



Visual Thinking Strategy

1. What is going on here?
2. What do you see that makes you say that?
3. What more can we find?



SAT. 28 & SUN. 29
SEPTEMBER 2019
MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

Promoting critical thinking in the ESL classroom

3 practical techniques to try in tomorrow's lesson

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Metacognition

Metalanguage

Visual Thinking Strategy

Theory of Knowledge

International
Baccalaureate





“The essence of being human is that one does not seek perfection.”

George Orwell



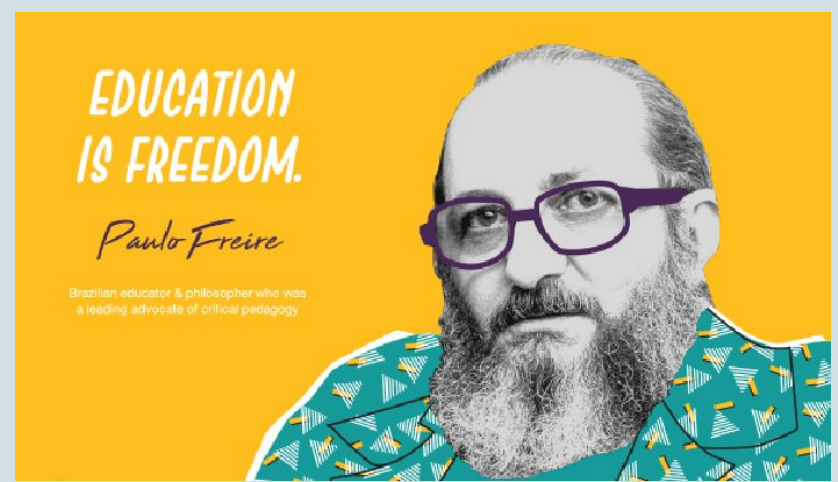
Metacognition
Metalanguage
VTS

Incorporate metacognition into classwork





Metacognition
Metalanguage
VTS



Critical thinking in ESL setting - literature review

“Teachers must listen to what students are saying and pose their students’ various issues....Neither teachers nor students should **not fear raising issues.**”

Graham Crooks and Al Lehner (1998)
TESOL Quarterly

“Teaching thinking to non-native speakers may be fraught with cultural problems.”

Dwight Atkinson (2012)
TESOL Quarterly

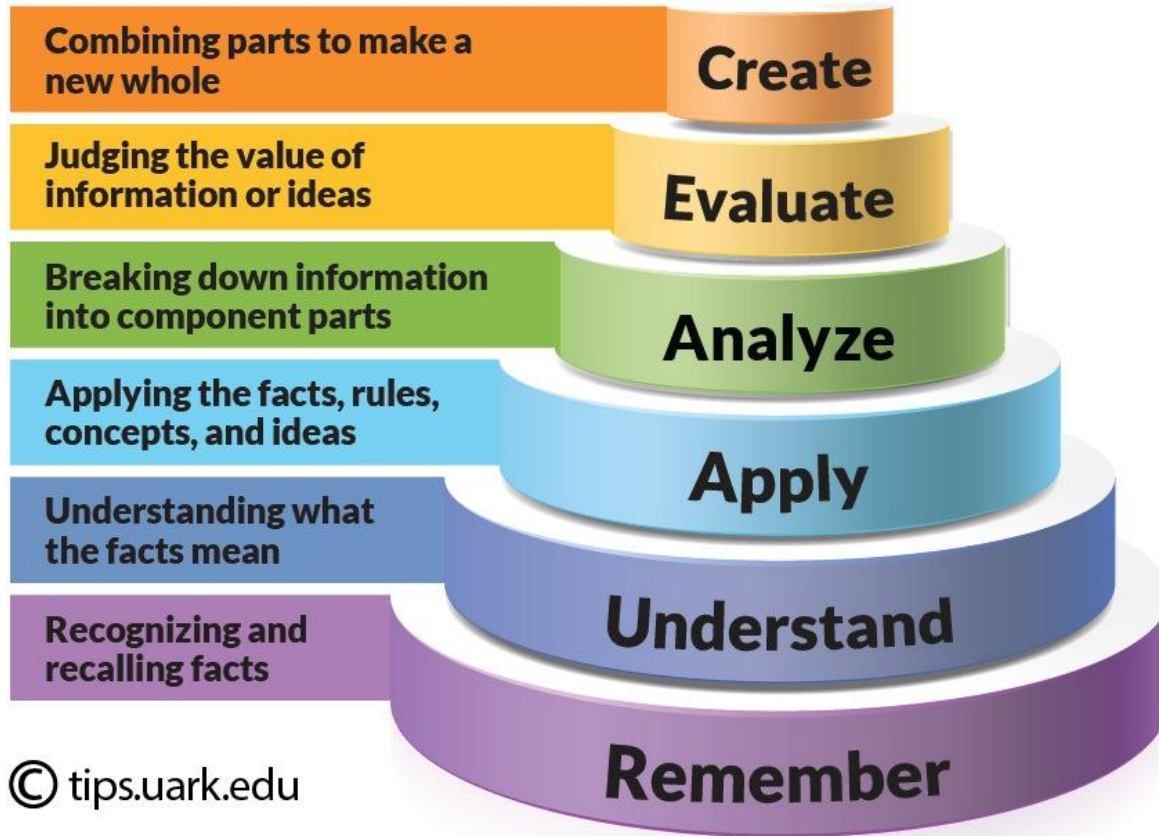
What is critical thinking?

