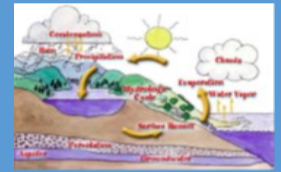
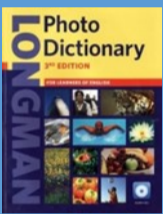


A Multilingual Assistant in your Classroom

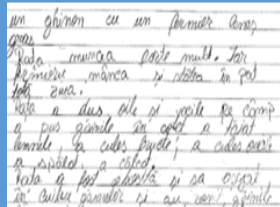
Working in the classroom Multilingual Assistants can ...

- ♦ prepare the pupils for tasks they have to do when the Multilingual Assistant is not there;
- ♦ review tasks already completed by the pupils on their own and feedback to the Class Teacher;
- ♦ teach pupils survival language in the early days and subject specific vocabulary;
- ♦ translate key words and phrases for use in the classroom;
- ♦ teach children to use bilingual resources, e.g. dictionaries/translation sites;
- ♦ support pupils to give answers during group or class discussions and/or feedback in first language or English;
- ♦ discuss and explain key words and help with English pronunciation;
- ♦ listen to pupils read and share dual language texts.



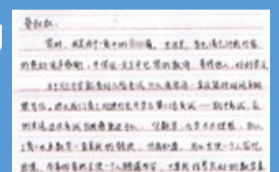
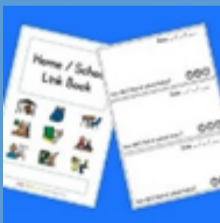
Multilingual Assistants can use first language to ...

- ♦ translate lesson content while the teacher is explaining, encourage pupils to use first language to explain and clarify work;
- ♦ introduce new topic/vocabulary and key concepts in first language before the lesson;
- ♦ pre-teach a text in first language prior to the lesson;
- ♦ work 1:1 with a pupil or a group of pupils to encourage dialogue or small group talk;
- ♦ encourage opportunities for speaking and listening in first language; and
- ♦ support pupils to write in first language when in the early stages of learning English.



Multilingual Assistants can support parents by ...

- ♦ being available to talk to parents in first language at the beginning or end of the day;
- ♦ providing key information;
- ♦ making phone calls home if necessary;
- ♦ writing important messages in first language in a home school diary;
- ♦ explaining and translating homework;
- ♦ translating newsletters; and
- ♦ translating during meetings with parents.



Benefits of bilingualism and maintaining first language

- ♦ Bilingual pupils' brains are more active and flexible and they develop strong thinking skills. They think more logically and are able to focus, remember and make decisions more easily.
- ♦ Maintaining and developing skills in a child's first language will aid the acquisition of English.
- ♦ If children arrive with a solid foundation in their first language, they can transfer the skills learned in one language to help them develop stronger literacy abilities in English.
- ♦ The first language plays a central role in a child's sense of identity.

