

ESOL LEVEL 2-3




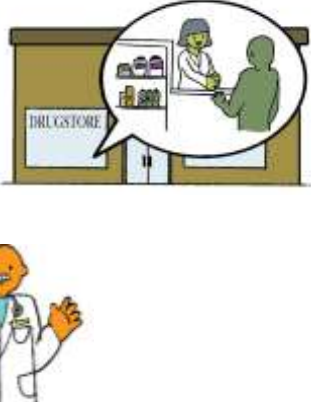



Choosing topics/themes

Content in the lower level classrooms in the GRCC ESOL Program is student-driven. Bringing students into this process increases their role as stakeholders in the class, address specific reasons that have led them to enroll in a class, and helps them become more involved with and responsible for their learning. Choosing content to study is another important component of the goal setting process in our ESOL Program.

The handout below can be a useful way to help students think about their needs, as they negotiate their world. What is easy for them? Where are they when they are having trouble? What do they need more information about to become successful citizens, workers and family members?

Handout copies to each group, let students look through the topics, encourage them to talk with one another about what they see, identify new words and/or themes and list them on the board. Debrief and have student record this on their papers. Next, as a class, have students choose five or six topics they are interested in. Divide the whiteboard into sections and write the topics at the top, or at the top of newsprint and tape to the walls. Review the topics with them, then explain that these are too many things; "We can't cover this much in one quarter so together we will decide which of these topics to choose". Handout markers to students, as you are doing this explain that you want individuals to think about two or three of the topics that are **most important to them**. Then ask them to go to that topic and put an X or check mark under it. Be sure to model so they understand what to do. Next turn them loose, as they move around be sure they stick to two or three only, and that everyone participates. When they are finished together count up the marks under each topic, the ones with the most check marks are the content you will cover for the quarter.

What topics do you want to study in our class?

 <p>Jobs</p>	 <p>Money and Banking</p>
 <p>Shopping</p>	<p>Health</p> 
<p>Citizenship</p> 	<p>Driving Directions Signs and maps</p> 
<p>Emergencies Accidents</p> 	<p>Write your idea here:</p>