Goal for 21st Century education

“What are the skills and **habits of mind** that our children need for success in this rapidly changing and complex world?”

**FRAMEWORK FOR 21ST CENTURY
LEARNING**

Bloom's taxonomy



“a student attains ‘higher-order thinking’ when she no longer believes in right or wrong.”

Benjamin Bloom

“learnable intelligence”

Lucas and Claxton

“hypothesis testing”

Halpern

**“problem solving... heuristics...
working backwards”**

Newell and Simon



**“creative
problem-solving”**

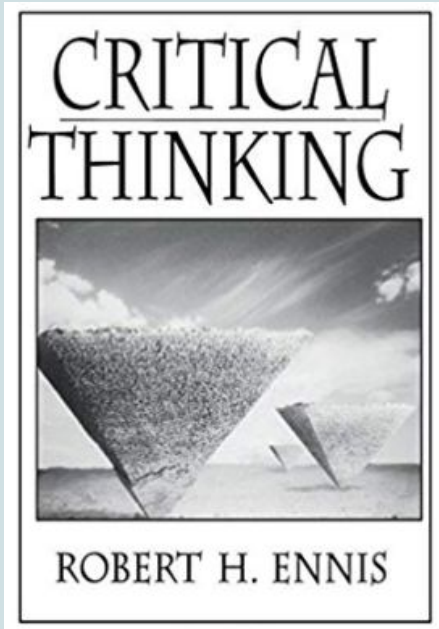
Torrace

**“thinking
dispositions”**

Swartz

For Robert Ennis (1995):

“reasonable reflective thinking focused on what to think or do.”



Critical thinking involves:

ANALYSIS

- compare and contrast
- define
- classify
- parts of the whole
- opinion or fact
- identify assumptions

EVALUATION

- assess truth, reliability, accuracy of information or sources

SYNTHESIS

- ★ combine ideas to create symbolic representations to sum up a topic



ANALYSIS

For example,



EVALUATION



SYNTHESIS



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Technique:

**I used to think ... /
Now I think ...**

*I used to think critical thinking was hard.
Now I think critical thinking can be done
by any student.*

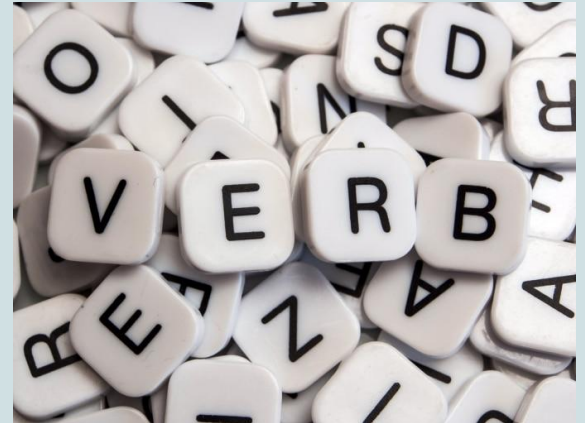




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Incorporate metalanguage into classwork





