Tips for giving effective feedback in teaching multilingual classes online

**General tips**

When providing written feedback on assignments, remember to:

- provide specific and actionable feedback
- focus mainly on key errors
- avoid over-correction
- indicate progress
- point out and praise effort, where appropriate
- provide timely and regular feedback
- offer one-on-one student conferencing to explain/unpack the feedback and to ensure the student knows what to do with the feedback provided, if possible.

Allow students a chance to incorporate your feedback and to revise and resubmit assignments, where possible.

Leverage assessment for reflection and feedback; check in with students to ask them what are the most challenging aspects of online learning and what is helping them. Use this to inform your feedback going forward.

**Tips for giving feedback in online classes**

- Use SpeedGrader to provide feedback on student assignments. Any grades entered in SpeedGrader are automatically added to the Canvas Gradebook.

- Add annotated comments in student submissions in SpeedGrader.

- Curate a bank of comments you can draw on (Crowdmark has this feature, for example)

- Record short pieces feedback in Canvas and upload it in SpeedGrader for students to hear, helping to maintain a more personal relationship with students.

- Use tools such as Snagit or Camtasia to record yourself as you comment on student writing, so they can SEE what you're doing and why.

- Have students practice finding where the feedback is and getting comfortable with the tools you're using to give feedback before using it for an assignment. You can share your screen and show them how to navigate, for example, or include clear instructions in the assignment.

- Hold regular office hours online and make sure students know how/where to access them.
Use the Chat function for students to post questions they have about a lecture/module/reading etc., and then collate the questions and post answers. Students can also be put into groups to create, share, and answer questions.

**Tips for providing language-related feedback**

- Avoid pointing out every single error. Be selective! Focus on errors that interfere with intelligibility.
- Focus only on errors that interfere with meaning.
- Have students identify sources of language or content errors in their work and/or where understanding of concepts or language proficiency needs to be improved.
- Provide opportunities for students to reinforce and extend their learning by providing additional targeted resources where necessary. Consider using curated online resources.
- Support students in the planning stage where possible by helping them to consider the field, tenor and mode of the assignment, using planning sheets such as this:

![Diagram of field, tenor, and mode](https://missaliceleung.files.wordpress.com/2016/06/field-tenor-mode-text-composition-planning-sheet.pdf)

**Sources**


Teaching Multilingual Learners Online: [https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/isc/newsletter/teaching-multilingual-learners-online](https://wida.wisc.edu/memberships/isc/newsletter/teaching-multilingual-learners-online)