Teaching Methods

How to teach a language?

Why learning methods?

It is important to realise that teachers need to **know** different approaches so that he or she can **choose** the one that makes teaching more comfortable and the learning process easier for the students.

Let's start?

Now, we are going to talk about **two** of these methods:

The grammar-translation method

and

The direct method

First of all...

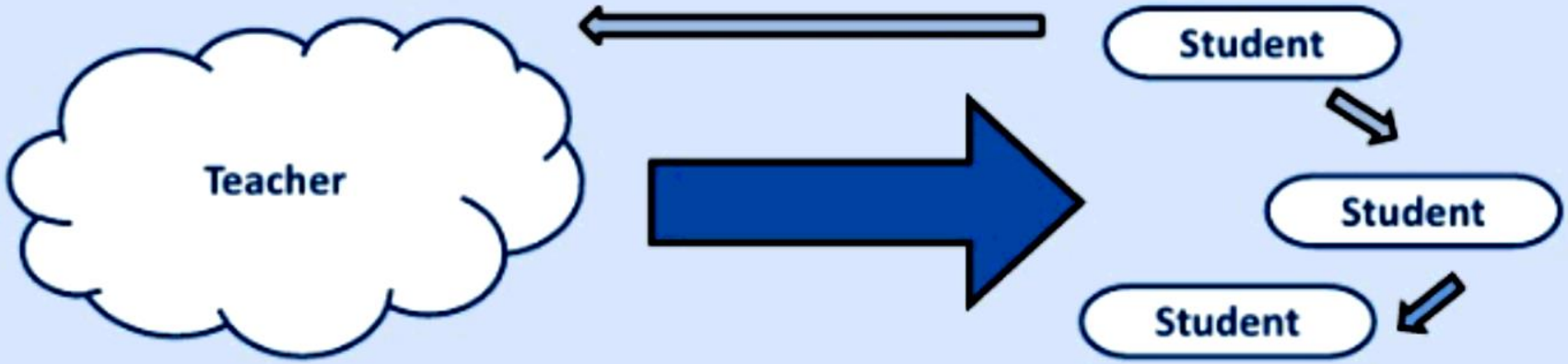
The author of the book uses **experiments** to explain how the methods work. It is important to **try** the methods in fact, not only **study** them.

It is important to **try** the methods in class, because there are questions and answers that the teacher will be able to see just if he **applies** the method.

If the student can translate a text, both from his mother language to the **target** language and also from the target language to his mother language, then he or she is a successful language learner.

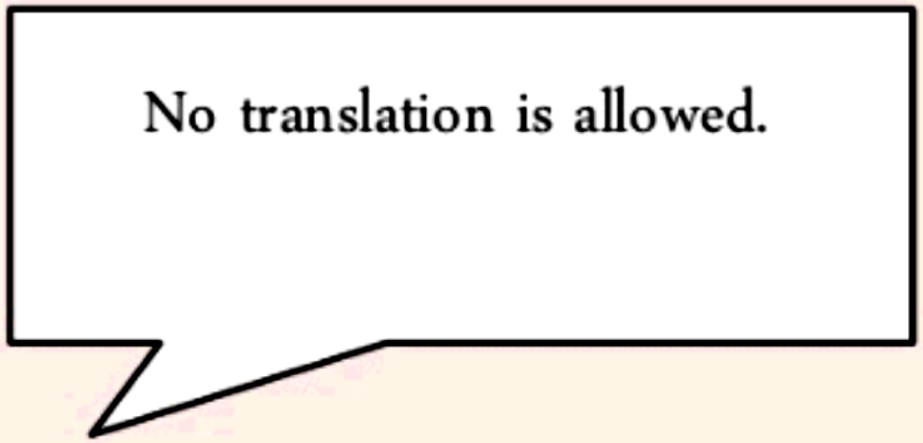
How is the interaction in this method?