Metacognition
Metalinguage

VTS

Metalinguage terms and concepts

Interlanguage

Interference

Mistake

Error

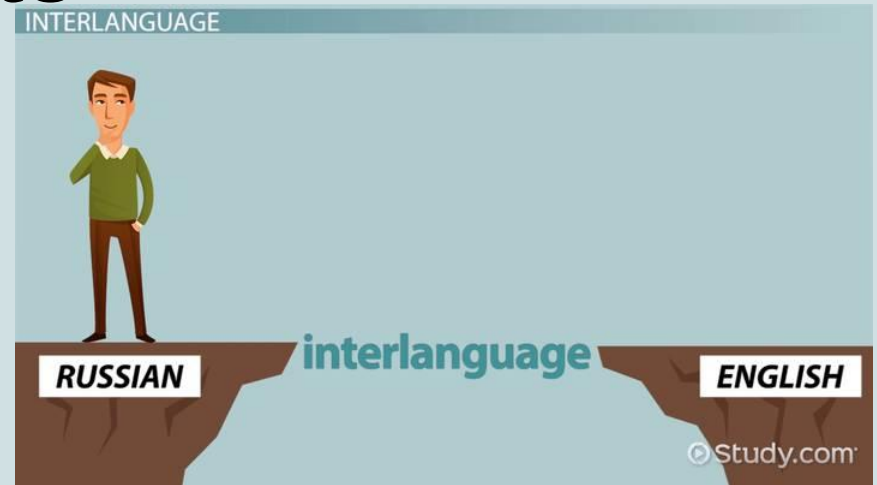
Parts of Speech

Grammar

Syntax

Pronunciation / Phonology

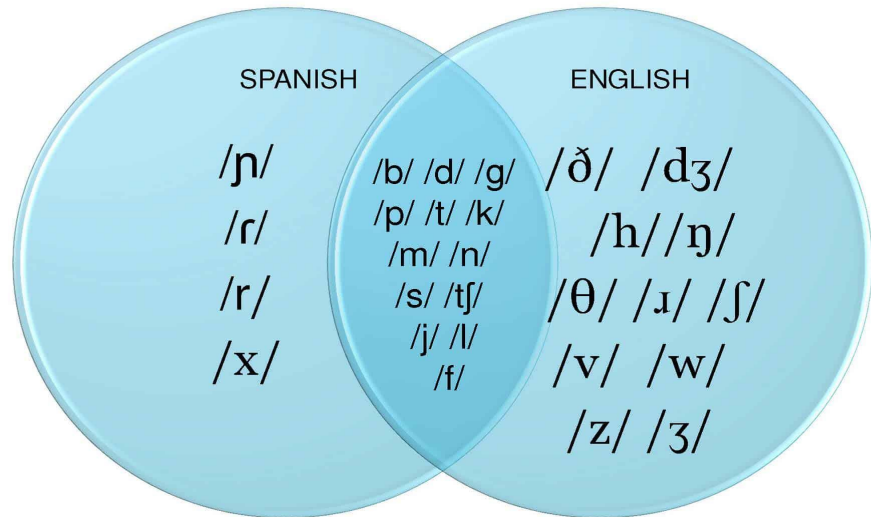
Vocabulary / Lexis



Spanish interference in learning English

- grammar
- syntax
- lexis
- phonology

Spanish & English Phonemes



Spanish interference in learning English grammar

