Teaching your subject in english (Merindades) - Amanda Jane McLoughlin

Reflective Journal - Laura Saiz Cosío

Hi, everyone! I have learned quite a lot in this first session: all the acronyms, what a good (CLIL) teacher does in the class and all the different language learning theories. Everything was new for me, so I can say the session was really useful. All the ideas we talked about are really practical so I will try to use them in class with the students. What I really liked was the silent brainstorming because I have already tried brainstorming but not a silent one. I will definitely use it in class! So, really looking forward to the next session!

The second session was more theoretical and we learned how to analyse CLIL with two different approaches: the 4Cs and the 3Ds. I personally prefer the 3Ds as I find it less confusing. What I really loved about the class was the chance to go through primary class books, especially the art ones. And the comparison with the secondary ones was revealing!

In the third session we have discussed about how important our questions are. They should not only be just to see if students understand the content but also to encourage their critical thinking. I was really surprised to know there are so many types of questions! I enjoyed buying activities at any time of the class as it is a good way to let students decide on the rhythm of the class. I will use it in the future for sure. And I will also use the "silent conversation" with my higher levels. Plenty of new and funny ideas!

In the fourth day, we have learnt how to help students "build" their output and also how to make them feel more motivated. My favourite part was the activity "Let's be astronauts!" in which we can make student become experts in a topic and I think I will use it very soon in my class.