

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING THE LANGUAGE OF THE COUNTRY WHERE REFUGEES ARE LIVING: PROMOTING EMPLOYABILITY, TACKLING SOCIAL EXCLUSIN AND SO ON.**

### **BEST TEACHING METHODS TO MOTIVATE ADULTS**

Refugees come from very different geographical areas and have left their home countries for different reasons. They may have come to the host country to join the family, to seek job opportunities or to flee violence and persecution. They will have had very different experiences of education: some will have had no formal schooling, and others will have studied to a high level and hold relevant academic and professional qualifications.

Learning the host language opens doors to social acceptance, economic security and cultural understanding.

Despite the huge differences, what really brings the class together is a motivation to learn the language that is vital to living a more inclusive life in the host country.

Knowing this, what are the best teaching methods to motivate adults?

- Lessons based on real life, ordinary events are central to teaching. Helping the class to master the vocabulary and phrases related to (eg.housing,employability,shopping,accesing local services etc)
- Practising role-play based on daily life (eg.visiting the G.P,having a job interview..etc) increase learner's confidence in a supportive, non-threatening environment.It also allows the group to exchange their personal experiences with others.
- The use of smartphones as a bridge to facilitate communication inside and outside the classroom, to make links with different communities, to offer a level of independence and to keep in contact with the country of origin.
- Reading and discussing books is a good way for increase confidence in speaking and listening, developing of vocabulary and language structures, pronunciation, learning about English-language culture and literature.
- Discussions by asking the students to share their interests or what they have heard in the news. This method provides opportunities to students to practice strategies which are essential in the world outside the classroom and discuss about them. Learners value confidence in order to learn a language so there are two key conditions for learning with respect to confidence: a supportive, respectful classroom and freedom to make mistake.

- Make videos to explore perspectives of learners in relation to learning English, why is learning English important? What are the reasons for learning English? What helps you to learn? By this method they can see themselves and see others and create a sense of solidarity in discovering they had experienced common difficulties, connecting with their reasons for learning English to help them to energize and motivate.
- Incorporating theatre and performance. Forum theatre by Augusto Boal, is an open-ended theatre in which spectator work with the actors in the performance to explore alternative endings to the unfolding storyline. Doing a series of exercises and games aimed at developing the body and reducing reliance on speech or conscious thought. This is like a language 'feel' and encourage students to discuss and reflect on language every step of the way. Thoughts about language are central to the lived experiences of migrants.