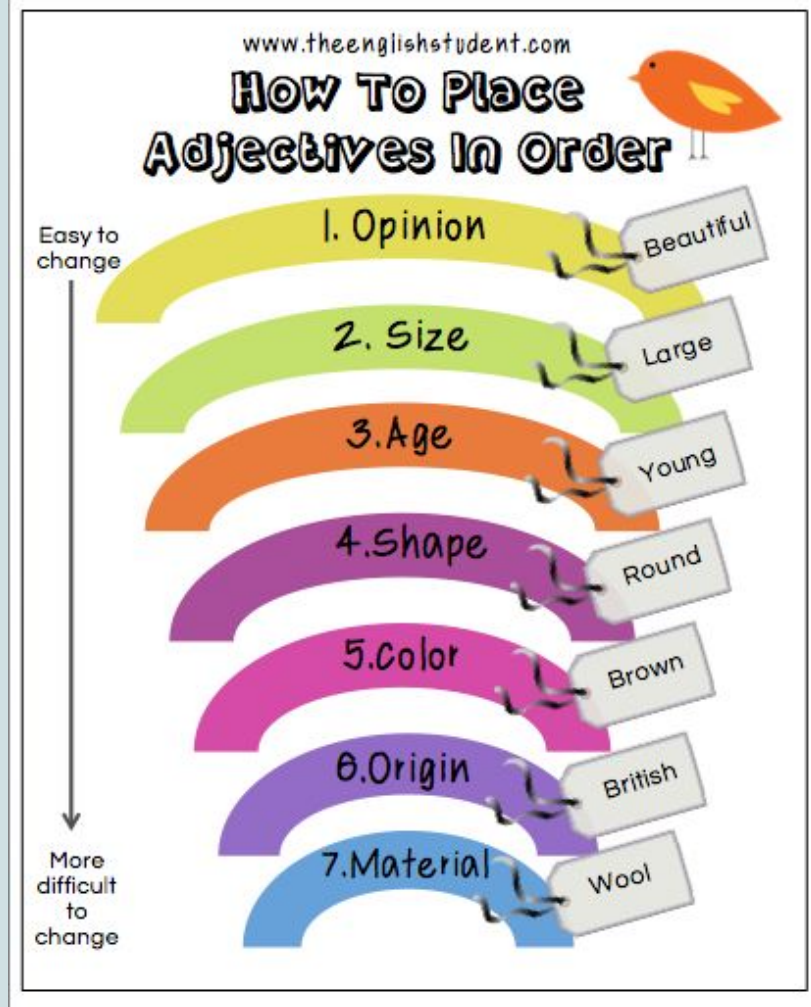
- Spanish has no modal auxiliaries
- Spanish has no set order for questions
- Spanish uses passive voice less
- Spanish has no auxiliary for negatives
- Spanish uses gender nouns and adjectives



Spanish interference when learning vocabulary

false cognates (aka false friends):

- actual - current
- asistir - attend
- largo - long
- embarazada - pregnant
- fábrica - factory
- librería - bookstore
- éxito - success

