

# Culturally Responsive Communicative Teaching

Applying Communicative Teaching  
Practices in a Culturally Inclusive Classroom

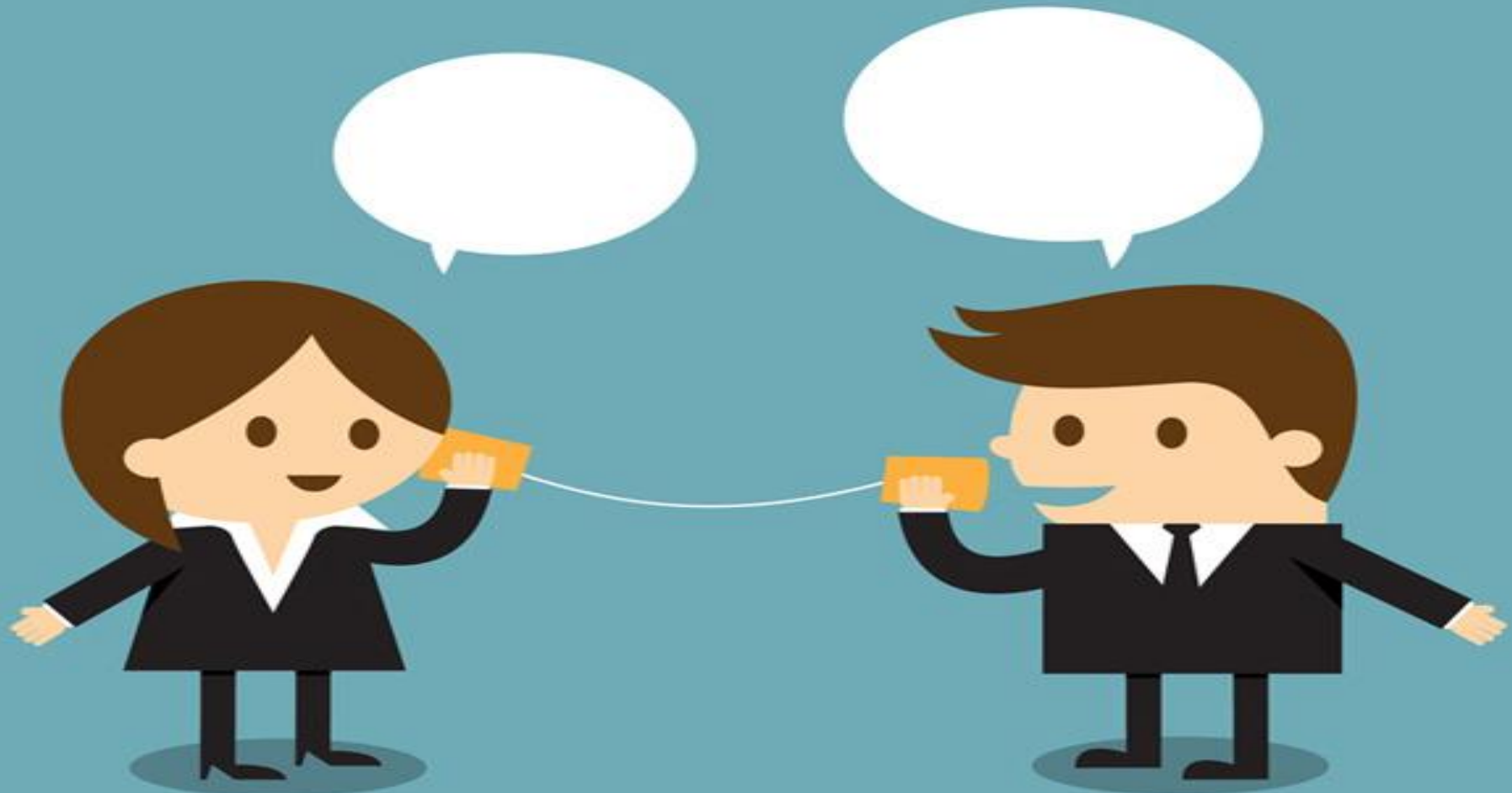
# Agenda

- Communicative Language Teaching: Merits and Problems
- Culturally Responsive Teaching: Definition and Characteristics
- Why Did I Choose Today's Topic?
- Benefits and Challenges of Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Navigating through Problems
- From Conventional to Communicative: Tips to Incorporate Communicative Teaching into a Culturally Responsive Classroom

# Where does the term come from?

- ▶ Culturally Responsive Communicative Teaching is an EFL teaching approach that was developed by Dr. Li Yin, to provide a teaching framework appropriate for Asian classrooms.

