

## Connect 02 Questions 1,3,4 and 6

1) What does it mean to contextualize a learning environment and what does it involve? Reflect on and discuss the ways in which your socialization has or has not prepared you to contextualize learning?

To contextualize a learning environment means to relate the curriculum or lesson back to the students. The teacher should be able to make connections between what is being taught and the everyday life of the students. This creates a more relevant, meaningful and useful lesson for all learners. One example the textbook used for contextualized learning would be to show a video with closed captioning on for CLD students. I believe that my socialization has not prepared me for contextualize learning. I don't believe that I have been socialized enough to help relate lessons back to everyday life. I believe that the schools, and environments in which I grew up in would make it more difficult to contextualize learning. But I believe that throughout observations and teaching I will be able to better myself at it.

3) What are some characteristics of a constructive learning environment (list at least 3)? In what ways is such environment beneficial for CLD students?

Three characteristics of a constructive learning environment are encourages pattern recognition, especially in literature based instruction, emphasize the relevance of new information to the learner, and encourage active and affective involvement of the learner in the construction of meaning. This environment is beneficial for the CLD students because it "allows the students to make cognitive connections between their prior knowledge and current content context." (page 38) This can help to enhance their growth in cognitive dimension.

4) Explain the concept of elaboration. What are the connections that teachers should be aware of between elaboration and prior knowledge, skills, and capacities that a CLD student brings to the classroom?

Elaboration is fully explaining an area in depth so the students can better understand what is being taught. The connections in which teachers should be aware of between elaboration and prior knowledge, skills etc. are the CLD student being successful in their native language.

6) What types of learning strategies help CLD students cope with complex demands of a content-area lessons or classes? Describe the instructional strategies that a teacher can implement to also aid CLD learnings in subject area domains.

There are a few different learning strategies that help CLD students cope with complex demands of content-area lessons or classes. Cognitive learning strategies involve the mental or physical manipulation of the material to be learned. The student might group the items being learned to create more organized information. The teacher can help by handing out graphic organizers for the student to organize information presented. Social

affective learning strategies deal with the cognitive and sociocultural dimensions of the CLD student and may involve the student as an individual or in interaction with another to increase self-confidence. This could include, self-talk, or group work/ turn and talk.

This book helped me to have a better vision for my ELL. It included five important elements to help enhance literacy instruction. As teachers we need to ensure that we are viewing our students as individuals. This will allow them to better grow as students because they will be more open inside the classroom. One way to ensure that we are better understanding our ELL students would be to ensure that we are communicating with the families. This will allow us to understand and know their background, ultimately helping them feel more comfortable inside the classroom. The two text are similar in their information, but I believe that the Herra and Murry text is harder to read. This text is more of textbook work with a denser feel to it. While the other textbook is a lighter/ easier read. All of the authors agree on pre-assessing the student based off of the education/ teaching they had received.