

COMPENSATION STRATEGIES } OVERCOMING LIMITATIONS IN SPEAKING AND WRITING

SWITCHING TO THE MOTHER TONGUE:

Using the mother tongue for an expression without translating it. This strategy may also include adding word endings from the new language onto words from the mother tongue.

GETTING HELP:

Asking someone for help by hesitation or explicitly asking for the person to provide the missing expression in the target language.

USING MIME OR GESTURE:

Using physical motion, such as mime or gesture, in place of an expression to indicate the meaning.

AVOIDING COMMUNICATION PARTIALLY OR TOTALLY.

Partially or totally avoiding communication when difficulties are anticipated. This strategy may involve avoiding communication in general, avoiding certain topics, avoiding specific expressions, or abandoning communication in mid-utterance.

SELECTING THE TOPIC:

Choosing the topic of conversation in order to direct the communication to one's own interests and make sure the topic is one in which the learner has sufficient vocabulary and grammar to converse.

ADJUSTING OR APPROXIMATING THE MESSAGE:

Altering the message by omitting some items of information, making ideas simpler or less precise, or saying something slightly different that means almost the same thing, such saying *pencil* for *pen*.

COINING WORDS:

Making up new words to communicate the desired idea, such as *paper-holder* for *notebook*.

USING A CIRCUMLOCUTION OR SYNONYM:

Getting the meaning across by describing the concept (circumlocution) or using a word that means the same thing (synonym).