Microlearning

Transforming ESL Education

By: Edgar Zardaryan

Biography

Edgar Zardaryan

Bachelors of Science - Business Law

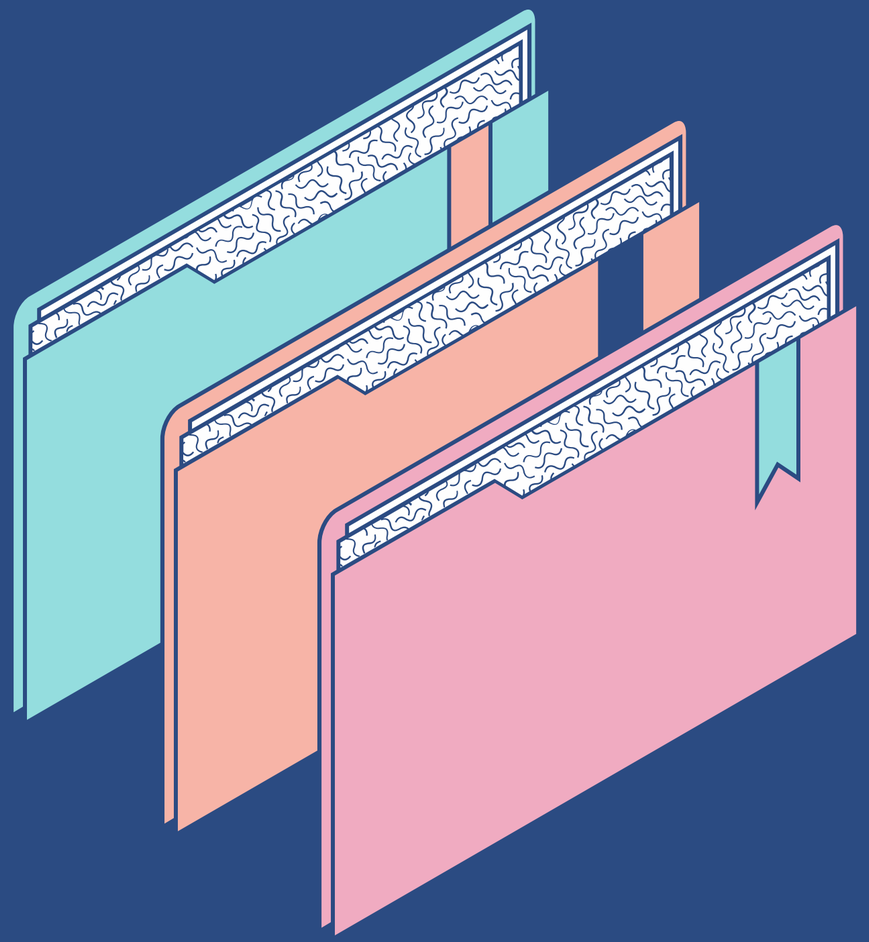
Master of Arts - TESL

Publications and Book

Most Common Academic Idioms in Spoken English with Armenian Translation

Significance of Pragmatics Within SLA Instruction With Focus On the Speech Act of Requests

The Affect of High-Level Formative Assessment Practices on Student Motivation Within the ESL Classrom



