

ESOL Teaching Techniques

TECHNIQUES	WHY
1. Use high interest activities.	Motivates
2. Relate activities to students.	Puts the ME into the Meaning of the class
3. Use a multi-sensory approach to teaching.	Hits the various learning modalities
4. Teach vocabulary contextually.	Relates words and meanings to concepts
5. Use real visuals and demonstrations to explain vocabulary.	Creates “memory anchors” for students to recall the meaning of words
6. Use an experiential approach to teaching.	Experiences create a context for both cognitive and linguistic growth.
7. Use an inquiry approach to teaching.	Inquiry approaches stimulate critical thinking skills.
8. Use a direct instructional approach.	The teacher models thinking process for students: helps students build thinking strategies.
9. Develop cooperative learning strategies.	Pairing or grouping allows more students to talk creatively on topics related to content.
10. Use Whole Language Approaches.	Whole Language allows students to participate in the decision-making process of the language they wish to learn.
11. Use the Language Experience Approach (LEA) to teach reading.	Builds on students’ available repertoire to develop reading skills
12. Incorporate journal writing.	Allows for individualized written expression
13. Evaluate student progress creatively using interviews, projects, checklists, multiple choice, and fill in the blank with word banks.	Creative evaluation allows students to demonstrate cognitive learning when English language acquisition has lagged behind content knowledge.
14. Relax the students with games, music, and fun activities.	Fun and laughter lowers the affective filter so students are more receptive to learning.