

5 How can I get my students to accept CLIL?

Some students might initially be reluctant to using an additional language (AL) to learn content. They may feel that it will make their workload much heavier than it actually is. It is important to discuss with students the reasons for learning through CLIL, and to stress its benefits, such as the fact that it will open doors for work mobility in the future. Even if students do not move abroad to work, they will benefit from knowing an AL, especially specialist language relating to their work. Employers are more likely to employ people who have the added benefit of an additional language.

CLIL language learning develops organically. With time, students enrich their vocabulary and the targeted language becomes clearer. Students become more confident and can express themselves with greater ease despite mistakes (in grammar, syntax, spelling or pronunciation). Language learning 'success', in terms of CLIL, is demonstrated by communicative use of the AL.

Where possible, students should be encouraged to get in touch with students from other countries, to exchange ideas about the subject they are learning. It is relatively simple to set up an e-Twinning project with another class via www.etwinning.net.

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