students can view them if they are absent.

Breakout Rooms Rule!

IF:

- Leadership Teams
- Three or more
- Students choose them if work outside of class is expected
- You choose them if all work is during class time
- Include tasks for students to get to know others
- Consider having joint teacher & student selected groups that stay together for a month to do in-class work

Interactivity Every Three Minutes (if not in Breakout rooms)

Chat box questions

<https://whiteboard.fi/>

Zoom reactions (Chromebooks might not allow them all, though)

Thumbs

Interact with text with annotation, drawing (Padlet), share reading strategies on same text

Online exercise/activity

Scaffolds

Sentence starters

Writing Frames

Writing Structures

Step-by-Step Instructions to complete an assignment

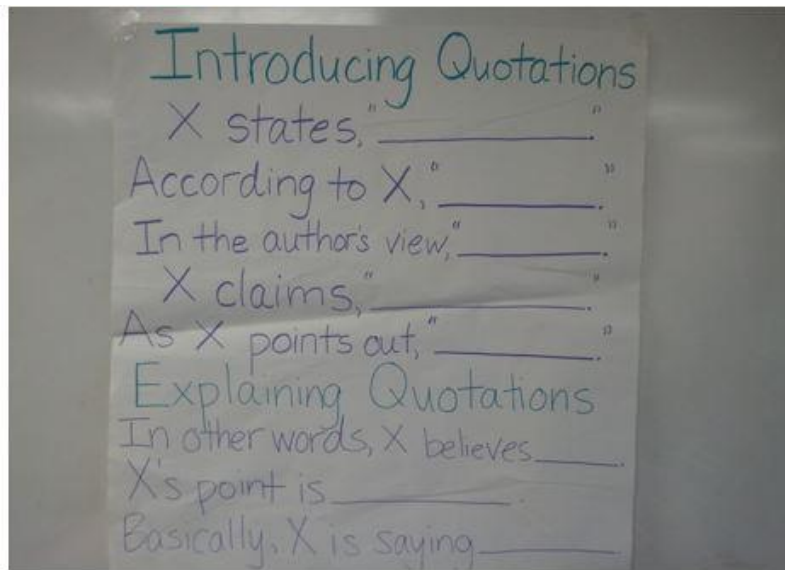
Sentence Starters

I agree/disagree because _____.

I believe the author is saying _____

Is it your position that _____

I'm not sure, but I think that _____



Writing Frame

The Best Scaffolded Writing Frames For Students

Name _____
Date _____

Mexico Writing Prompt

What is the most interesting thing you learned about Mexico from the data set?

PLANNING TO WRITE

Use the ABC outline to answer the question:

ANSWER THE QUESTION:

_____ is the most interesting thing about Mexico.

BACK IT UP WITH EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT YOUR ANSWER:

The author said that _____

OR

The author said, " _____ "

It means _____

MAKE A COMMENT AND CONNECTION:

This would be interesting because _____

It reminds me of _____

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Put all your sentences together in one paragraph - be sure to indent!

Writing Frame

Essay outline:

They Say:

The video and the article shared several reasons why it is important to _____.

Three of them are _____

_____.

I say:

I think those three are important.

or

I think _____ and _____ are important but not _____.

Why I say It:

_____ is important because _____

_____. In class, I remember learning that _____.

I remember hearing about _____.

In my experience _____

It is important to _____. If I didn't _____ then _____.

_____.

<https://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/2016/12/01/the-best-scaffolded-writing-frames-for-students/>

Many downloadable writing frames at this link

Standardize Instructional Routines

Set routines for regular activities like:

Warm-ups

Jigsaws

“Gamify” Teaching & Learning

Quizizz <https://quizizz.com/>

Baamboozle <https://www.baamboozle.com/>

Options To Learn Key Lesson Points In Home Language

The Best Multilingual & Bilingual Sites For Math, Social Studies, & Science

<https://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/2008/10/03/the-best-multilingual-bilingual-sites-for-math-social-studies-science/>

The Best Places To Get The “Same” Text Written For Different “Levels”

<https://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/2014/11/16/the-best-places-to-get-the-same-text-written-for-different-levels/>

Differentiate Assignment Expectations

What is the MINIMUM needed to demonstrate understanding?

Incorporate Self-Paced Adaptive Sites For Outside (& Inside) Class Practice

Progress Principal

Quill <https://www.quill.org/>

No Red Ink <https://www.noredink.com/>

Scootpad <https://www.scootpad.com/>

Breakout Rooms

1. What is one thing you do now that appears to be effective in supporting ELLs in your distance learning class?
2. What is one additional thing we have discussed so far during this professional development session that you might be able to do?

Create A Weekly Meeting Time For ELLs

Ideally, near beginning of week to let them know what is going to be happening.

When Showing Videos....

Use FluentKey (<https://fluentkey.com/>)

OR, at least, use that strategy of very short clips followed by questions.

Wait Time

Use think/write/pair share - or share in larger breakout rooms - A LOT

BONUS: How to support ELLs who were absent...

In addition to posting slideshows.....

Have Everyone Prepare Short Summaries of What Was Learned In Class That Day (or in Previous Class) - Can provide Writing Frames, Co-Construct

Retrieval Practice Helps Everybody

Make the best public for people who were absent to review

ALSO: Find materials in students' home languages

For more information:

<https://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/2020/11/21/six-actions-i-take-to-make-small-groups-work-in-my-virtual-classes/>

That post also contains links to a six-part series on supporting ELLs in Distance Learning

ADDENDUM - I'm Worried

About ELLs

And

About Everybody Else

Concerns

More F's

Attendance trending downward

Assignment Completion trending downward

Student mental health trending downward

Student ratings about how they're feeling about school trending downward

What I'm Planning To Do About It

See

<https://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/2020/12/05/im-worried-about-my-students-very-worried-and-here-is-what-im-planning-to-do-about-it/>

1. Individual Meetings
2. Members of Leadership teams mentor individuals
3. All Group work during class
4. Increase use of games
5. Track down the “disappeared”