

What is Language Teaching and Learning?

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Relationship between Language Learning and Literacy

In all facets of life, learners are engaged in literate behaviours. Current understandings of literacy suggest that learners have multiple literacy communities and that each community has particular ways of thinking, doing, and using text. Learners need to be flexible in their literacy learning in order to be active participants in a variety of communities both in school and in other places in their life. In all disciplines or fields of study, learners should be engaged in literacy learning specific to each discipline.

In the anglais curriculum "texts" refer to the variety of resources that we use to make meaning. These include oral, visual, print, digital texts and the various combinations of these. For example, a news video could have oral, visual, and print components simultaneously. Many different objects are imbued with meaning and used for different purposes depending on how people create or attend to them.

Guiding Principles

How anglais is represented in curriculum and enacted in classrooms is anchored by guiding principles. Educators are called upon to interpret and live out curriculum through these principles and reflect on implications for their planning.

Guiding Principles for Anglais

- Language and literacy are central to all learning.
- Language and literacy are context dependent.
- Language and literacy learning is complex, continuous and recursive.
- Language and literacy develop differently for each individual.
- Language and literacy learning and use are social.
- Language and literacy demands are evolving.
- Language and literacies are enacted through inextricably connected practices.
- Language and literacy experiences inform and influence our developing sense of self.

What Anglais Teaching, Learning and Assessment Is

Powerful planning for language teaching, learning and assessment is anchored in research-based practice that describes what is and is not effective. As educators, we are all on a continuum of learning, constantly evolving our teaching practices. Through deep, ongoing professional learning, inquiry, and reflective practice with the new curriculum, and through powerful teaching, learning, and assessment practices, teachers can help all learners develop and deepen their proficiency and confidence as language users.

What Anglais Teaching, Learning and Assessment is in a Minority Language Context

- appreciating children as active learners and accepting them as competent co-learners who can socially and culturally construct knowledge with adults
- helping children actively seek to understand the world around them and to learn about life and language
- using visual, multimedia, oral, and written communication competently, appropriately, and effectively for a range of purposes
- recognizing the central role of language in communicating, thinking, and learning
- setting meaningful and relevant contexts for teaching and learning including connections to learners' experiences, knowledge, and personal and cultural identity
- helping learners know/co-construct what and why they are learning and doing something (e.g., big ideas, anglais practices, essential or inquiry questions, points of progression and learning goals, exemplars)
- teaching and learning for “deep understanding” (including using questions for deeper understanding as a focus)
- making meaning of ideas or information received (when viewing, listening, and reading)
- creating meaning for themselves and others (when speaking, writing, and using other forms of representing)
- accessing, using, drawing upon a variety of strategies depending upon the task and purpose and having metacognitive conversations internally and with others
- engaging in inquiry learning
- reflecting on own learning and literacy
- Leveraging strategies and skills developed in the Français course to plan learning experiences.

Language is central to all learning. Anglais learners become flexible, reflective, and critical thinkers who are able to interact with complex ideas about themselves, the world, and society. Language arts encourage creativity and imagination. Anglais is a discipline or field of study in itself, while also acting as a support for literacy learning. This enables each student to increase the complexity and sophistication in the ways that they make sense of language, understand language as a system, use language to explore and design, while being aware of the power of language. Through comprehending, communicating, and critical thinking learners develop and deepen competency in using language to meet personal and academic goals.