Effective Strategies for ESL Students
From Notes at a presentation at the CoTESOL Meeting 2005

1. Use of visual supports, objects and flashcards.

2. Language modification
   Simplified input
   Use of models and frames (I like ______)
   Use of appropriate questions
   Yes/No questions
   Wh- questions-Where do you live?
   Still framed questions and answers.

3. Feedback
   Repeat student answers – if not correct say it properly – grammatically anyway to help develop language
   Praise and Encouragement – continual positive Feedback
   Positive nonverbal responses such as nodding, smiling and laughing.
   Confirmation/clarification of responses – more complete sentences with more student responses

4. Demonstration and physical movement
   The teacher may demonstrate many times
   Students see, hear, and “air” write
   Students evaluate sample – evaluation will be based on the level of the students. For young students it might be a happy and sad face.
5. Humor
   Serves to lower anxiety in class
   Can cut across all aspects of instruction
   Keeps students on their toes
   Makes going to school and learning fun
   Helps ELLs and all students