# Communicative Language Teaching



Meaning and fluency

Real-life situations

Scaffolding and  
assessment

Active learning  
practices

Communicative  
Language Teaching

Teacher as a  
facilitator

Errors as a proof of  
Learning

Student-centered

Authentic materials

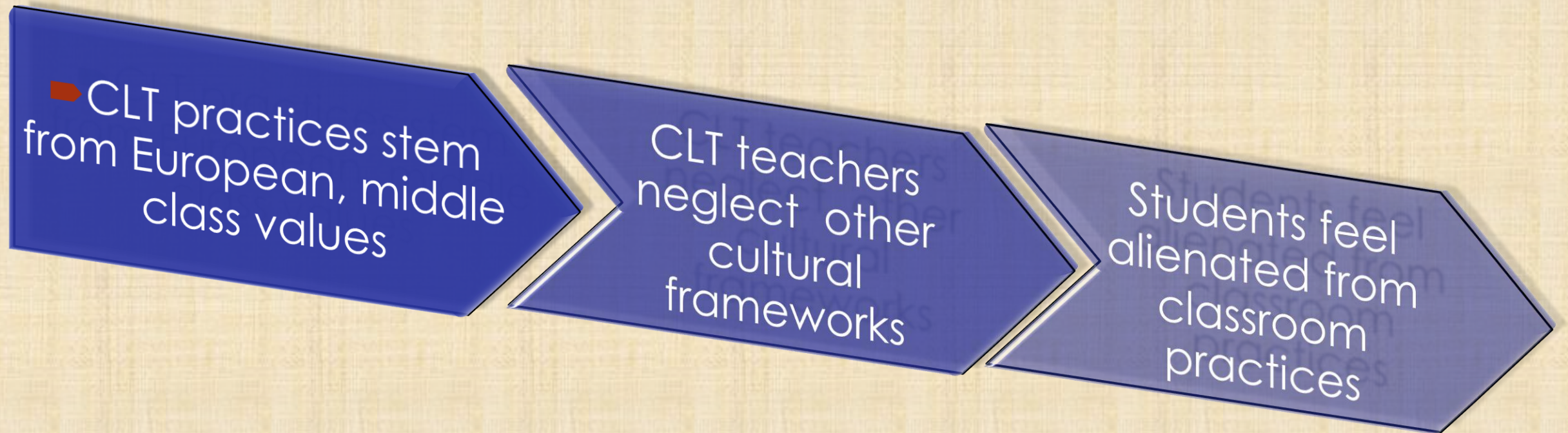
# Activity 1

- Do you incorporate communicative language teaching methods in your classroom?
- What strategies do you involve in your lesson?



**Sounds great, but is CLT  
enough?**

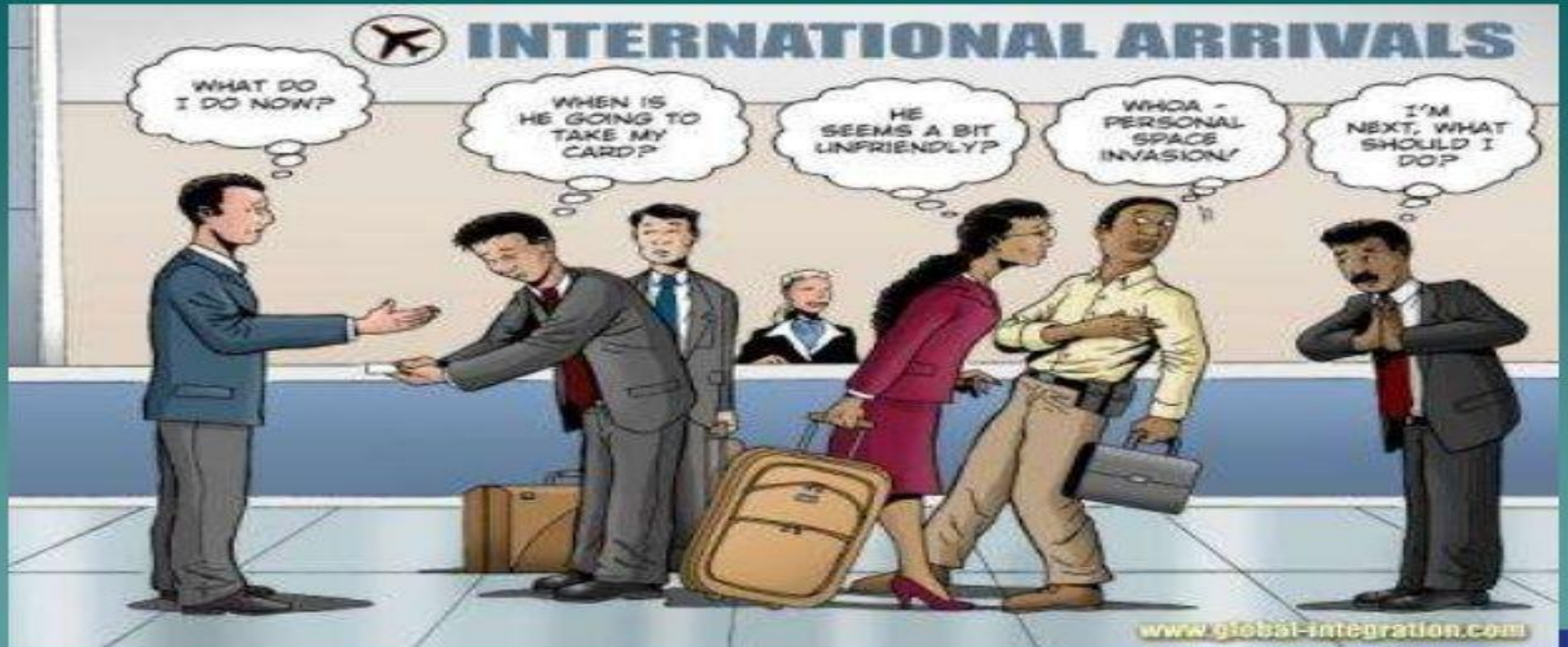
# Why is CLT not enough?