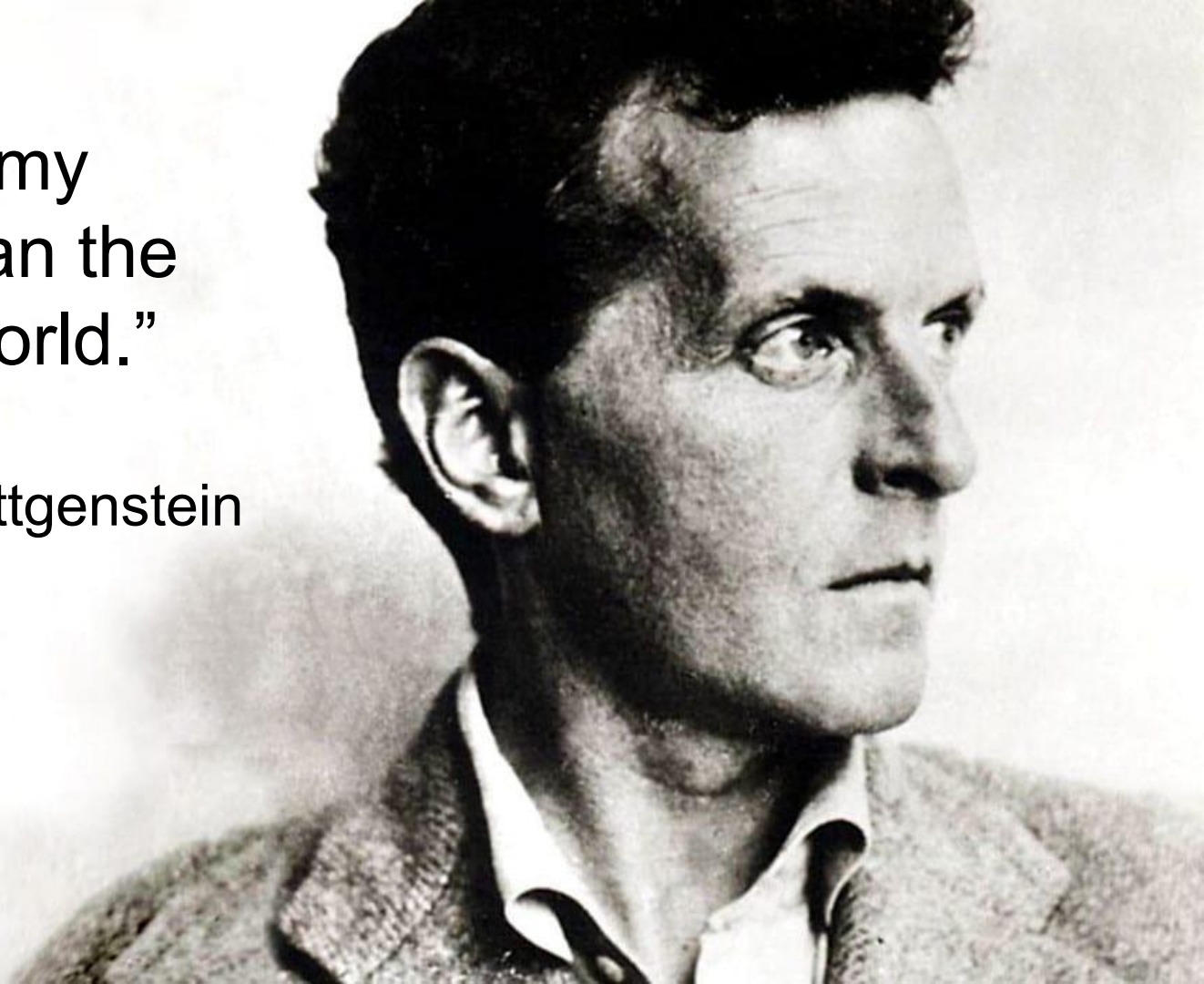


English - right-centred nouns
Spanish - left-centred nouns



“The limits of my
language mean the
limits of my world.”

Ludwig Wittgenstein





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español | english

de tal palo, tal astilla

*the apple does not fall far
from the tree*

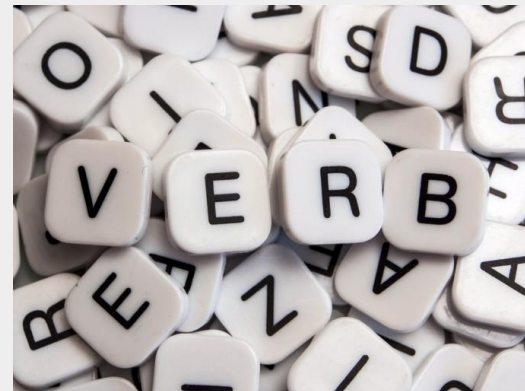
a chip off the old block

Technique: comparative Español-English charts

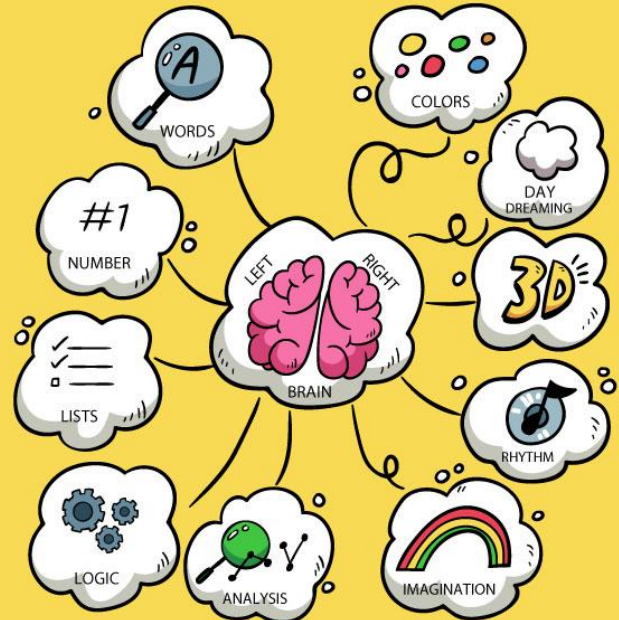
español | english

Lo haría si pudiera
pero no puedo, así
que no lo haré.

