



# Motivation

You gotta keep 'em motivated

Is student motivation the best predictor of language learning success? Yes, and no. Highly motivated learners can still encounter issues when attaining fluency in a target language.

## Types of Motivation

Motivation	Definition
Instrumental	learning a language for practical reasons (job, living in a new country)
Integrative	Integrative motivation: language learning for cultural enrichment
Choice	the drive to get started, set goals, and decide to learn
Executive	the persistence and effort required to carry out necessary tasks and maintain engagement over time
Intrinsic	motivation from within, a student's genuine interest in the activity
Extrinsic	motivated by external rewards or validation, like a larger paycheck or a high score on an exam
Language Learning Motivation	an individual's drive, desire, and effort to learn a new language, encompassing willingness to communicate and self-determined goals
Classroom Motivation	motivation in the classroom that can be affected by class atmosphere, teacher, material, facilities, and student characteristics

# The Fantastic Four (Strategies) for Motivating Language Learners

- Proven strategies to enhance and sustain student motivation in the classroom revolve around four key aspects of teaching.

Method	Description
Teacher Discourse	Engage students through your own excitement for the material. Empower them by showing you value their input, and consistently connect their language learning to its practical use in communication and understanding diverse cultures. Even if students initially feel reluctant, seeing your passion and the real-world relevance can build their interest.
Participation Structure	Guide students into group and pair work to boost interaction. Intentionally pairing higher-performing students with those who need more support often benefits everyone. Remember, structuring these teams with a clear purpose is key to making group work truly productive.
Activity Designs	Design activities that offer a mix of individual and team challenges, including competitions, intellectual puzzles, and tangible tasks. As Krashen points out, keeping the difficulty level just above students' current performance is key to maintaining their engagement and motivation. Make sure your goals are crystal-clear and laid out upfront; this connection between activity and purpose is where strong curriculum design really shines.
Encouraging Positive Retrospective Self-Evaluation and Activity Design	Build a positive learning environment where students feel encouraged to assess their own progress. Strategies like praise, self and peer correction, and class applause are powerful motivators. Remember, targeted praise is especially effective; for instance, "I really like how you structured the concluding sentence of your paragraph."