**That is not to say that CLT should be excluded; rather students' cultural values should shape its implementation**

# Examples of Cultural Differences



# Examples of Cultural Differences

In traditional societies, a teacher is an authority figure

A Teacher is the main source of knowledge

Focus is on memorization and developing exam-taking skills

Every mistake should be corrected

# Examples of Cultural Differences

Discussions are considered a waste of time

Community takes precedence over individuals.

Self-assertion values might be considered prideful and rude.

## Activity 2

- ➡ Have you been challenged by cultural differences in your classroom before? What was the situation and how did you handle it?

# Culturally Responsive Teaching

- ▶ “Culturally responsive teaching (CRT) can be defined as using the cultural knowledge, prior experiences, frames of reference, and performance styles of ethnically diverse students to make learning encounters more relevant to and effective for them. It teaches to and through the strengths of these students. It is culturally validating and affirming” (Gay, 2000, p. 29).



# Why did I choose this topic?

- My experience as an ESL student
- My experience as an ESL teacher
- My experience as an LVCA tutor

# Why Culturally Responsive Teaching?

1

It validates student's cultural heritage

2

Learners have the right to content that reflects their culture

3

Helps students acquire knowledge of self and others

4

Understanding students' culture is vital for understanding their behaviors

5

Empowers students and encourage risk-taking



# About Culturally Responsive Teaching (video)

# Activity 3

- What are the potential challenges of implementing CLT in your classroom?

# Challenges of Implementing CRT



# Challenges of Implementing CRT

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graph TD; A[Challenges of Implementing CRT] --- B[Reluctance to discuss social issues]; A --- C[Irrelevant content]; A --- D[Lack of training]; A --- E[Considering other cultures less valuable]; A --- F[Fear of being insensitive];
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Reluctance  
to discuss  
social issues

