# Learning through Languages

in the classroom

# Plurilingualism

The ability of a person who has competence in more than one language to switch between them when necessary for ease of communication and learning. It is the interconnected knowledge of multiple languages.

It takes an individual person as the point of departure.

https://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au/english/english-as-an-additional-language-eal/introduction/rationale-and-aims

## Los Reyes Católicos: La Unidad Dinástica

Isabel I de Castilla (1451-1504) y Fernando II de Aragón (1452 -1516)



### El mapa de España en los tiempos de los Reyes Católicos en el siglo VI

## El mapa de España en 2022





# Collingwood English Language School

- Intensive English language school for new arrival program.
- 3 campuses in the northern metropolitan.
- Majority of students from refugee backgrounds with disrupted schooling.
- Mixed of 3-5 languages and dialects in any classroom with varying literacy levels in HLs.
- English language literacy levels range from BL.1- B2.2
- Average stay between 1 term for equivalent schooling to 4 terms for disrupted low literacy levels students.
- Most classes have access to language support from multicultural education aides who speak students languages.

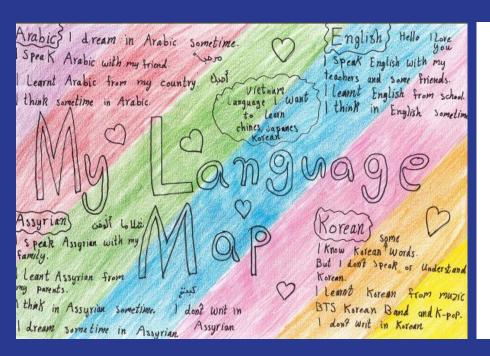
# Collingwood English Language School

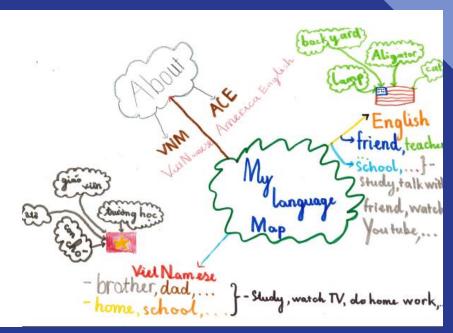
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## Plurilingual strategies used in the classroom:

- Acknowledge and document the HLs of our students in the classroom.
- Celebrate the diverse languages that we know. Knowing >1 Lg= SUPERPOWER!
- Developing an understanding of how students use each of their languages (Language/Body Maps)
- Translating words into HLs (oral or written). Use of dictionaries and MEAs.
   Multilingual word wall.
- Using HLs while doing an exercise. Task in pairs or group work (with purpose)
- Using English and shared HLs when giving a presentation.
- It's OK to include words or language chunks of HLs in English conversations.
- Accessing information online in HLs and sharing it in English and/or HLs.
- Cross linguistic analysis.

# Language Maps



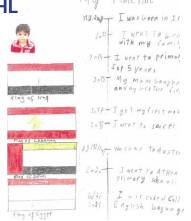


## Writing Strategies using HLs



### **Expressing thoughts in HL**

الباع مملمهمد ملاتي مي ماتي مي ماتي مي الدي يلهمي في ماتي مي ماتي مي معاتي مي معاتي مي معاتي مي معنوياتي للتعلم ، والعمل الصديب. تعلمت من أمير أن أقول لننسي: " أن أمنطيع أن أنعل مذا"، أنا أيو لنفي أن أمول المناسية أنا أبيد أنصاً أن أحمد ن شخصا علهما للجميع أبا أبيد أن يتكر الناس مني بأنش شخص



# Mind maps or visual in mixed languages

#### My Life Now

#### My Inspiration.

The person who inspires me is my mum. She is an inspiration to me because she encourages me to learn and work hard. I learned from my mum that I can say to myself: "You can do it!". Don't say to myself: "You can't do it!". I also want to be an inspirational person. I want people to think about me as being smart and sporty.

#### My Strengths

I am good at reading and writing in Arabic and I know how to read and write in English. I also know some Assyriann and French. I am proud that I know many languages.

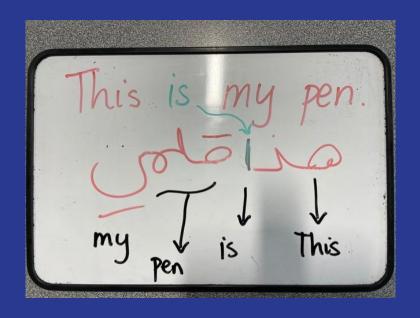
I am good at playing instruments and making my own music with the guitar I like to play with friends. I am also good at sports and soccer. I like basketball and AFL.

