

DIRECT STRATEGIES: SPEAKING

STRATEGY GROUP: Compensation

STRATEGY SET: Overcoming limitations in speaking & writing

STRATEGY: Selecting the topic

When using this strategy, the learner chooses the topic of a conversation. Learners want to make sure that the topic is one in which they are interesting and for which they possess the needed vocabulary and structures.

For example, Rashid, a learner of English, is interested in football and knows a lot about it, including useful terms, so he often directs conversation to this theme. Marcelle is more comfortable discussing subjects like school, family, and weather and thus frequently attempts to move the conversation toward these topics. Learner using this strategy must be careful not to be overly domineering. They should allow the other person to guide the conversation, too.