## INTEGRATING CONTENT AND LANGUAGE LEARNING IN EMI EDUCATION ---EXPLORING "THEMATIC PATTERNS" AS PEDAGOGICAL STRATEGIES



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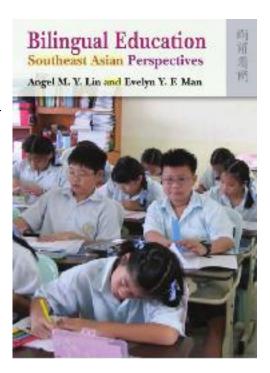
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### **Overview**

- Background
- Literature review
- Methodology
- Results
- Discussion
- Limitation
- Implication

# Unfavourable conditions in English as the Medium of Instruction (EMI) schools in Hong Kong (Lin & Man, 2009)

- inadequate English skills of the students
- lack of language support
- lack of professional development opportunities for teachers
- lack of Language-Across-the-Curriculum (LAC) co-ordination
- unsuccessful Bridging Courses



#### **Exam culture & Rote-learning**

"The students are really well-motivated and self-disciplined"

("自覺讀(背)書").



"Once I get the (Science) notes, I'll recite all of them, the more words the better, I'll treat them as if I am learning Chinese History..."



#### **EMI Education**

"Foreign Language": content subjects taught in English as an additional language (EAL)



"Foreign L anguage": the challenges from academic subject literacy





- Learning science is virtually learning a "foreign language" (Wellington & Osborne, 2001)
- Foreign language "squared" (Lin, 2016)

## Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) in EMI education



To help students to learn the (science) subjects in a meaningful way by enhancing both their academic content awareness and academic language awareness

#### CLIL

- Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) is an educational approach where students learn non-language content subjects through a second/foreign/additional language (Coyle, Hood & Marsh, 2010).
- Previous CLIL studies have mainly focused on its various definitions, language and content learning outcomes as well as pedagogical issues (Cenoz, Genesee, & Gorter, 2013; Dalton-Puffer & Nikula, 2014; Lin, 2016; Llinares & Lyster, 2014).
- Recent studies start to investigate CLIL teacher education (Cammarata & Ó Ceallaigh, 2018)
  - -CLIL teachers' knowledge about language (Morton, 2018)
  - -CLIL teacher professional identities (Dale, Oostdam & Verspoor, 2018)
  - -CLIL teacher language awareness (He & Lin, 2018)

### Research Gap

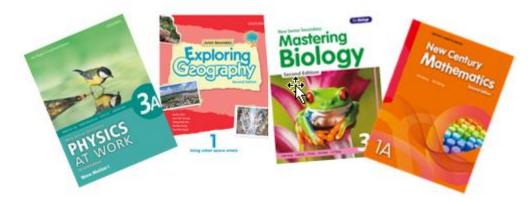
While there is no denying that CLIL involves the teaching of both content and language, it remains a challenge to achieve pedagogical **integration** of content and language in CLIL classrooms (Dalton-Puffer, 2018; Lin, 2016; Ruiz de Zarobe, 2016).



#### Concept instruction and language

Concepts are <u>fundamental</u> in all content subjects, but they are difficult to learn because of their <u>abstractness</u> and <u>complexity</u>.

Traditional (science) pedagogy privileges the notion of "concepts" but neglects the role played by language.



#### **Concept mapping**

• Concepts are "perceived regularities or patterns in events or objects, or records of events or objects, designated by a label" (Novak, et al., 1983, p. 625).

• Novak developed the idea of "cognitive maps" or "concept maps" (Novak et al., 1983). Although concept mapping is believed to facilitate meaningful learning by constructing a spatial and visual representation of interconnected concepts and the hierarchical structure of conceptual knowledge in the human mind, concept maps which "strip away all text except for concept labels" may lead to the "lack of clarity for most people" (Novak, 2010, p. 32).

The mentalistic representations of concepts "lack the necessary vocabulary" (Lemke, 1998) to inform teachers how they should guide their students to learn and apply the concepts correctly.

Concepts are mediated by thematic patterns. What science teachers typically do in the classroom is in fact exposing students repeatedly to the 'thematic patterns' (Lemke, 1990).

### Thematic-pattern-based Concept + Language Mapping

#### The theory of "thematic patterns"



"The pattern of connections among the meanings of words in a particular field of science I will call their **thematic pattern**. It is a <u>pattern</u> of <u>semantic relationships</u> that describes the thematic content, the science content, of a particular topic area. It is like a <u>network of relationships among the scientific concepts</u> in a field, but described <u>semantically</u>, in terms of how <u>language</u> is used in that field" (Lemke, 1990, p.12).