Irrelevant  
content

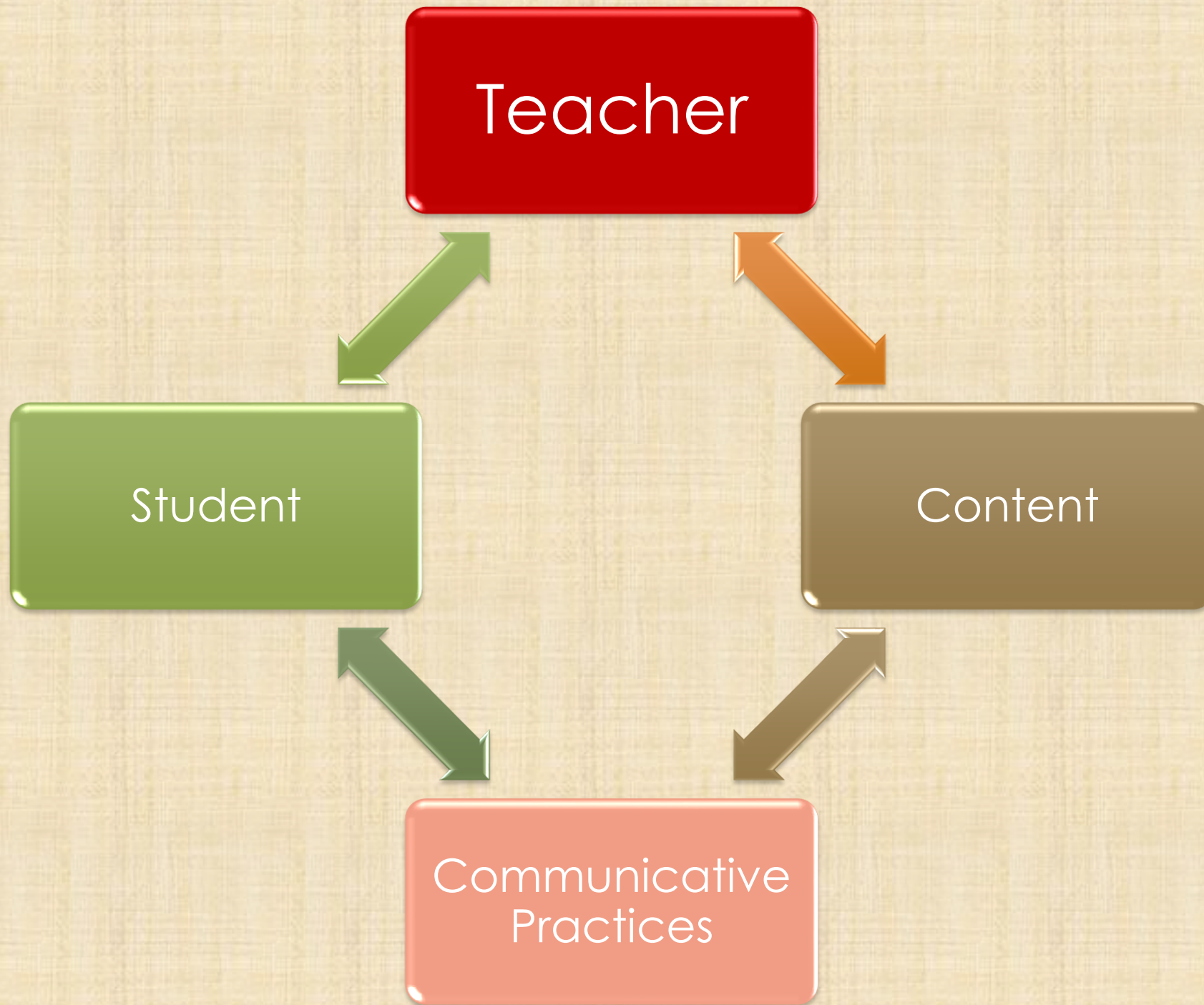
Lack of  
training

Considering  
other  
cultures less  
valuable

Fear of  
being  
insensitive

**How to navigate through these challenges ?**





# Teacher and Student: Building Rapport



Do research and ask your student questions about her culture

Discuss media representations and reflect on your stereotypes

Use student's culture in teaching language

Allow L1 and learn a thing or two about it

# Teacher and Student: Building Rapport



Learn about activities in social gatherings and try to join

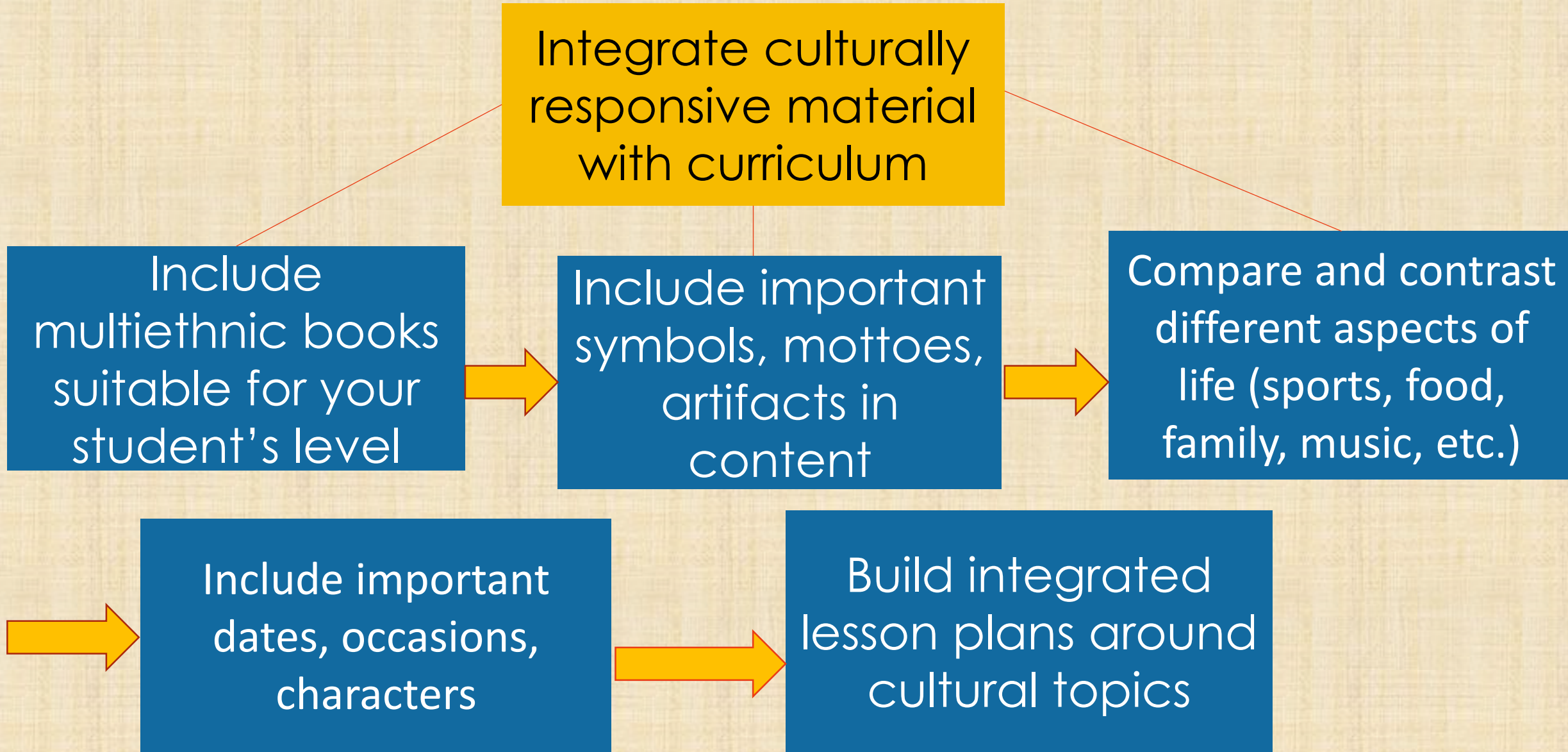
Know your student's immigration story

Ask your student to share good memories about his home

Set high expectations and develop self-esteem



# Teacher and Content



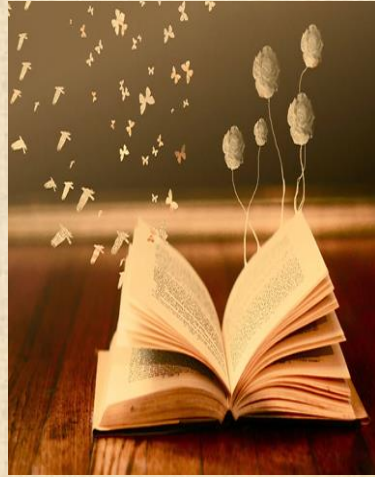
# Teacher and Communicative Practices

## Show and tell

- Let your student bring an artifact related to his home. Talk and write about it



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## Read a story

- Pre-teach, predict, skim discuss, sort, summarize

## Low-level Writing

- Use personal stories and photos as writing prompts
- Create postcards and travel brochures



