

Tandem-Guide

A tandem is an efficient and cost-free way of learning languages. With no teacher around you and your tandem partner are alternately adopting the roles of the learner and the teacher. It is up to you to decide, where, what and how you want to learn. The following guidelines will help you to structure your tandem in such a way that both of you improve your language skills and have fun learning together.

Preparation

- + Collect ideas for vocabulary that you would like to discuss: What would you like to say in a conversation about the topic?
- + Before every session look up some phrases or terms that you consider interesting, but difficult to use. Try them out during the upcoming meeting.
- + Take care to practice both languages separately (don't mix them in one conversation).

Your role as a Teacher

- + Try to avoid direct translation, but encourage the other person to describe and rephrase what he/she want to express.
- + Introduce a summing-up talk at the end of your meetings. Here you can note down new terms, elaborate further examples and situations related to your topic.
- + Correct your partner in a clear but polite way!
- + Try not to interrupt your partners speech, give him/her time to search for the right word/phrase
- + Concentrate on what your partner wants to tell you and not on mistakes.
- + Ask what your partner wanted to say by using the right phrase/term in the conversation.

Your role as a Learner

- + Try to get across what you want to say in the foreign language.
- + Make clear if you need help!
- + Take notes to help yourself remembering phrases and vocabulary. Use them to refresh your memory in preparation for your next session.

Where to get help?

- + For language and didactical queries: begonia.perez@uni-weimar.de
- + For all organisational matters: win@uni-weimar.de
- + For fast feedback and contacting other Tandem-couples, follow us on facebook: www.facebook.com/tandemweimar



Finally these are the **"3 golden rules"** of tandem-learning:

- + Meet on a regular basis!
- + Prepare yourself for the meetings!
- + Respect your partner!

We hope you have a good time and a successful learning experience with your tandem partner!