8 Traits for an Multilingual Learner (ML) Supportive Lesson

Trait	Description	Strategies/Supports
Activity Before Content (ABC)	Strategically placing experiential learning ahead of the presentation of new information, concepts or language points. Helps build a context for what is being taught.	 Cooperative grouping Hands-on experience Visual supports
Making Connections	Build and/or connect to students' prior knowledge in order to motivate and engage them in new learning. This can be through personal, cultural or academic connections	 Knowing your students Anecdotals Turn and Talk Allow for multiple entry points
Mindful of Teacher Input (comprehension)	What we say and how we say it will impact what students will be able to do (Comprehensible Input). Appropriate age/grade level content should not be modified (what), rather the manner in which it is presented should be adjusted as needed (how).	 Modeling-show and tell Clear/Concise Examples Chunking Visuals Reduction of Idiomatic expressions Paraphrasing often Monitor pacing Translation Scaffolds Differentiated Questions-Tiered Questions
Appropriate Expectations for Student Output (production)	Expectations should be challenging yet realistic based on the students' proficiency level. Refer to Proficiency Levels Chart. Consider how supports can enhance student production at the various levels.	 Group v. Individual Graphic Organizers TPR-Kinesthetic Differentiation Prompts Sentence Starters Roles Increased wait time Use of L1 Provide Question in advance

		Say Something about
Addresses a Language Objective	Consider how language is being used to achieve your goals of the lesson. What language is essential in the moment? (may not just be vocabulary)	 P.I.E Purposeful, Intentional, Explicit* Charts Direct Instruction/Examples
Link the Learning	Demonstrate how the language and concepts addressed in the lesson are relevant to real-life, other content areas or a larger context. This makes the learning authentic and meaningful. It will also provide a place for students to apply the new knowledge.	 Curriculum Mapping Current Events Anecdotal Discussion Application
Repetition and Reinforcement	Be sure to include multiple exposures to the key concepts and language throughout the lesson. A minimum of 3 points is suggested.	Preview/View/ReviewParaphrasing
Ample Practice	If students do not immediately use new concepts and language points independently, they may not retain them. Be sure there is time for students to try out and get feedback on their learning.	 Monitor Teacher Talk v. Student Talk Collaborative groups Numbered Heads Gallery Walk Novel Ideas Gradual Release of Responsibility

^{*}Flynn, K., & Hill, J. (2007) Providing a Direction for Learning. *Language Magazine*, November, pp.28-32.