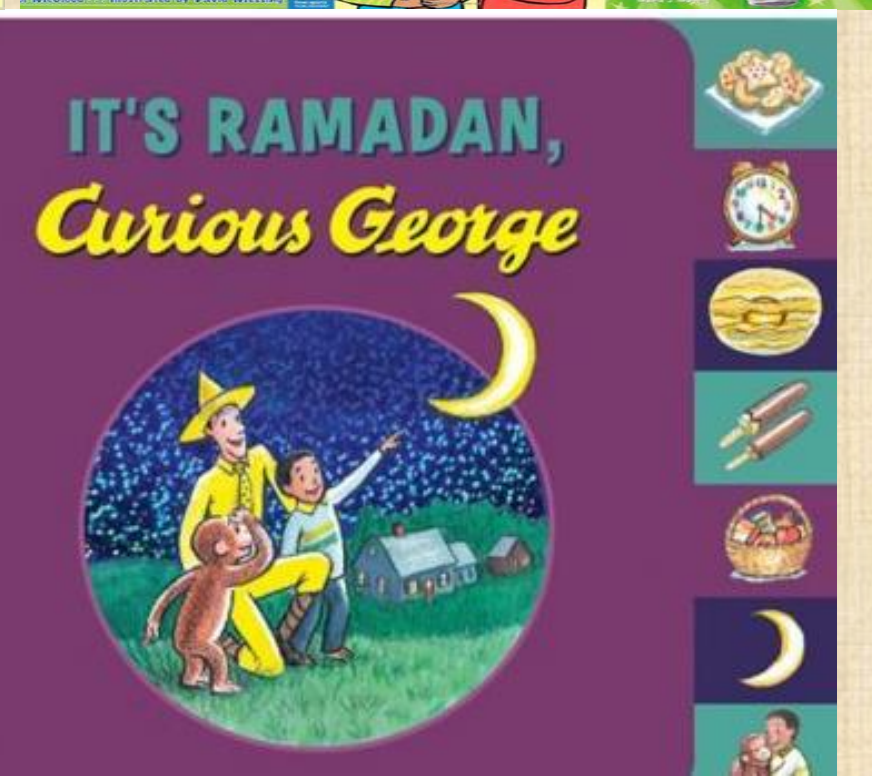
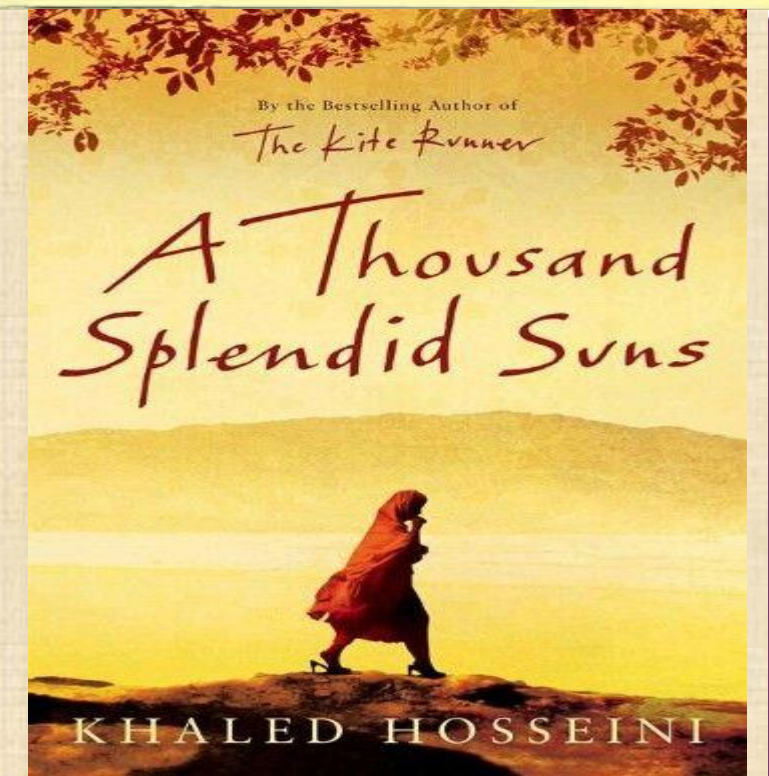
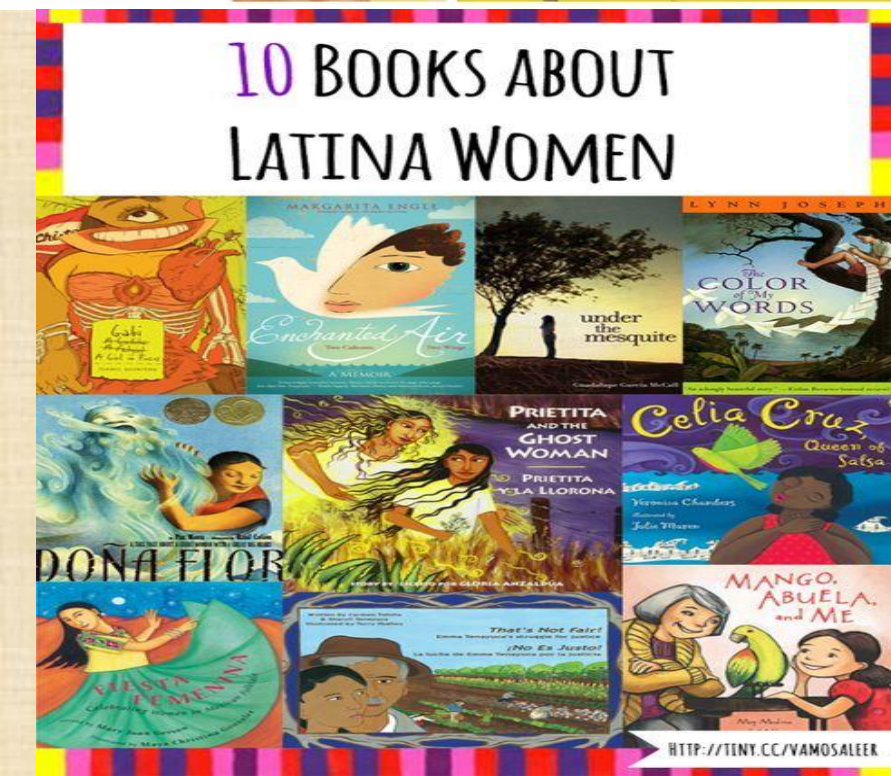
