

Transcript in English

Video: Speaking Learning Strategies

Speaking learning strategies: Speaking is a very important way of communication. It is probably one of the most challenging skills at a certain stage in your learning process, but there are ways to help you out. One of them is using the different speaking strategies suggested in this video.

There are different speaking tasks that you will be working with through your learning process, such as interviews, reports, discussions, conversations, debates and so on.

There are several types of strategies: memory, cognitive, compensation, metacognitive, affective and social strategies.

1. Concerning **memory strategies**:

- ✓ It is important to practice new words in context, using them in different sentences so when you speak you have a better idea of what they mean.
- ✓ Listen to different well-known rhymes, memorize them, and repeat them.
- ✓ Go over new words and phrases learned in a day, in a week, and in a month.

2. Regarding **cognitive strategies**:

- ✓ Listen carefully and repeat meaningful words or phrases to yourself, so you can memorize how the word is pronounced.
- ✓ Use formulas like “Hello. How are you?” to repeat and/or rehearse.
- ✓ Use pattern such as “It’s time to...” to fill out with new expressions. They enhance your comprehension.
- ✓ Try participating in real situations so you can apply the new language in a more natural way.
- ✓ Use general rules you are familiar with and apply them to the new target language situations.
- ✓ Compare vocabulary and grammar elements of the new language with your own language to determine similarities and differences.
- ✓ Use translation only when required for understanding or interpreting meaning.
- ✓ Apply your previous knowledge to facilitate new knowledge in the target language.

3. About **compensation strategies**:

- ✓ Use a native language for an expression without translating it as in “I love that mujer”.
- ✓ If you can't remember a word, ask someone to provide it.
- ✓ If you can't remember a word, try to use other words to express its meaning.
- ✓ Use body language when you don't remember the words or definition.
- ✓ Get the meaning by describing the concept or use synonyms. For example, a description for “toothbrush” could be “what you use to brush your teeth with”.
- ✓ When you don't remember how to express something, make it simpler, less precise or say it slightly different.

4. Regarding **metacognitive strategies**:

- ✓ Deciding events to pay attention to a language learning task and to ignore distractions.
- ✓ Take a prudent time before you speak until your comprehension skills are better developed.
- ✓ Evaluate your own progress. Compare your present production with the one rear six months ago.
- ✓ Organize your schedule. Choose a place where to study. Set a specific time when possible.
- ✓ Plan in advance your language tasks. It includes four steps. Describe your task or situation, determine its requirements, check your own linguistic resources and decide additional language elements that you might need for the task.

5. Concerning **affective strategies**:

- ✓ Alternate tensing and relaxing your muscles, breathe deeply and meditate by focusing on a mental image or sound.
- ✓ Listen to certain music, such as a classical concert as a way to relax and use music in the source language to develop auditive and aural skills.
- ✓ Use laughter to relax, watch funny movies, read humorous books, listen to jokes and laugh at yourself.
- ✓ Talk with another person to discover and express feelings about language learning.
- ✓ Pay attention to signals given by the body. The signals may be negative, reflecting stress, tension, worry, fear, and anger or they may be positive indicating happiness, interest, calmness and pleasure.
- ✓ Recognize your achievements. Give yourself a reward.

6. Last, but not least, **social strategies**:

- ✓ Observe, imitate, and act out if possible people's roles in order to familiarize with intonation, intention, and pronunciation.
- ✓ Work with other language learners or with native speakers or other proficient users of the new language to improve language skills.
- ✓ Ask someone for correction in a conversation.
- ✓ Ask the speaker to repeat, paraphrase, explain, slow down or give examples.
- ✓ Try to sympathize with another person through learning about the culture.