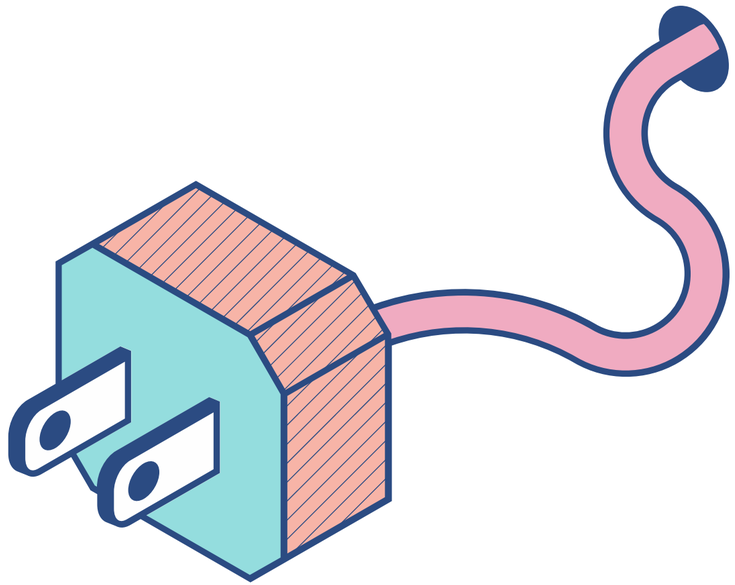
Agenda

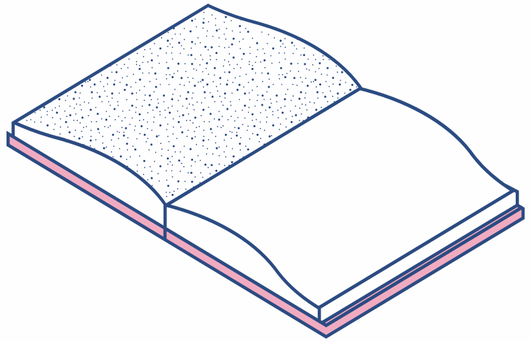
- What is Microlearning?
- Benefits of Microlearning for ESL Students
- Effective Microlearning Strategies
- Tools and Resources for Implementation
- Microlearning in the Classroom
- Challenges and Solutions
- Q&A

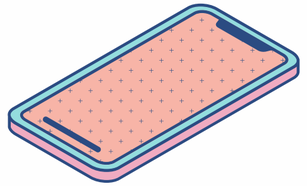
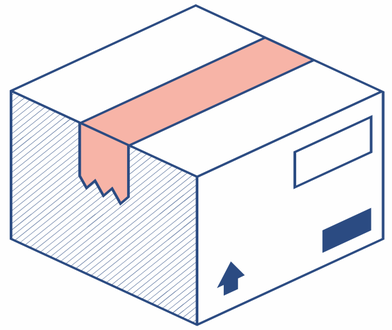
What is Microlearning?

Microlearning is a way of teaching and delivering content to learners in bite-sized (3-5 minutes) bursts at the point of need, with a focused and specific learning outcome.

The learner is in control of what and when they are learning and can complete their learning at a time and place that suits their schedule.





Key Characteristics

- Single learning objective
- Incorporates multiple learning sensory and modal elements
- Integrates both practice and assessment
- Access to learning content
- Granting learners autonomy over the learning experience.

Examples of Microlearning

- Text – short paragraphs, messages or hints
- Images – illustrations, photos or visual aids
- Videos – short and snappy explainers videos, similar to what you might see on social media
- Audio – snippets of speech or music
- Interactive elements – quizzes, games, flashcards and other gamification mechanics

(The Effects of Microlearning on EFL Students' English Speaking: A Systematic review and Meta-Analysis P. Prasittichok and P Smithsarakarn)