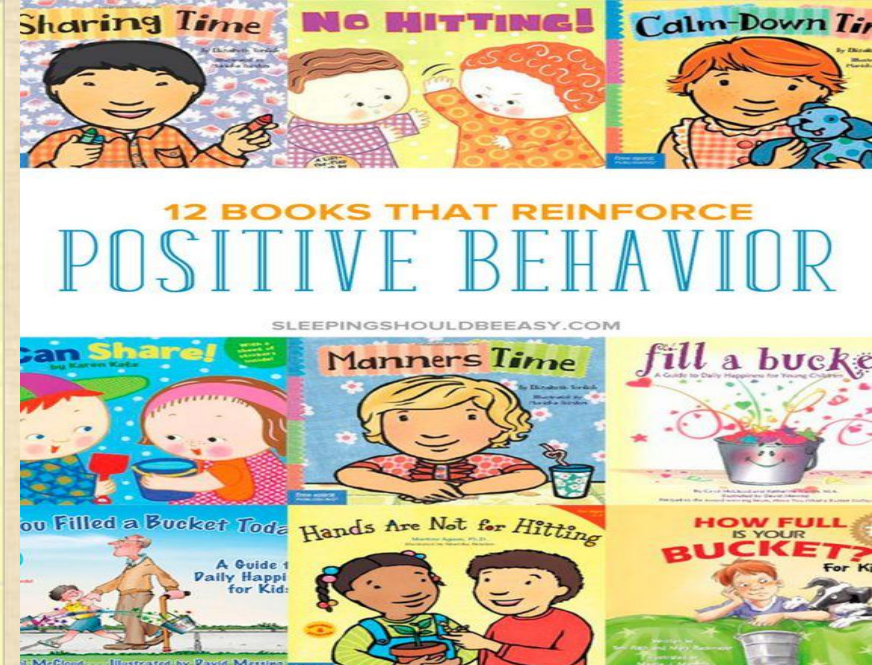
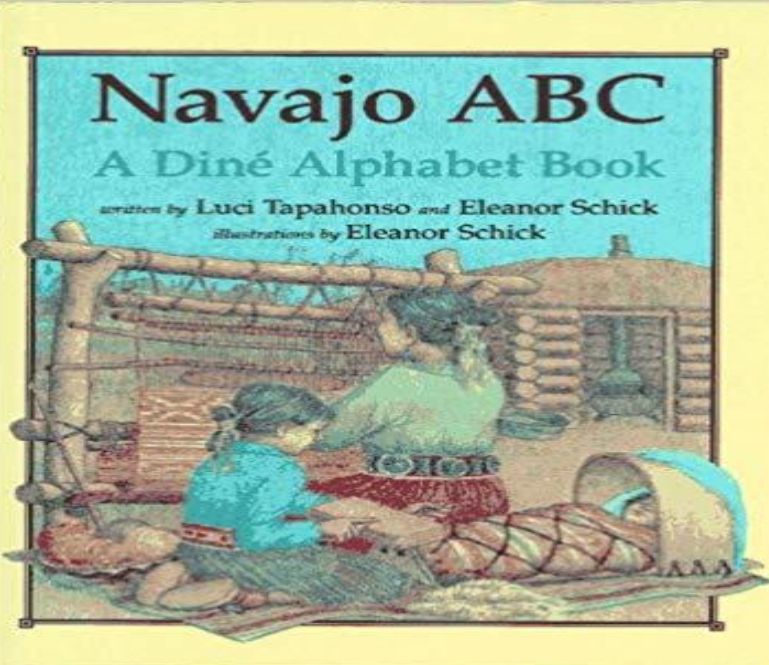
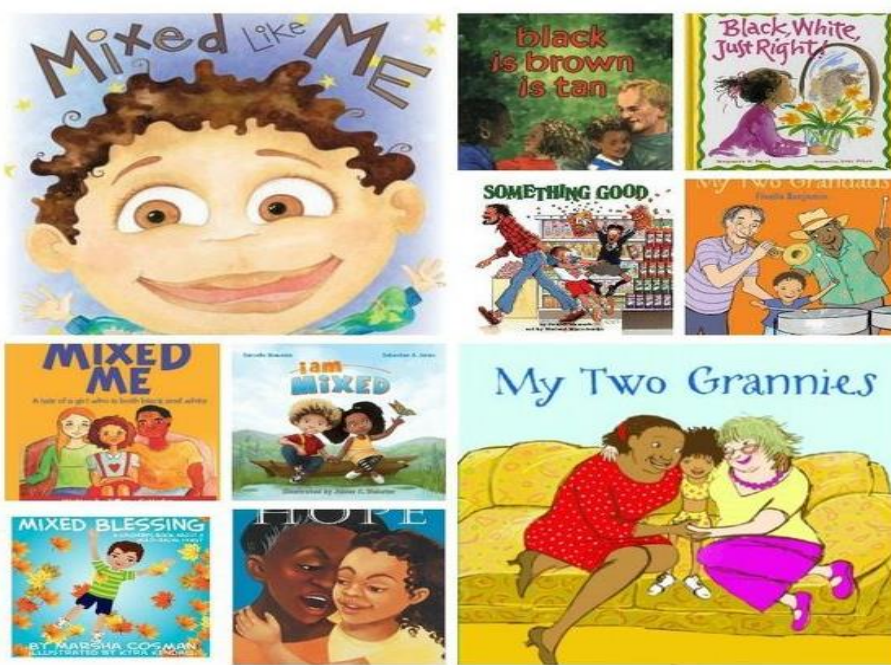
## Muted Video

