

## Chapters Six and Seven Discussion Questions

1. Which of the following groups of students would you like most to teach: children, very young children, adolescents, young adults, or working adults? Why?
2. What specific problems would each of these groups have? How would you, as the teacher, deal with these problems?
3. How would you teach different age groups – say kids, teens, adults - differently? You might consider:
  - topics or subject matter of the lesson
  - teacher talk and student talk
  - variety and types of techniques
  - discipline or behavior problems
  - error correction
  - physical activity
  - sensory input
  - encouraging motivation and interest
4. Let us say that you were teaching an advanced class of sixth graders and you had several students who lived abroad in English-speaking countries for several years. What kinds of problems or benefits would this present for you the teacher? How would you work with these students?
5. When talking about student learning processes, the author talks about **focal mode** and **peripheral processing** (p 101 and 113). Explain those concepts.
6. In a multilevel class in which there are “false beginners” mixed with true beginners, what approach would you use to keep the latter students challenged without overwhelming the former?
7. On page 113 (near the bottom of the page), the author said bilingual teachers might “negotiate” certain elements of classroom practice with students. What does that mean? Give examples of when teachers might negotiate classroom practice with students.
8. Can fluency be practiced at the very beginning level? Explain your opinion.
9. In your opinion, does sequencing of grammatical items make a difference? Does sequencing of language functions make a difference? Or, does presentation and delivery of content make the biggest difference? Explain your ideas.
10. Ten criteria were offered for considering differences across proficiency levels. Which do you think are more important and how would you work accordingly with the different levels?