

UNIT 6: EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

2. What do you think makes a good language teacher?

<i>bring the subject</i>	<i>comfort zone</i>	<i>have their finger</i>	<i>keeps your spirits up</i>
<i>meet students</i>	<i>pitch the lesson</i>	<i>strike a balance</i>	<i>rest on their laurels</i>
<i>roller coaster</i>	<i>spurs you on</i>	<i>to the ground</i>	<i>wear many hats</i>

Well, in my view, a good language teacher is someone who can (1) _____. It's not just about knowing the grammar inside out — although that's obviously essential — but also about being able to (2) _____ to life.

The best teachers I've had were able to (3) _____ where they are and (4) _____ at just the right level. They knew how to (5) _____ between pushing us out of our (6) _____ and not overwhelming us.

A good teacher also needs to (7) _____ on the pulse of modern teaching methods. Language evolves, so they can't simply (8) _____ and recycle the same materials year after year. Instead, they should keep their ear (9) _____ for new expressions, cultural changes, and fresh approaches to learning.

Above all, they should be patient and encouraging. Learning a language can be a bit of a (10) _____, so having someone who (11) _____ and (12) _____ can make all the difference.

2. What do you think makes a good language teacher?

<i>change tack</i>	<i>for the long haul</i>	<i>hit the ground</i>	<i>into practice</i>
<i>keep the momentum</i>	<i>learning process</i>	<i>leads by example</i>	<i>pay lip service</i>
<i>read the room</i>	<i>solid grasp</i>	<i>spark curiosity</i>	<i>stick to their guns</i>

I think a truly good language teacher is someone who can (1) _____ running the moment they step into the classroom. Of course, they need to have a (2) _____ of the nuts and bolts of the language, but just as importantly, they should make the (3) _____ enjoyable.

The most effective teachers I've met knew how to (4) _____ and (5) _____ going. They could (6) _____ and (7) _____ when a lesson wasn't landing, rather than ploughing on regardless.

A great teacher also (8) _____ — if they're passionate about languages themselves, it rubs off on the students. They don't just (9) _____ to communication skills; they put them (10) _____ through authentic, engaging activities.

Last but not least, they need to be in it (11) _____. Language learning is a marathon, not a sprint, so a good teacher will (12) _____ and support learners even when progress seems slow.

WORD BANK:

1. Starting & Maintaining Effort

Idiom / Collocation	Meaning
hit the ground running	start something and perform very well from the beginning
keep the momentum going	maintain progress and motivation
be in it for the long haul	be committed for a long period, despite challenges
a marathon, not a sprint	something that requires sustained effort over time
stick to their guns	keep to your decision or beliefs despite opposition or difficulty

2. Knowledge & Skills

Idiom / Collocation	Meaning
have a solid grasp of the nuts and bolts	have a strong understanding of the essential aspects or practical details
master the basics	gain a thorough understanding of the fundamentals
broaden one's horizons	expand one's knowledge and experiences
sharpen your skills	improve ability through practice
get to grips with	start to understand or deal with something challenging

3. Teaching & Learning Process

Idiom / Collocation	Meaning
make the learning process enjoyable	design lessons in a way that students enjoy
spark curiosity	stimulate interest and eagerness to learn
lead by example	show others how to behave or perform by doing it yourself
put into practice	apply knowledge or skills in real situations
learn the ropes	understand how to do a particular task or job
step up one's game	improve performance or effort

4. Adapting & Responding

Idiom / Collocation	Meaning
read the room	judge the mood or reaction of a group and adapt accordingly
change tack	switch to a different approach or strategy
plough on regardless	continue despite difficulties or signs it's not working
think on one's feet	respond quickly and effectively to unexpected situations
go back to the drawing board	start again after a failed attempt

5. Attitude & Motivation

Idiom / Collocation	Meaning
have a can-do attitude	believe in one's ability to succeed
go the extra mile	make more effort than expected
never stop learning	continue to acquire knowledge
keep an open mind	be willing to consider different ideas
stay the course	continue with a process until it is finished