- Show a muted video and let your student guess the topic. Listen, discuss, and write.

## High-level Writing

- High-level students can create journals to reflect on their experiences
- They can write in blogs and to newspapers

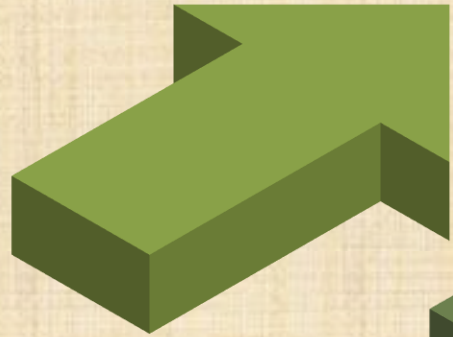




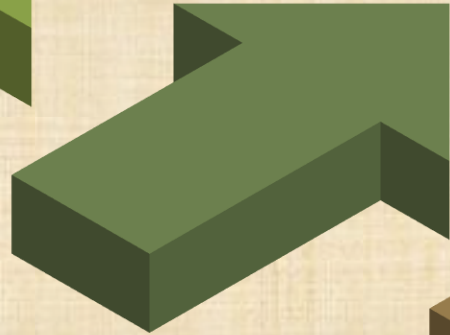
# From Conventional to Communicative

- Students need to be transitioned gradually from conventional methods to more communicative ones

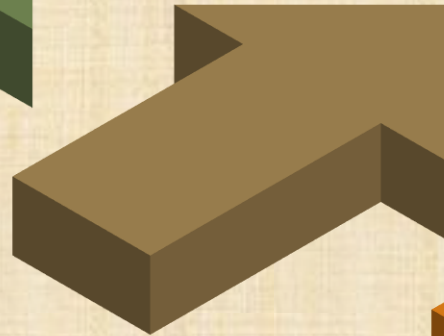
# Here are some tips



Set predictable patterns for activities and exercises

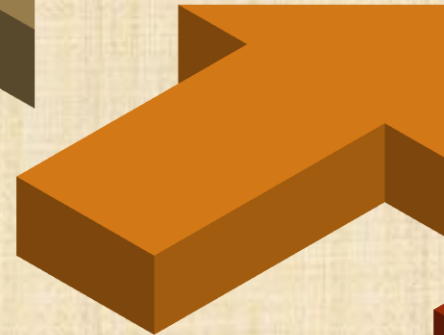


Set objectives at the beginning of the class

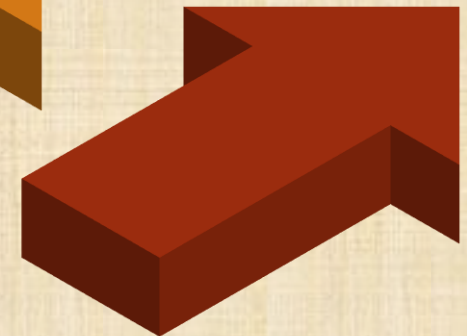


Provide instructions and check understanding

Provide active and regular error-correction



Link communicative activities with structured activities.



# Activity 4

- Which of these practices are you going to use in your tutoring sessions?
- What are other practices do your already use?

# Resources

- ▶ <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>
- ▶ <https://www.redcross.org.au/get-involved/learn/school-resources/refugee-experience-app>
- ▶ <https://mylifeasarefugee.org/>
- ▶ <http://www.reepworld.org/englishpractice/work/abdul/index.htm>
- ▶ <https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/how-choose-best-multicultural-books/>
- ▶ <https://www.tolerance.org/professional-development/culture-in-the-classroom>
- ▶ <https://en.islcollective.com/>
- ▶ <https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/communicative-approach>
- ▶ [http://www.cal.org/caela/esl\\_resources/Health/](http://www.cal.org/caela/esl_resources/Health/)
- ▶ <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1810/181026-migrant-caravan.html?fbclid=IwAR2UIOrG7cWEa0gTyrw0-dQLe0SovTL3hnNLm0qUTLff7dSX7XsYCqrDxvw>
- ▶ [https://eslholidaylessons.com/05/cinco-de-mayo.html?fbclid=IwAR22WxLT6qUsY6G1dBVY8kFMGJME0z5DAWSLMYtSTWfMv\\_Pzbxv-AwsyFc](https://eslholidaylessons.com/05/cinco-de-mayo.html?fbclid=IwAR22WxLT6qUsY6G1dBVY8kFMGJME0z5DAWSLMYtSTWfMv_Pzbxv-AwsyFc)

**Thank you for your attention!**

Any Questions or  
Comments?

