

Teaching Bilingual Learners Module 1 Unit 1

Part 1 - Key Questions

The key questions in the syllabus encourage the candidates to explore the Learning Outcomes in depth, within their written evidence. Let's look at one example.

Key Question (from LOB)

- Which teaching strategies help the learning of both content and language?
- What are the underlying principles and concepts of learning and teaching that can be related to the teaching strategies you have identified?

Questions for you to consider:

1. What key elements should your candidates be including in their answers?
2. How will you guide them?

Part 2 - Extract from example portfolio, Evidence of Learning

CLIL is considered to be a flexible approach, promoting linguistic competence and stimulating cognitive flexibility which develops students' cognition and has an impact on the way they think. In bilingual education it can be a useful tool for promoting understanding, always depending on how much cultural content is included in the teaching practice and how many opportunities students have of developing those linguistic competences.

It's more motivating for students to learn about content than about language in isolation. But we should bear in mind that language cannot be neglected, considering that my students are taking language exams at the end of term.

We need to take into account that successful language learning can be achieved when students have the opportunity to receive instruction, and at the same time experience real-life situations in which they can acquire the language more naturally.

CLIL is a dual-focused teaching and learning approach in which an additional language or two are used for promoting both content and language acquisition to pre-defined levels. I believe this approach's principles are probably the most useful to be implemented in the bilingual school, considering: fostering my students autonomy, promoting a positive interdependence, as well as taking into account content, language and learning skills outcomes"

Questions:

3. Does this answer cover any of the key questions in the syllabus (Learning Outcomes A-D)?
4. What feedback would you give this candidate?

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