I learn best when I see teachers show me how to do something. I like to repeat after the teachers again and again. I like working in a group where I talk about my ideas.

### Final product in English

Language body mapping

# Plurilingual strategies in the classroom



Cross linguistic analysis at sentence level using functional grammar



Multilingual word wall

## **Teacher Model**

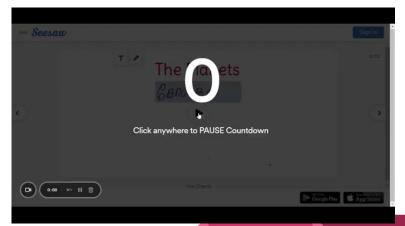
There are 8 planets in the solar system.

Hay 8 planetas en el sistema solar.

Υπάρχουν 8 πλανήτες στο ηλιακό μας σύστημα.



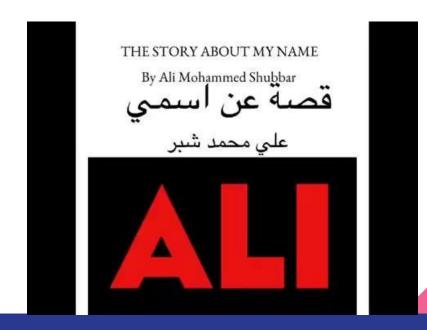
# Student Example using Seesaw



## Final product: Multimodal and multilingual text

Example of students multilingual multimodal texts from Book Creator.

The Story About My Name by Ali Shubbar:



# Key Learnings-P/L very effective in:

- Activating students prior knowledge through the use of home languages (HLs).
- Developing and leverage students' communication repertoire for learning
- Developing cultural awareness and intercultural skills among students.
- Developing students metacognitive and metalinguistic abilities in both HLs and English.
- Promote students' creativity and human connection by integrating digital technologies into learning.
- Prompting students' voice and agency: build self esteem and strengthen their cultural and linguistic identities. Enriching experience for all including teachers and MEAs.
- Increasing parental involvement.

## The Impacts of P/L (students feedback)

#### Support Learning:

'When I speak in Arabic to my friends they explain it better and I understand better.'

'I can say more of what I already know in my head.'

'I feel more comfortable and understand people more."

#### Agency:

I now know how to use dictionaries to help me to write. If I don't know how to say something in English, I can say in my head in my language first and try to use friends or the dictionary to translate.

#### **Increased parental involvement:**

- 'My mum said that she is learning new words from me when she reads my writing.'
- 'I told my mum what I want to say and we wrote this together (my mum and I)'

## Identities

I like it when I share what I know in Arabic with my teacher, this help me to understand my language more

I feel so proud that I can speak 3 languages.

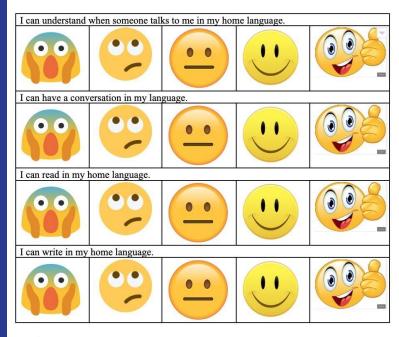
I like learning and writing in Arabic from my parents. They like reading my story'

# Preston North East Primary School

#### The learners:

- 3 groups Grade 3/4
- 7 home languages
- Different levels of competence in English
- Different levels of competence in home language
- Some multiple other languages

#### Name:

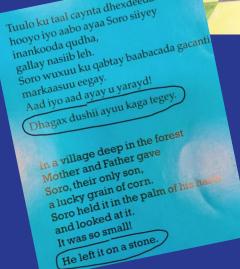


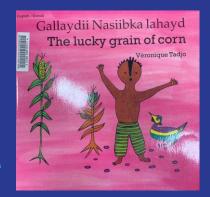
Other comments:

### Start small

- Bilingual texts from LMERC
- Different languages in different lessons
- Not all students in group spoke text language
- Phrases and sentences