I would if I could,
but I can't so I won't



Visual thinking strategies

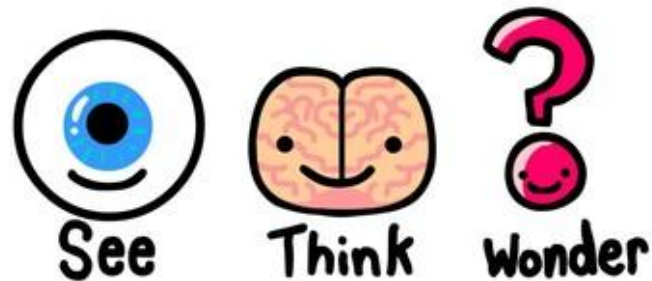




THE FIVE TRENDS SHAPING THE FUTURE OF WORK



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Visual Thinking Strategy

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Globalization facilitates intrinsic motivation

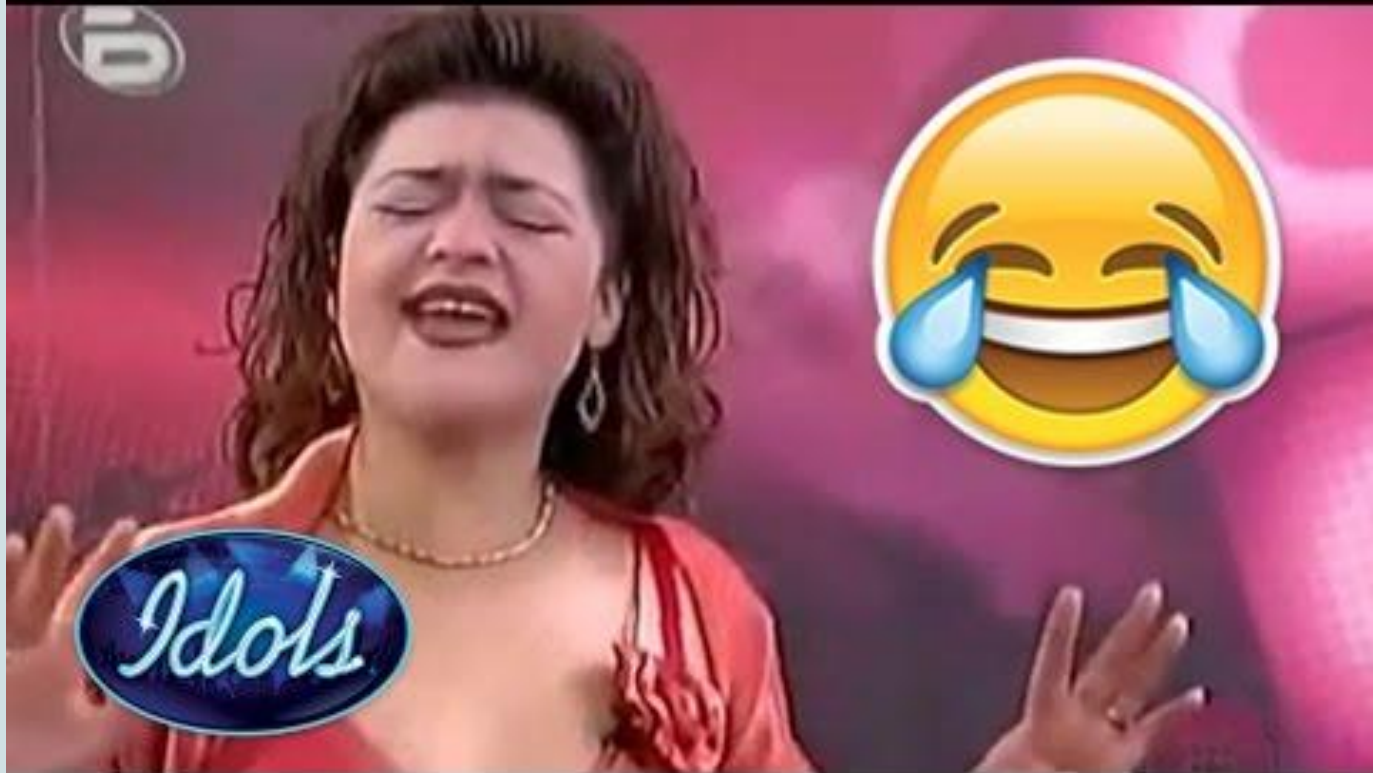
Access to culture, music, series, internet, diverse interests, memes and tropes



