How do you know what your student needs to learn?

Initial & Ongoing Needs Assessment in Tutoring

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Workshop Agenda

1) Introductions: Name, Organization, Teaching experience, Your experience as a language learner
2) Group Brainstorm on NEEDS
3) Presentation on Student-centered Approach
4) Case Studies
5) Q & A
NEEDS

- What are the needs of your student?
- What information do you need as a tutor?
What would you do to collect this information?
What questions would you ask?

- Get to know the student
- Find out what their goals & interests are
- “When/where do you need more English?”
- “What kinds of things / what situations are most difficult for you?”
- “What helps you learn?” (materials, mediums, environments, etc.)
the 7 learning styles

- visual
- solitary
- aural
- social
- verbal
- logical
- physical
What are the challenges in collecting this information?

- English Level
- Background (cultural, educational, etc.)
- Self-awareness or lack thereof
Case Studies

- #1: A highly educated student who can read & write well, but is very timid when speaking English
- #2: A student who has a decent command of spoken English, but has trouble reading and writing
- #3: A student with a degree and professional background who is not keen on formal learning methods
- #4: An intermediate student who retired and is very interested in movies
- #5: A beginner student whose goal is U.S. citizenship
- #6: A high intermediate student who wants to get a job, but has never worked in the U.S.
- #7: A student who comes from an English speaking country, but has a heavy non-American accent
Q&A and Resources:

❖ **Translation app: Microsoft Translator**
(type, speak aloud, or take image of text)

❖ **Picture Dictionaries**
(Eg. Oxford)

❖ **Questionnaires**
(handouts)