"Talking science is not the totality of doing science. But very little science gets done, or could get done, without the **semantic resources of language**, and particularly the **thematic patterns** and **genre structures** specific to science"...

...Reasoning is combing the use of **thematic pattern** with the use of a rhetorical or **genre structure pattern**. One supplies the **content**, the other supplies the **form** of organization of the argument" (p. 122-123).

#### Thematic patterns, semantic relations and thematic items (Lemke, 1990)

are key terms or concept words <u>refer to</u> the **relations** between the **thematic items Thematic** is a pattern of semantic relationships that describes the thematic content of a particular content area. pattern <u>describe</u> how the **meanings** of two **thematic items** <u>are related</u> when they <u>are used</u> together in <u>talking about</u> a particular topic **Nominal relations** e.g. attributive, classifier, quantifier, etc. **Taxonomic relations** e.g. token, hyponym, meronym, synonym, antonym, etc. *Transitivity relations* e.g. agent, target, medium, beneficiary, range, identification, possession, etc. <u>include</u> Circumstantial relations e.g. location, time, material, manner, reason, etc. **Logical relations** e.g. elaboration, addition variation, connection, etc. Joy L. Lemke and other relations, etc.

#### Global thematic strategies (Lemke, 1990, p.227)

### Repetition with variation

"One or more repeats of the same partial thematic pattern, each with some items and relations similarly expressed and other differently expressed. <u>Enables abstraction of pattern and flexible expression</u>."

#### Condensation

"Assigning a pattern of thematic items and their semantic relationships to a single new thematic item, that is, <u>naming or designating the pattern</u>. Condensations are then <u>more easily connected to other themes."</u>

#### Thematic nexus

"The bringing together of themes expressed in different parts of the lesson or text into a single structural unit; <u>a synthesis</u>."

## Theme-weaving (cohesive harmony)

"Establishing patterns of <u>thematic interconnection</u> by introducing thematic items and relations and bring them together in different <u>combinations across the lesson or text</u>; usually leads to one culminative or through more than one intermediate thematic nexus."

### Intertextual allusion

"Establishing thematic relationships by implicitly or explicitly invoking a thematic pattern which is <u>not explicitly expressed</u> in the lesson or text, <u>but</u> which is <u>known to the participants</u> or can be <u>located</u> in some other text or occasion of discourse."

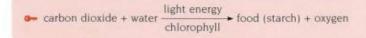
#### A Photosynthesis

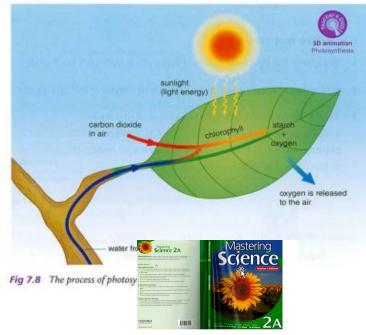


Through eating, we obtain energy for carrying out various body activities. However, plants do not eat like us. How do green plants get their energy for growth?

Green plants can make their own food. They take in **carbon dioxide** and **water** from the surroundings, and build them into food using **light energy**. The light energy is absorbed by a green pigment (色素) called **chlorophyll** (葉錄素) inside the chloroplasts (葉綠體) in green plant cells. The food produced is usually **starch** (澱粉). **Oxygen** is also produced as a **by-product** (副產品) during the process (Fig 7.8).

This process of making food in green plants is called **photosynthesis** (光合作用). It can be summarized by the word equation below.





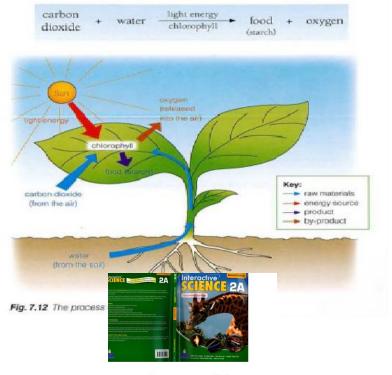
Oxford 2A: Mastering Science (Teacher's Edition p.31)

#### A. The process of photosynthesis

Green plants make their own food by **photosynthesis**. It is a complicated process. Below are four main aspects of photosynthesis:

- Raw materials\*: The raw materials are carbon dioxide and water. Carbon dioxide is obtained from the air. Water is obtained from the soil.
- Energy source: Light energy is required in the process. It is absorbed by chlorophyll\* in the green leaves and other green parts of the plants.
- Product: The food produced is usually stored in form of starch\*.
   The chemical energy stored in the food is converted from the light energy absorbed by chlorophyll.
- 4. By-product\*: Oxygen is also produced and is released into the air.

