



Common Accommodations to Support Language Comprehension and Expression

Talk with individuals about how they learn best, and try to accommodate their needs.

Monitor student's progress and make decisions about whether to continue, provide more, or change the accommodation(s).

Make the objectives of each lesson clear to students.

Provide models of expected work/behavior and discuss with students the elements of success (e.g., work samples, role-playing).

Explain information, concepts, and instructions using simple, clear sentences.

Present vocabulary, information, and concepts using a variety of multisensory methods.

Write key vocabulary, information, and concepts on the board.

Provide plentiful structured opportunities for students to engage in oral discussion; make sure all students have an opportunity to ask questions, offer comments, and respond to others' comments.

Provide phonemic, semantic, and gestural cues to aid language recall.

Provide sentence starters to spur language production (e.g., "The main character's weaknesses include..." or "Two examples of anti-war protests were...").

Wait extra time for processing before requiring verbal or behavioral responses; wait extra time for students to read and process prior to requiring a verbal or written response.

Ask follow-up questions to help students elaborate on their responses and provide examples to support their points.

Summarize or rephrase students' oral responses to check clarity and accuracy.

Ask students to rephrase information, concepts, and instructions they've heard or read.

Respond to questions specifically, and use different words when clarifying.

Teach students to use a small selection of graphic organizers to aid their language organization.

Teach students to use writing templates or scaffolds to structure their expressive language.

Provide audio books.

Allow the use of a computer (and voice activated software) for assignments.

Assess knowledge and skills in a variety of ways to ensure students have plenty of opportunity to use their strengths (e.g., oral examinations vs. written tests; visual projects that demonstrate mastery of content vs. essays)

Offer plenty of specific supportive feedback on students' efforts.

Discuss with students their personal goals and plans to achieve those goals.