

TITLE. Key Competencies of the CEFR at the A1-A2 levels in Lesson Planning

Title of the course of reference: Developing key competencies of the CEFR at the A2 level

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TRAINING INSTITUTION: Pinar del Río University ‘Hermanos Saíz Montes de Oca’

TRAINER: Elizabeth Dumpierres Otero

BENEFICIARIES: More than 100 students from Pinar del Río University included in A1-A2 courses.

TYPE OF CASCADING ACTIVITY.

Lessons plans

Main concepts or ideas/ most debatable concepts or ideas:

- The Task-Teach-Task and the Test-Teach-Test frameworks
- The importance of ‘lead-in’ stage
- The importance of ‘preparing for speaking’ stage
- The importance of ‘socializing task’ stage
- The importance of providing learners the correct language input
- The importance of repeating the same task or a similar one
- The importance of context
- The importance of freer tasks
- SARA allows exploring and exploiting materials

Most highly accepted concepts or ideas:

- At the time of planning the lesson, SARA is very useful, because the bibliography is extremely rich, but sometimes it needs to be adapted for Cuban students so it can be more contextualized.
- The Task-Teach-Task and the Test-Teach-Test frameworks

Changes perceived in teachers' thinking and practice:

- The importance of understanding and using the language meaningfully
- To carefully select the language input (so learners could use it accurately and appropriately)
- The range of grammar and vocabulary is being tried to increase
- Language is taught in meaningful contexts for learners
- Speaking tasks need are scaffolded
- Learners have more linguistic support now to keep a conversation



Changes perceived in students' learning:

- The language input is more accepted
- They feel more identified with the tasks
- They are more talkative at the time of expressing orally
- Self-learning has improved
- They are aware of the band descriptors for speaking



Some opinions from local participants:

- Teachers feel they have more tools for teaching
- Students feel they are learning more than before

What is coming next?

- Workshops with other teachers to share ideas
- Talks with colleagues to share experiences
- Courses on Task-Teach-Task and Test-Teach-Test frameworks