Empowering Learners

The Role of Language Equity in Instructional Design and E-Learning

Welcome

Discover how inclusive language practices can enhance the learning experience for all students by creating accessible materials for non-native speakers, and leveraging technology to support language equity in online education.

Naomi Fortis-Gebreselassie
Guest Presenter

Jennifer Dunn
Host & Founder
Bunifu - Learning for Life

What is Language Equity

Linguistic/Language Equity is taking an additive approach to language learning by honoring and valuing the linguistic, cultural, and individual identities of students, while also supporting students on the continuum of learning a new language.

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INSIGHTS & EXPERINCES
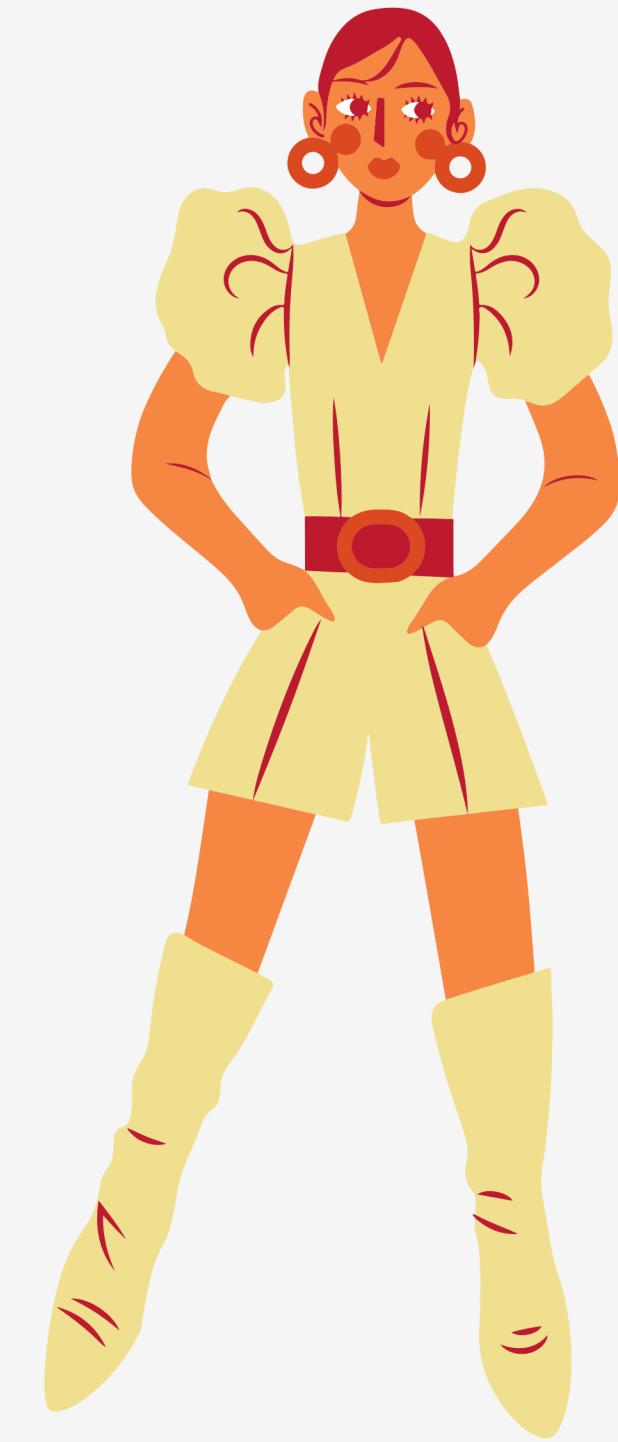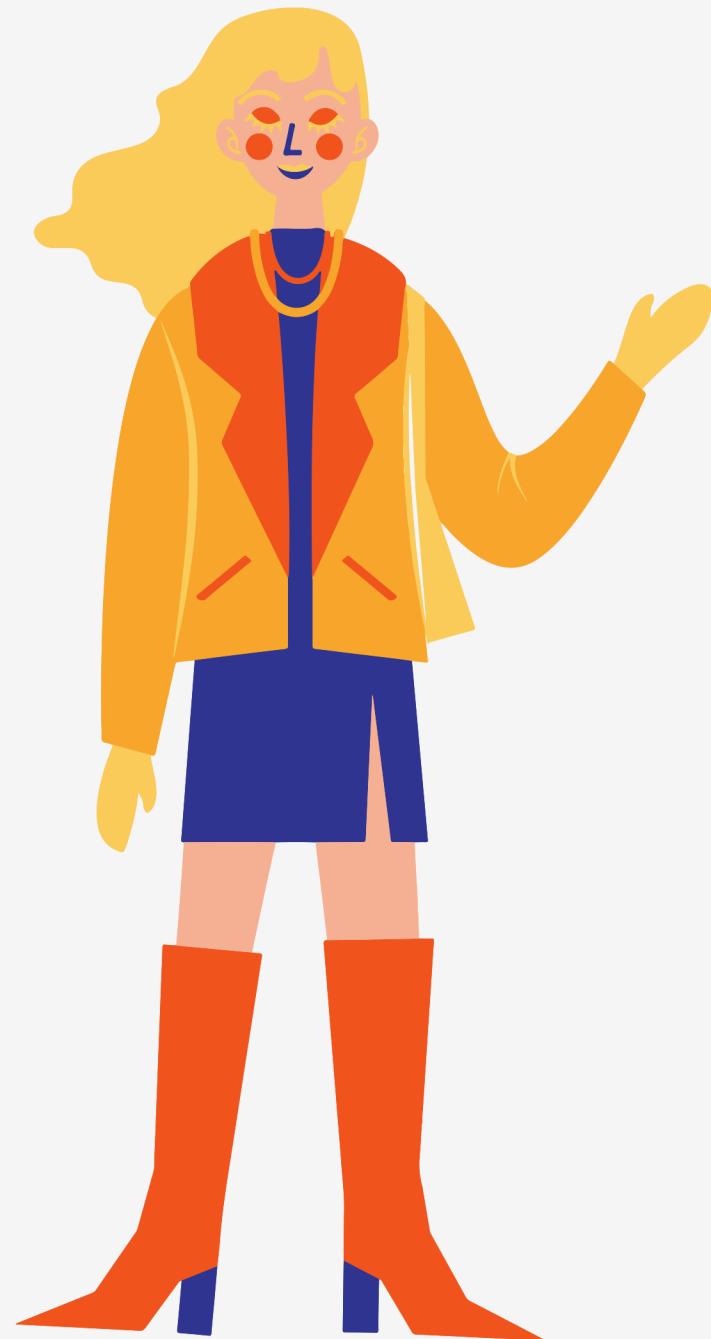
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As a former bilingual school principal, what was the most creative way you incorporated language equity into your school's curriculum?