To summarize, green plants absorb light energy by chlorophyll to produce food from carbon dioxide and water. Oxygen is formed as a by-product. The process of photosynthesis can be represented by the word equation below:



Longman 2A: Interactive Science (Teacher's Edition p.35) A. Photosynthesis

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Green plants make their own food by the problem of photosynthesis. During photosynthesis, green plants use carbon dioxide and water as the raw materials, and the energy from sunlight to make their own food. The food is stored in the form of starch. Oxygen is also produced as a by-product.

The carbon dioxide needed for photosynthesis is obtained from the air and the water is absorbed from the soil. The sunlight is absorbed by chlorophyll in the green parts of the plants (Fig. 7.9).

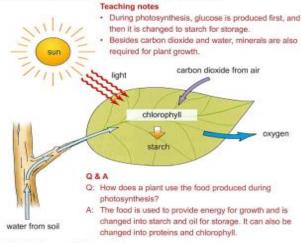


Fig. 7.9 Process of photosynthesis

The following is a simplified equation representing the process of photosynthesis:



ARISTO 2A:
Understanding Integrated Science
(Teacher's Edition p.31) 15

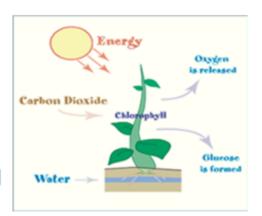
#### Repetition with variation

#### Thematic pattern, condensation, thematic nexus and theme-weaving

Photosynthesis (光合作用) <u>is</u> the process by which green plants <u>make</u> food from carbon dioxide and water using light energy.

#### The semantic relations in the definition "photosynthesis"

- 1. PHOTOSYNTHESIS is a PROCESS [Token / Type]
- 2. GREEN PLANTS make FOOD [Agent / Process / Target]
- -by PHOTOSYNTHESIS [Circumstance: manner]
- -from CARBON DIOXIDE and WATER [Circumstance: material]
- -using LIGHT ENERGY [Circumstance: condition]



#### An example of a thematic pattern

Photosynthesis is important [Carrier / Attribute]

#### because

[logical relation: Cause/ Consequence]

it produces food (starch)

and

<u>releases</u> oxygen

for all living things.

[Agent / Process / target]

[logical relation: Item/ Addition]

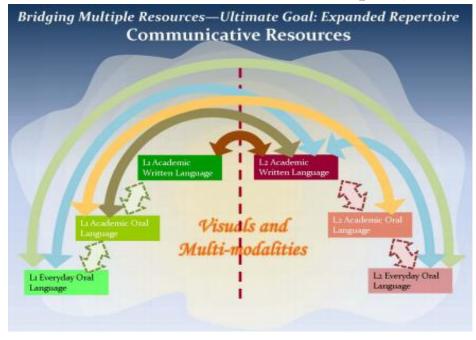
[Process / target]

[Circumstance: beneficiary]

## Meaning making in the classroom: synergistic integration of semiotic resources

- "The 'concepts' of science are not verbal concepts...They are semiotic *hybrids*, simultaneously and essentially verbal-typological and mathematical-graphical-operational-topological" (Lemke, 1993).
- "The natural language of science is a synergistic integration of words, diagrams, pictures, graphs, maps, equations, tables, charts, and other forms of visual and mathematical expression" (Lemke, 1998).

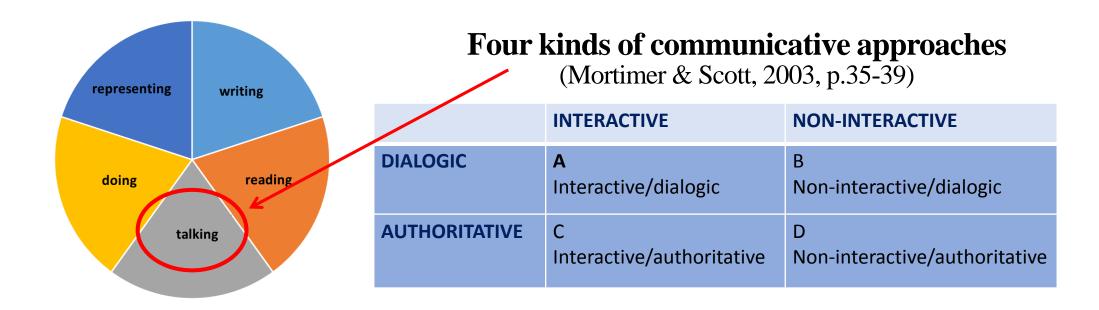
"**Rainbow Diagram**" (Lin, 2012, p. 93)



