

JENSEN'S TEACHING PRINCIPLES

1. Be as **learner-centered** as possible; empower learners. Make them responsible for their own learning by giving them choices where possible and having them evaluate their own learning.
2. Provide **input at just beyond the learners' level (i+1), that is meaning bearing in Spanish** wherever possible. Teaching other subjects by means of the Spanish is an excellent way to reinforce learning and to provide a real context.
3. Maintain a **low affective filter**. A great way to do this is by pair work (also an excellent way to keep learners active). Your attitude sets the tone for the class. Don't make learning punitive. Never humiliate a student, no matter what they've done - the whole class is affected.
4. Have **high expectations** of your students and yourself; both of you perform exactly how you expect.
5. **Challenge learners** at all times. If they are off task, it is likely their intelligence is being insulted by low expectations or that the activity is not content-based.
6. **Learners are not in control when they are off task and have no respect for the teacher or each other - no one is.**
7. **Assess the way you teach**. It doesn't always have to be formal, but students lose motivation when what they do is not assessed.
8. **Make parents and other teachers allies** in the learning experience. They may not understand or agree with your methods, so help them understand. Encourage parental involvement.
9. Be a little **crazy** - besides lowering the affective filter, it can be extremely motivating.
10. **Know your students**. Adapt to each group. No two students are alike, and even the same student is different in a different class. Do not be shocked and dismayed when something one class loves just doesn't work with another.