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- Knowing each child – Knowing who they are, meeting their families, welcoming them to share parts of their culture

- Creating lived experiences through project-based learning:
    - When learning a language, it is best to live it and experience it.
    - Bring in realia:
        - 1) create experiences
        - 2) ensure that learning is connected to life.

- Support students in building vocabulary knowledge and using it in contexts.
- Supporting students in transferring their language knowledge by bridging language and looking for cognates.

② Can you share a success story of a student who benefited from inclusive language practices in their learning journey?

②

- Engage in knowing the child and family

- Multi-sensory experiences that highlight reading, writing, speaking, listening, and living the language

- A Personal Story

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What's the most surprising insight you've gained about the connection between language equity and student engagement in e-learning environments?

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③

- What has surprised me is the use and possible over reliance on e-learning tools.

- When thinking about language equity – it's important to consider:
  - Who has access?
  - What intentional teaching needs to happen?
  - How do you best integrate e-learning tools?

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How can your experience as an international teacher inform the development of culturally affirming instructional methods for diverse learners?

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- Do your own personal work!
  - Know yourself
  - Where you may have blind spots

- Being humble and open, willing to understand the culture

Understand context – there is no monolith.

- Race, culture, gender, soci-economics, and all forms of our identity are intersecting in the classroom.

- It's essential to be aware of how these intersect with language, communication, expectations, etc.

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What role do you think technology can play in breaking down language barriers and fostering a more inclusive online learning experience?

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- No longer the common dictionary to understand words.

- The use of translation on websites
    - To look up words
    - Use search engines to understand words

- Access to language for time and pacing

- Even the debated ChatGPT and use of AI can provide our students with examples to see how language can be used and formed for different contexts.

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Drawing from your coaching experience, what's one practical tip you can share with instructional teams looking to incorporate language equity into their e-learning design?

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- Be decerning when adopting tools for the classroom.

  - Know their purpose and the impact on language learning.
  - Is the e-learning creating space for intentional language practice through speaking, writing, reading, and listening?
  - What are the needs of the students, and how do they practice

- Plan for the margins, if it serves students with the highest needs – there is a good chance it will also support other students. If so, how?

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When designing e-learning content for a global audience, what strategies can instructional designers use to ensure accurate language translation and support for non-native speakers?

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- Go to the source.
  - Partner and contract translation services with individuals from the country
  - Ensure language context and honor regional linguistic structures.

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Q&A

Thanks!

JENNIFER DUNN, FOUNDER
WEBSITE: WWW.BUNIFUELEARNING.COM
PH: 703-655-8488
EMAIL: JDUNN@BUNIFUELEARNING.COM