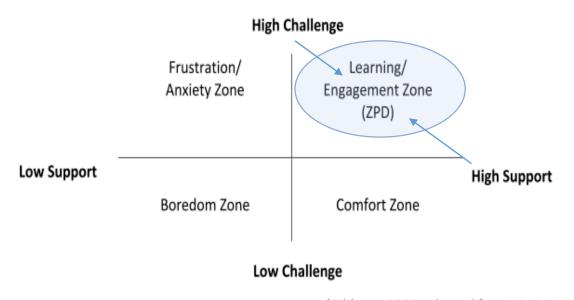
- Learning from animated concept maps with concurrent audio narrations (Nesbit & Adesope, 2011)
- The importance of a **consistent diagrammatic** and **verbal representation** in communicating scientific ideas (Cheng & Gilbert 2015)

#### **Communicative activities and Communicative approaches**

"....the fundamental sense of literacy in science is the ability of an individual to construct meaning through interaction with the multiple forms of semiotic communication that are used within the discipline of science. Indeed, the five major communicative activities of science can be seen as writing science, talking sciences, reading science, "doing" science, and representing scientific ideas "(Osborne, 2014, p.591).



## Designed/Planned scaffolding vs Interactional/Spontaneous scaffolding (Gibbons, 2009; Lin, 2016)



(Gibbons, 2009, adapted from Mariani, 1997)

**Designed/planned scaffolding**: the support teachers consciously plan in advance.

#### **Spontaneous/Interactional scaffolding:**

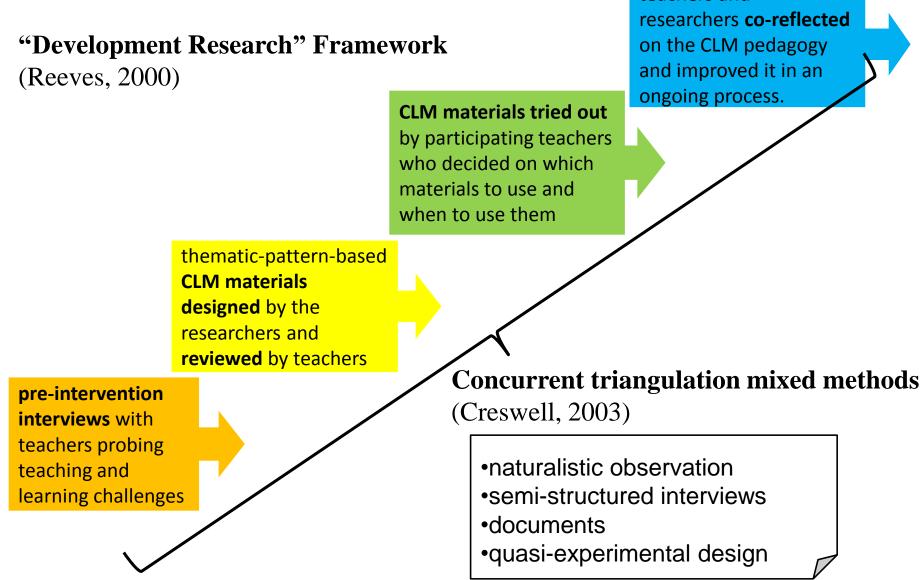
the support teachers provide contingently through dialogue during instruction or other interaction

#### **Research Questions**

1. Does the CLM approach facilitate development of both content knowledge and language knowledge in EMI classrooms?

2. How does the CLM approach affect the process of content and language knowledge development in EMI classrooms?

#### Research design



teachers and

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#### **Summary of research sites and participants**