NETFLIX



You Tube





meme

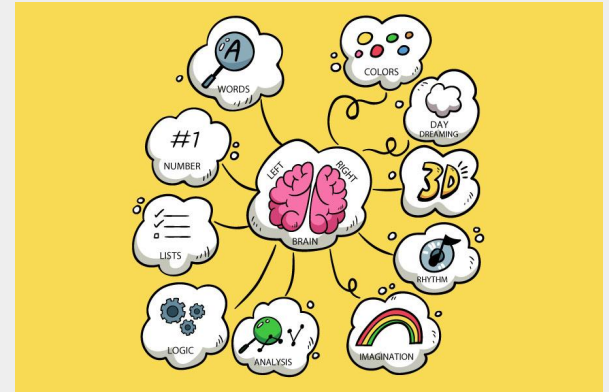


trope



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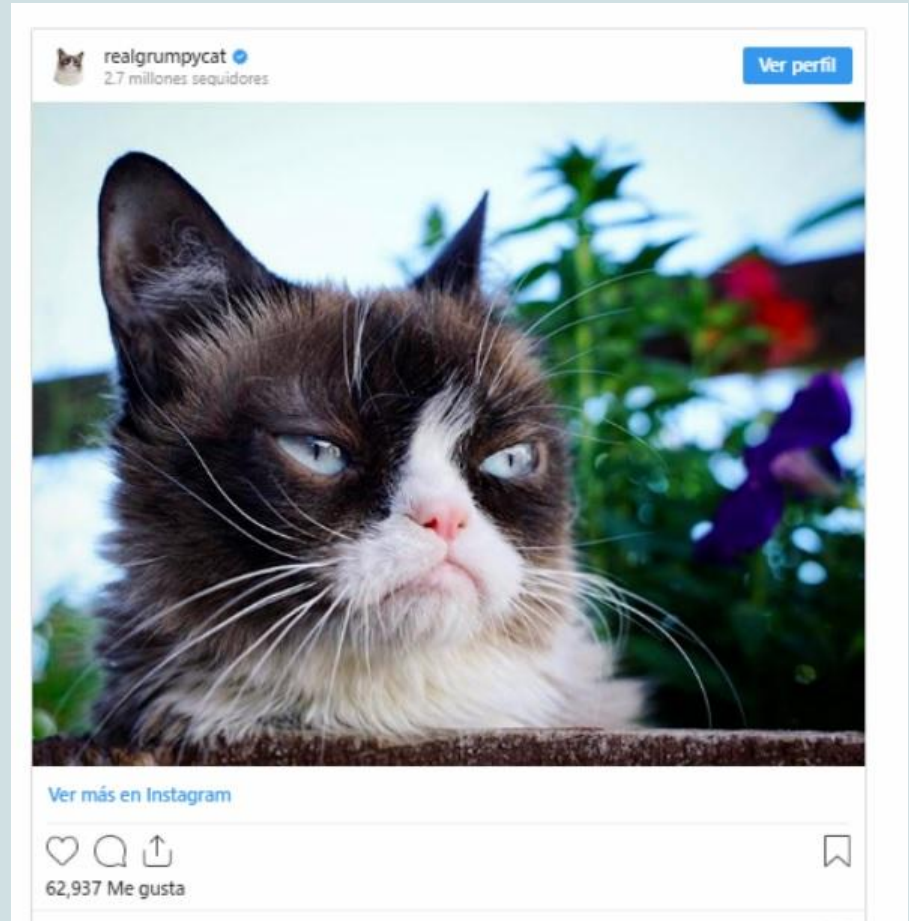
Technique: Visual Thinking Strategy