There must be much interaction from **teacher to students**, a little student initiation and a little student-student interaction.

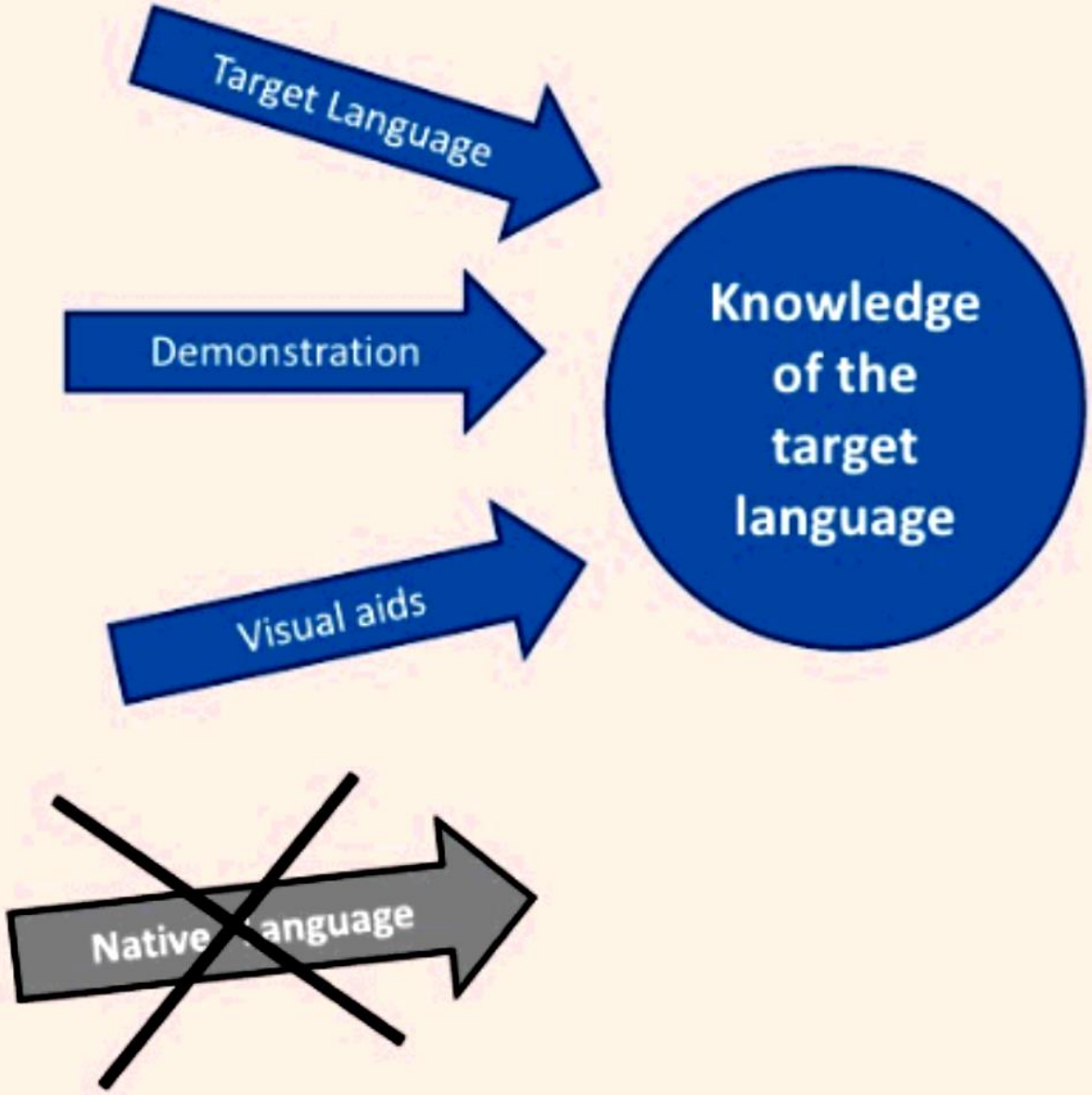


The Direct Method

This second method we are about to explain, differently from the one we have just discussed, has one basic rule:

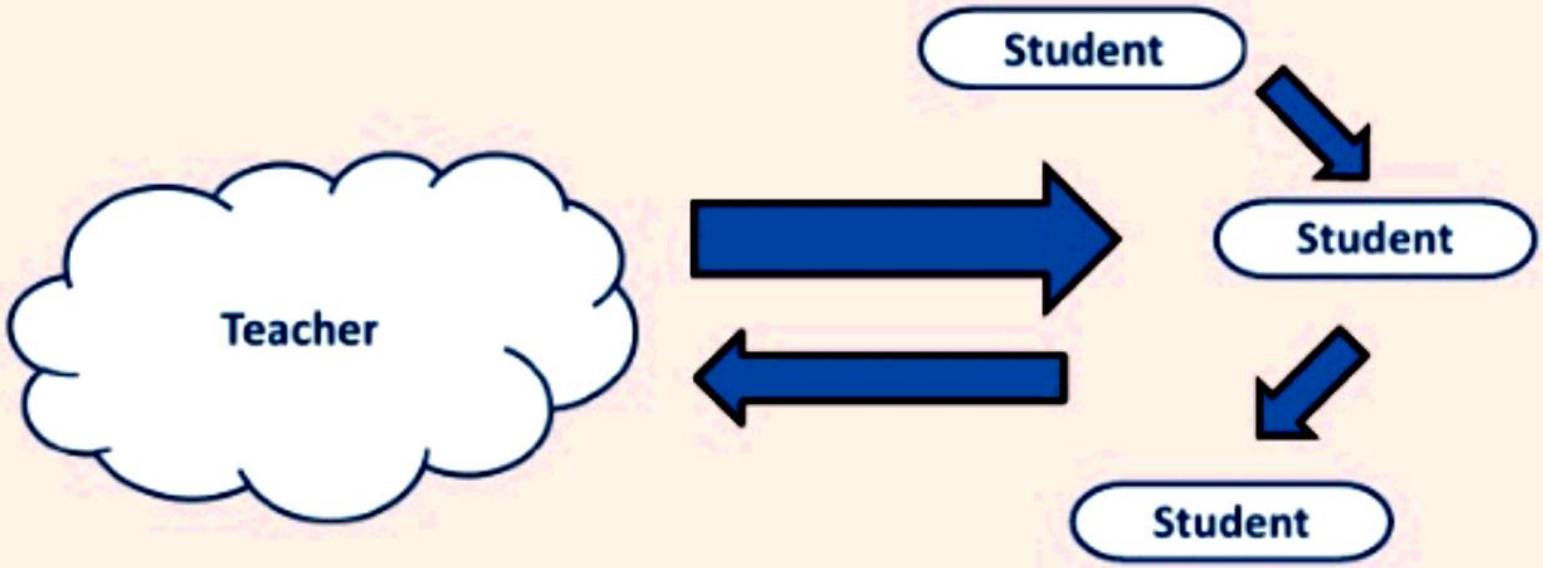


In the class, the teacher uses only the target language to make the explanations.



How is the interaction in this method?

There is a great student-student interaction and a significant student-teacher one. However, the 'teacher-student' interaction is the biggest one.



Comparing these two methods

Grammar-Translation Method

- Main goal: Understanding
- Role of native language: Crucial
- How? Translating.
- Skills: Reading/ Writing
- Errors: Teacher's correction

Direct Method

- Main goal: Communicating
- Role of native language: Almost null
- How? Speaking
- Skill: Speaking
- Errors: Self-Correction

A similarity

One aspect that these two methods have in common is the role of the teacher. In these two methods, the teacher is the one responsible for providing the knowledge (in this case the new language) to the students.