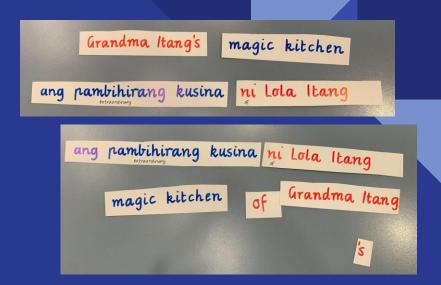




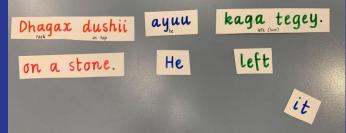


- Introduce functional grammar
- Compare order
- Notice other features
- Cut and move



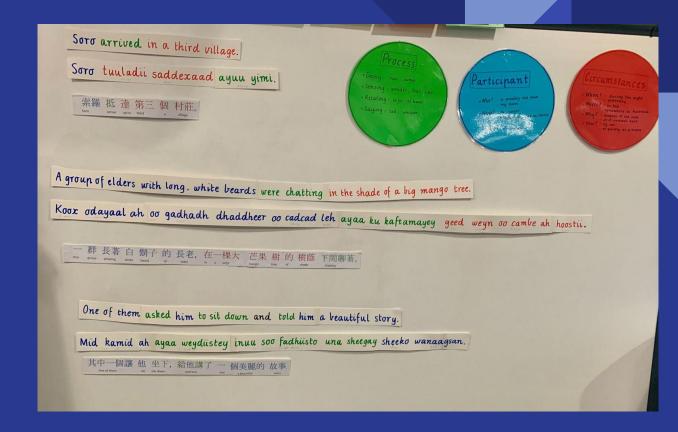






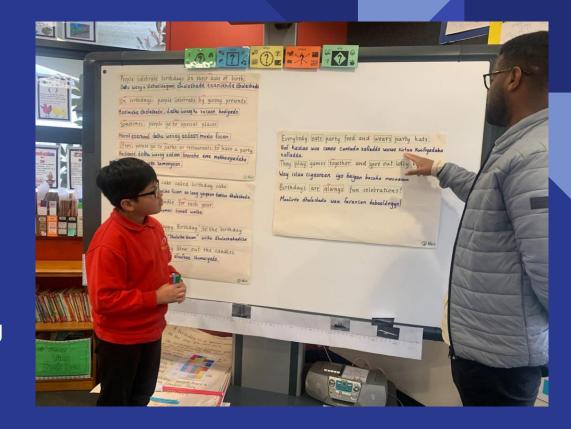
# Building on understandings

- Longer text
- Multiple languages
- Focus on investigation and comparison





- Translated texts
   (Arabic, Somali, Vietnamese)
- Modelling and practice of
  - colouring text
  - using metalanguage
  - questioning, noticing, wondering, hypothesising





**Independent writing** 

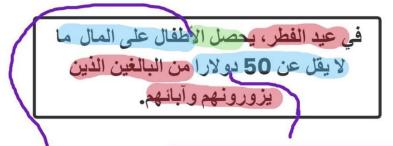
Translate using Google translate

## LOCKDOWN!



- Experts at home check translation and functional grammar
- Seesaw for colouring texts and annotating

On Eid al Fitr, children get money - at least 50 dollars from the adults they visit and their parents.



i noticed that get comes befor the word it is like get chilldren money in English i noticed that dollars in arrabic souds the same



## **Book Creator**

- Photos
- Drawing
- Text
- Sound











中国新年



**Teacher control** 

Grammatical correctness

Accuracy

Writing = speaking

**Product** 

## My reflections...





Teacher as co-learner

Students as experts

Using full linguistic repertoire

Engaging with & reflecting on languages

Developing the tools to explore and talk about languages for lifelong learning

In Telugu, the order is different. In English we say, "I went to a party", but in Telugu we say, "I party went to".

- Sai

In Vietnamese, sometimes you don't need a word when you do in English, or it just doesn't exist, for example in English we say "On birthdays..." but in Vietnamese we just say "Birthdays..." - Andrew

Languages are not all the same. The participant, process and circumstances are in different places. The participants in Filipino are almost always in the same place as in English.

- Frixx

In Somali, the words are different and you put them in a different order. The participant goes in a different place sometimes. In Somali, the describing word is sometimes in a different place as well, but not always.

- Sadik

I was interested, because we say
"birthday person" in English, but in
Vietnamese it's the other way around.
Like "person birthday". I figured out in
Malayalam we say "birthday person" just
like English.

Aleesha

# Learning Through Languages Curriculum Resource

- Subheading under Plurilingual Awareness
  - DET EAL page
- Anticipated timeline for release
  - End of Term 4 2022
- Announcements and information
  - VicTESOL eBulletin