Visual Thinking Strategy

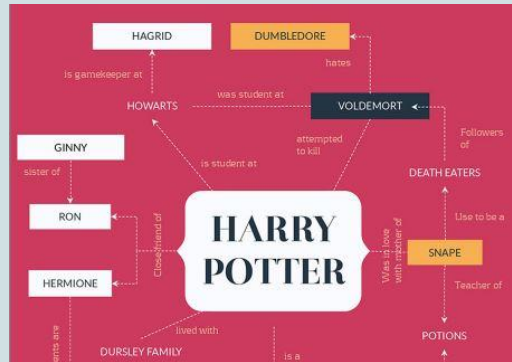
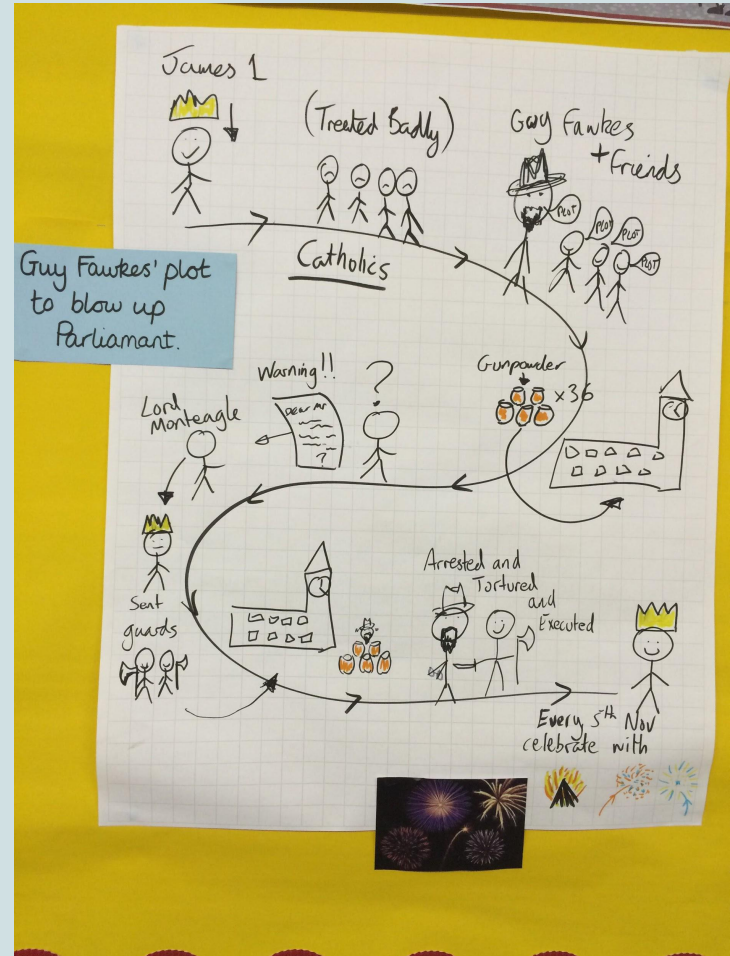
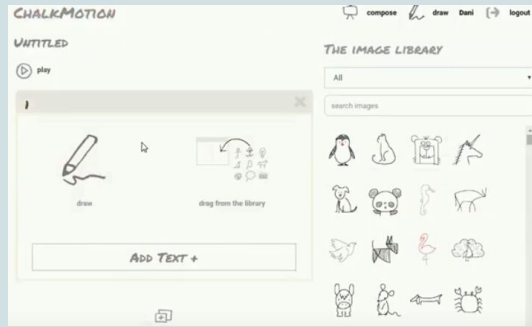
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Visual thinking strategies

- graphic organizers
- mind maps
- concept maps
- webs
- Venn diagrams
- infographics
- See - Think - Wonder



Metacognition
Metalanguage
Visual Thinking Strategy

To conclude,

- ESL teachers can be critical thinking teachers
- “I used to think..., now I think....” is a simple metacognitive strategy
- Comparative Español-English charts can help students reflect on aspects of metalanguage
- Visual thinking strategies can encourage cultural awareness
- Teaching critical thinking can reduce TTT and add value to lessons





Sources:

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