# **Literacy in Modern Foreign Languages**



## **Reading Aims:**

- Students are equipped with a range of coping strategies to understand new language. These could be:
  - Prior knowledge
  - Context
  - Cognates
  - Word families
  - Word classes
- To support students in understanding complex vocabulary that they encounter in their reading.
- To encourage students to read for pleasure in the target language.
- To ensure students are equipped with independent learning strategies to aid comprehension when reading texts of varying lengths and styles.

## **Strategies\*:**

## • To support understanding of exam questions:

- Encourage students to independently highlight the key words in the question.
- > Support students to annotate key words with definitions/synonyms to aid understanding.
- ➤ Teach students to use the structure of the sentence to help them to understand the meaning.

## • To aid comprehension of texts:

- > Utilise prediction tasks.
- > Activate prior knowledge.
- Use questioning (teacher-led or pupils generate their own questions about a text).
- ➤ Encourage pupils to identify areas of uncertainty and seek information for clarification.
- ➤ Utilise summary tasks.
- Teach students how to benefit from reading support given in a text (e.g. glossary, vocab book).
- Encourage reading for pleasure (in the target language) outside of lessons through homework or independent activities.
- > Teach students to skim and scan for relevant information.

## • To support students' understanding of complex vocabulary:

- Encourage independence with word-checking (using dictionaries and inferring the meaning of words through context).
- Use knowledge organisers (vocab books).
- ➤ Model identification of good evidence.
- Explicitly teach language/structure techniques.
- Encourage students to apply prior knowledge of context to the text.
- > Encourage students to explore the etymology and morphology of words.
- Use vocabulary games.
- > Use low stakes testing and spacing.

<sup>\*</sup> The list of strategies given is a selection of some of the strategies that are used throughout the department. Teachers are not obligated to use all strategies listed.

# Literacy in Modern Foreign Languages



## **Writing Aims:**

- Students are equipped with a range of independent strategies to construct their own answers. These could be:
  - Prior knowledge
  - Context
  - > Synonyms and antonyms
  - ➤ Planning strategies
- To equip students with strategies to reflect on and redraft their writing.
- To teach spelling, punctuation and grammar to enable students to write fluently.
- To support students in writing creatively, through teaching them to apply a range of familiar language and structures in new and different contexts.

## Strategies\*:

## • To support students in structuring their answers:

- ➤ Encourage students to independently highlight the key words in the question to aid in understanding and ensure relevance of response.
- ➤ Use of vocab books to provide accurate structures which can be adapted.
- Encouraging use of prior knowledge applied in new contexts.

## • To aid planning of answers:

- ➤ Model effective planning.
- > Encourage planning in the target language.

## • To support students in reflecting on their work:

- ➤ Encourage students to use checklists where appropriate (tick off bullet points at GCSE).
- ➤ Use of peer/self-assessment.
- > Create a culture where redrafting work is normal and encouraged.

## • To enable students to write fluently:

- > Teach subject-specific spellings and respond to common spelling errors, highlight sound spelling links with target language phonics.
- Mark answers for accuracy according to the mark scheme.
- Encourage accurate use of the target language through the use of full sentences and accurate grammar and punctuation.

## • To enable students to write creatively:

- > Teach a range of vocabulary and language structures.
- > Encourage students to vary their writing.
- ➤ Encourage students to plan answers to include what they know, not necessarily what is true for them.

<sup>\*</sup> The list of strategies given is a selection of some of the strategies that are used throughout the department. Teachers are not obligated to use all strategies listed.

# **Literacy in Modern Foreign Languages**



## **Spoken Language Aims:**

- To ensure students are equipped with the skills to communicate clearly in the target language.
- To ensure students have a range of strategies for understanding spoken language in the target language and coping strategies to communicate in a monolingual environment.
- To support students to communicate using full sentences and to use repair and rephrase strategies to increase accuracy.
- To teach students to speak in the target language with accurate pronunciation.
- To provide students with opportunities for structured and supported speaking tasks to develop their spoken language skills.

## Strategies\*:

#### 1) To support students in developing spoken language skills in the target language:

- Using high levels of target language in classroom input
- Model a range of vocabulary in teacher's own speech
- Explicitly teach new vocabulary and structures orally
- Explicitly teach coping strategies and help phrases
- Use of word banks and sentence builders
- Use of peer-assessment and frequent pair/group oral tasks

# 2) To support students in developing skills for understanding spoken language in the target language:

- Explicit teaching of strategies for listening comprehension tasks
- Pre-listening tasks before listening activities
- Encourage students to predict the language they will hear
- Use of subtitles (in target language) and transcripts to support listening

## 3) To support students to communicate in full sentences:

- Model full sentences and developed answers
- Use of sentence builders and speaking mats
- Encourage students to review and rephrase oral work

## 4) To teach students to speak in the target language with accurate pronunciation:

- Model correct pronunciation and intonation
- Correct inaccuracies in spoken target language
- Use authentic materials in lessons for extended listening to accurate sounds

# 5) To provide students with opportunities for structured and supported speaking tasks to develop their spoken language skills talk:

- Provide scaffolding using sentence builders and sentence starters
- Give wait time
- Speaking and listening tasks are in every MFL lesson.

<sup>\*</sup> The list of strategies given is a selection of some of the strategies that are used throughout the department. Teachers are not obligated to use all strategies listed.