

Case Study: Language Pathways in Secondary School

by *Mattie Jackson*

Tool(s) used:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems Iceberg
Purpose of using tool:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding Discussion <p>Overview: To help teachers, students and parents better understand and support language development. Included the Systems Iceberg to better support information about BICS and CALP.</p>
Context of lesson/case study:	Presentation at Parent Evening, Presentation to MYP1-5 students, Presentation to teachers
Participants (# and description):	Parents 50+, Students 35+, Teachers 37
Topic, Theme, or Key Understanding of unit/project:	Language Pathways in Secondary School
Length of unit/project:	n/a
Resources/materials & setting required:	Projector, language assessments, interviews with parents, students
Lesson Plan/Description of the Project:	
<p>Students and parents need to understand language development and language pathways in order to appreciate further development of their mother tongue language. Using the Iceberg model I was able to further explain the need for MT development. This may not be the best example nor what the Iceberg model as designed for yet it was instrumental in helping parents to see the value of MT development at an academic level.</p>	
Reflection	
Plusses:	
<p>The Iceberg model is a useful visual to demonstrate the benefits of MT language development along side learning English.</p>	
Challenges:	
<p>Challenges were in the language and the terms used. Some parents/students are not fluent in English and could not grasp the language, yet photos and a visual diagram helped.</p>	
Suggestions for other practitioners and educators:	
<p>The Iceberg model is useful in presenting to parents and students the benefits of developing academic MT language. Enhanced development of MT language supports the development of English.</p>	
Evidence and Resources:	
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