Universal Design

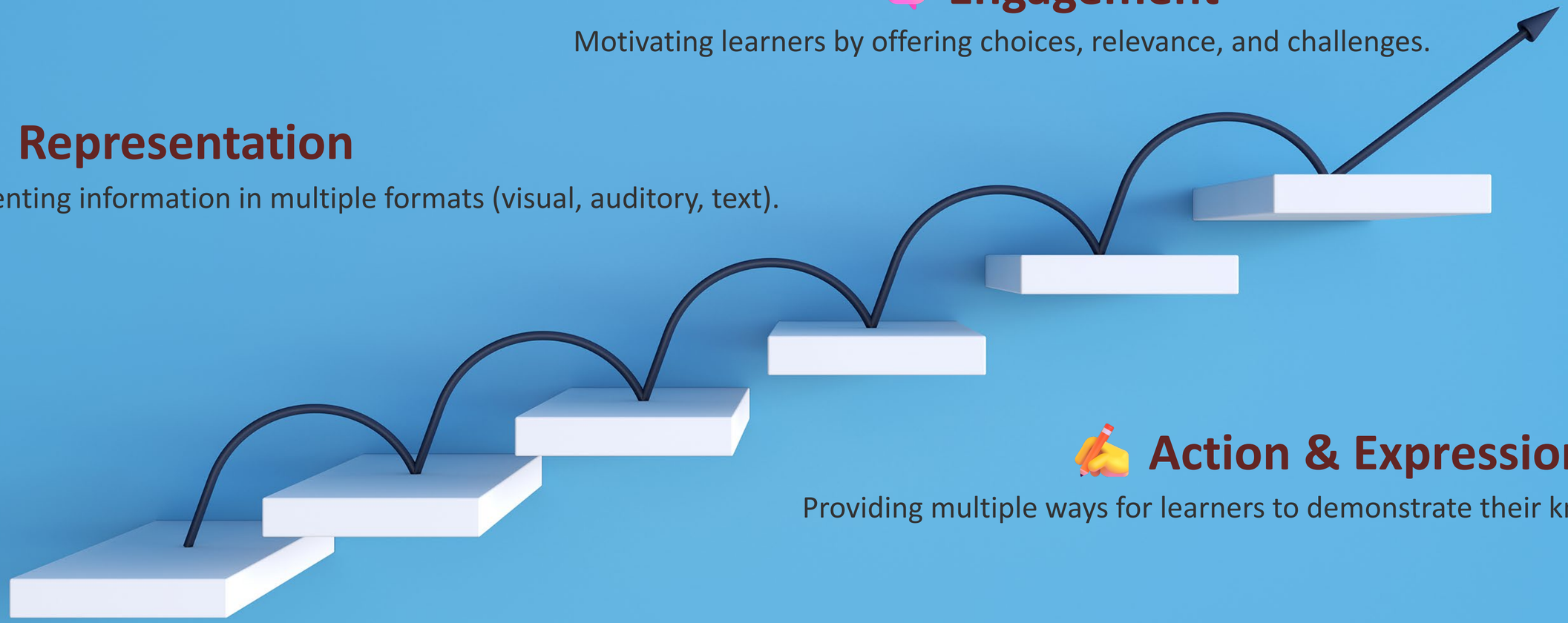
A framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all.

🧠 Engagement

Motivating learners by offering choices, relevance, and challenges.

👀 Representation

Presenting information in multiple formats (visual, auditory, text).



✍️ Action & Expression

Providing multiple ways for learners to demonstrate their knowledge.

Benefits of Microlearning

Improved Retention:

- Short focused lessons help students remember more.

Flexible Learning:

- Accessible anytime, anywhere for self-paced learning.

Enhanced Engagement:

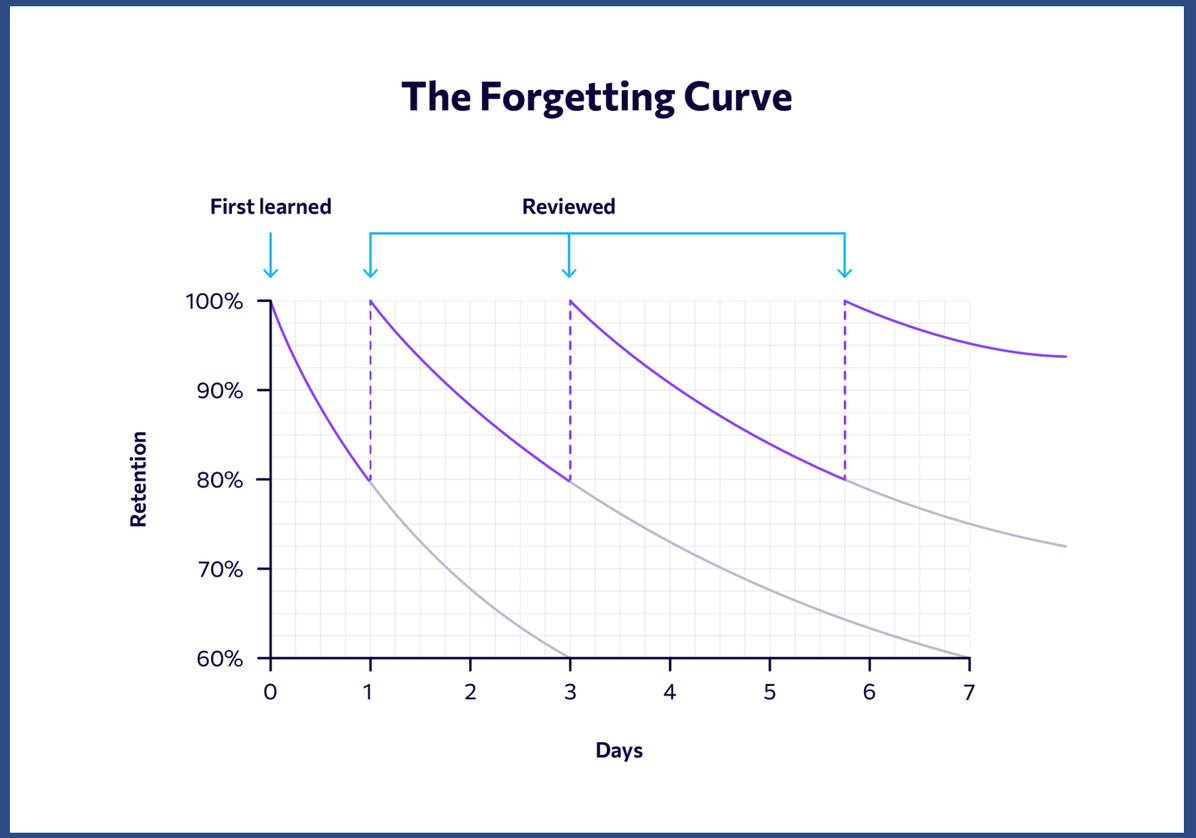
- Multimedia and interactive content keep students motivated.

Real-World Application:

- Immediate practice of vocabulary, grammar, and conversation skills.

Adaptability:

- Easy to customize for diverse proficiency levels.



Effective Microlearning Strategies

1

Vocabulary in Context

Teaching 3-5 new words with real-life examples.

2

Mini Grammar Lessons

Focus on one rule or concept e.g., past tense verbs

3

Video Clips and Audio

Use 2-3minute clips to practice listening, pronunciation and comprehension

4

Macro Assessments

Quick quizzes with immediate feedback

MICROLEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM

Time

in the morning
in the evening
in the afternoon
in the daytime
in the future
in 10 min
on Monday
on the weekend
at night
at 5:00
before –
After –

[time] blah blah.

blah blah [time].

24 hours a day
7 days a week
3 times a month
once a year
every day

often
usually
sometimes
never
always
rarely
} frequency

S + (freq.) + V

[I usually go] to school [in the morning.]

CANVAS Studio Quiz

Step 1

- Take a deep breath!

Step 2

- Login to GCC CANVAS

Step 3

- Click on bottom left Studio Icon

Step 4

- Top right create tab (select add media)

Step 5

- Copy Paste YouTube Link or select afile from your computer

Step 6

- Click on the 3 dot-menu (Create Quiz)
  - Enter Quiz Title and Description

Step 7

- As you watch the video click on the plus sign to add questions

Step 7 (Continued)

- Select question type etc…
- Click on Save

Step 8

- When you are done with all questions click on the top right “done” tab.

