

Conditions for a successful / unsuccessful bilingual education

A combination of different parameters determines whether a bilingual education within a family unit is successful or not.

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Both parents are fluent in both languages, are even bilingual and serve as good models for their children2. The language chosen as the one spoken at home is not the one from the surrounding environment. It helps to maintain a balance with that extra language.3. The rule “one person / one language” is respected.4. Both languages must be used equally or at least comparatively.5. Family and their relatives are good representatives of bilingualism.6. Parents have an attitude, a bicultural identity and are trying to transmit that dual culture to their child.7. Parents have a strong personality that enables them to consciously tackle the problems of bilingualism.8. Parents devote lots of time to their children, especially when it comes to bilingualism.9. Parents do not give up when faced with difficulties, even when the child temporarily rejects a language.10. The family regularly travels to the country of the least spoken language and interact with people speaking that language.11. The child interacts with other people speaking that language in his surroundings.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. One of the parents has a strong desire to integrate and does not maintain the use of his or her language within the family unit.2. The second language, which is not the one from the surrounding environment, has no clear status in the family.3. Parents dispense a bilingual education without proper thought to the method.4. The prestige of the language not represented in the surrounding environment is very limited or even null.5. Parents or close relatives of the child have doubts concerning a bilingual education.6. The parent that speaks the language of the local environment does not understand the language of the spouse and makes no effort to learn it.7. Parents do not consciously make the effort to transmit their bilingualism. Those who do not have a specific strategy are drowned out by the language of the environment in which they live.8. The parent that does not use his language with the child does not spend enough time with the child and is not bonding with that child.9. If a child refuses to speak the second language, the parent will forgo the use of his mother tongue and will use the language of the environment.10. The family never travels to the country of the second language, whether for reasons of distance or lack of caring.11. The child has no other contact, apart from the parents, with other speakers of the second language.
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