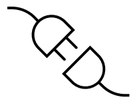
Step 9

- Click on View then details
  - Edit details of your quiz to your liking

Step 10

- Enter your CANVAS course page

Step 11

- Select Quizzes
  - Click on ”APP” icon 
  - Click on CANVAS Studio and select quiz
  - Configure parameters of quiz and publish!

ChatGPT

Step 1

- Great the AI

Step 2

- Provide the AI with information about your class
  - Student Demographic
  - Student Level (CEFR Languages)
  - Location of school

Step 3

- Provide detailed information about test content
  - Grammar topics
  - Vocabulary

Step 4

- Provide detailed information about test type
  - Achievement test, diagnostic etc…
  - Multiple choice, Cloze test, Vocabulary, True/false etc…

Step 5

- Create test.

Step 7 (Very Important)

- Review the test items.
- Step 8
- Provide clarification for any mistakes and remake test.

Step 9

- Thank ChatGPT.

Best Practices for Microlearning

Make microlearning mobile friendly.

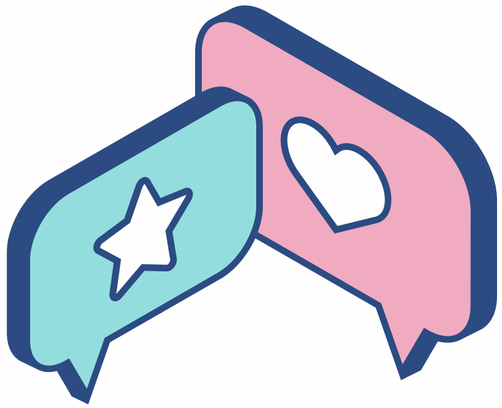
Provide seamless access.

Use videos. Learners are 95% more likely to retain information presented in video format.

Keep it concise.

Use gamification. Scores, leaderboards and opportunities to ‘level up’ to encourage repeat usage.

Encourage continuous learning.



Challenges

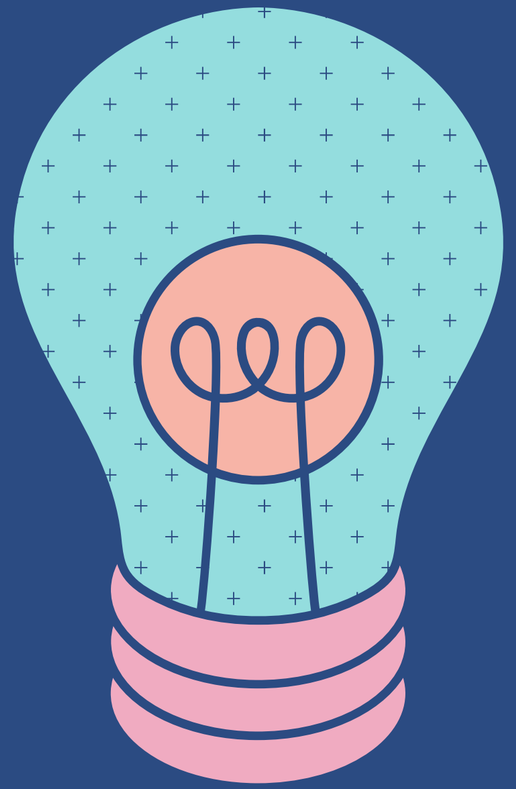
- Designing engaging, high-quality content.
- Ensuring accessibility for all students.
- Balancing microlearning with communicative lessons.
- Not suited to complex topics.
- May require additional expertise.

Solutions

- Ensuring accessibility for all students.
- Use ready-made tools and resources.
- Prioritize mobile-friendly formats.
- Integrate microlearning as a supplement, not a replacement.

Key Takeaways

- Microlearning is an effective way to boost ESL engagement and retention.
- It works best when integrated with comprehensive curriculum.
- Tools and strategies are readily available to simplify implementation.
- Start small and measure success through student feedback and performance.



Do you have any questions?

Ask now or forever hold your peace!