Schools	MOI	Banding	Grade	Subjects	No. of	Included	Remarks
					students	(Y/N)	
School 1	EMI	Band I	S1	Junior Geography	31	Y	
	EMI	Band I	S2	Integrated Science	29	Y	
	EMI	Band I	S2	Junior Geography	30	Y	
	EMI	Band I	S3	Biology	30	Y	
	EMI	Band I	S4	Senior Geography	20	N	There was only one class in S4
							Geography. Control class was
							not available.
	EMI	Band I	S4/5	Biology	28	Y	There was only one class in S4
							Biology. The S4 (intervention
							class) and \$5 (control class)
							Biology teachers taught the
							same topic during the
							intervention period.
School 2	EMI	Band III	<b>S</b> 5	Biology	16	N	There was only one class in S4
							Biology. Control class was not
							available.
School 3	CMI	Band III	S3	Integrated Science	19	N	This project focused on EMI
	CMI	Band III	S1	Integrated Science	19	N	classrooms.
School 4	CMI	Band III	S2	Integrated Humanity	31	N	
	CMI	Band III	S1	Integrated Science	24	N	

#### **Details of participants**

	Intervention Class	Control Class		
MOI; grade; subject;	EMI S1 (Grade 7) Junior Geography	EMI S1 (Grade 7) Junior Geography		
	N=31 Ms C 7 lessons	N=33 Ms C 7 lessons		
number of students;	EMI S2 (Grade 8) Integrated Science	EMI S2 (Grade 8) Integrated Science		
	N=30 Mr H 7 lessons	N=30 Mr H 7 lessons		
subject teacher;	EMI S2 (Grade 8) Junior Geography	EMI S2 (Grade 8) Junior Geography		
	N=29 Ms L 3 lessons	N=29 Ms L 3 lessons		
number of lessons	EMI S3 (Grade 9)Biology	EMI S3 (Grade 9)Biology		
during intervention	N=30 Ms S 8 lessons	N=27 Another teacher 8 lessons		
	EMI S4 (Grade 10) Biology	EMI S5 (Grade 11) Biology		
	N=28 Ms T 8 lessons	N=30 Another teacher 8 lessons		
L1 of students	Cantonese	Cantonese		
English language	• above-average among same-grade	• above-average among same-grade		
proficiency	students in the city	students in the city		
Learning attitudes	• well motivated with good learning	• well motivated with good learning		
	attitude	attitude		
Teacher background	• The L1 of the participating teachers is Cantonese, but they are all			
	qualified EMI teachers and are experienced in teaching the content subjects.			
	• Mr H teaches both Integrated Science and English language subjects.			
	• All teachers participated in the project for first time.			
Pre-/post tests	taken on the same day			
Teaching resources	tried out during intervention	not available		

#### Thematic-pattern-based "C+L Mapping" pedagogy

#### **"Concept + Language" teaching/learning materials**

- -C+ L Cards
- -C + L Maps
- -C + L supporting materials:

e.g. sentence-making tables, experiment report template, essay writing guides, etc.



- -collaborative learning:
  - e.g. discussions, experiments, debates, games
- -self-directed learning:

e.g. completing worksheet, experiment report, home assignments, etc.





## **CLM Scaffolding:** C+L Card

photosynthesis

**photosynthesis** (光合作用): the process by which **green plants** <u>make food</u> from **carbon dioxide** and **water** using **light** energy

#### <u>Language knowledge:</u>

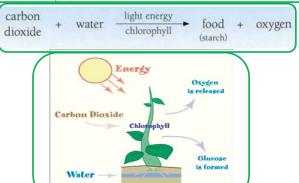
photo-synthesis

photo: "light"

**Synthesis** (綜合體): "the combining of constituent elements (構成成分) of separate materials into a unified entity (統一的實體)"

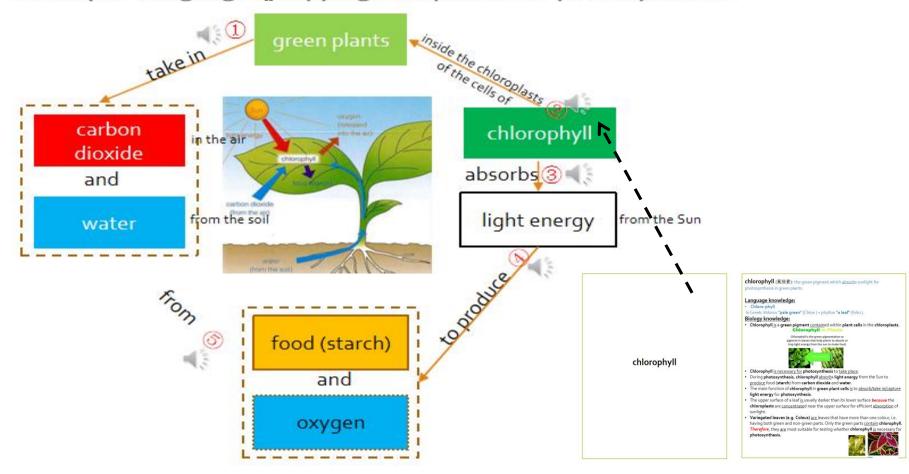
#### Biology + Language knowledge:

- •Photosynthesis <u>is important because</u> it <u>produces</u> food (starch) and <u>releases</u> oxygen for all living things.
- •Green plants make their own food by photosynthesis.
- •Chlorophyll, light, carbon dioxide and water <u>are needed for photosynthesis</u> during which Carbon dioxide and water <u>are consumed</u> while food (starch) and oxygen <u>are produced</u>.
- •During photosynthesis, green plants <u>convert</u> light energy <u>to</u> chemical energy <u>stored</u> in the food produced.
- •Photosynthesis is important in maintaining the balance of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.



## CLM Scaffolding: C+L Map

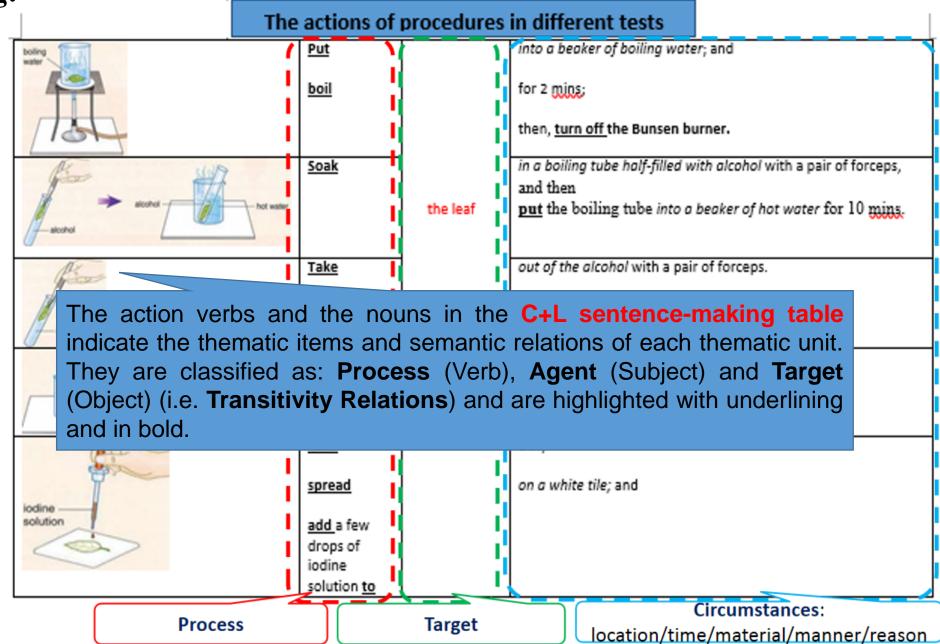
#### "Concept + Language" Mapping: The process of photosynthesis



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**CLM Scaffolding:** 

#### C+L sentence-making table



A. My own expe	riment d esign	B. The	experiment I observed
le of the experiment:	<u> </u>	Title of the experiment:	
jective: [Why do I carry out this experiment?]		Objective: [Why do I carry out this exp	periment?]
experiment aims to investigate	C My Ev	perimental Report	
terials and apparatus: [What do I need for this		Jerimental Report	
	Experin	nental Report	-The experimenter uses
rials:	Name: Class:	Date:	(material A/apparatus B) to I'll do (the same/dilferently)
ratus:	Objective:		because
vocahula	This experiment aims to investigate whether		
Vocabalar	Materials and apparatus:		
W	Materials:		- The experimenter follows the
cedures: [How do I conduct the experiment? In		CALL STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE	same/different steps as/from those in
<b>***</b>	Procedures:		my design. I will/will not change my experiment procedures because
	1		
	2.		I found the experimenter uses the following action verbs in his/her experiment steps:
	3.		
-	4.		
	r 5		
	R 6.		- A turns to/changes to/ becomes
2)  '	7.		while 8 turns/becomes
1000	Drawing of the set-up:		The family of th
wing of the set-up: [How to indicate the exper			
Control of the set up that to indicate the experi			The results show/indicate
	44		that
	Results:		It can be concluded that
			C UIDL
	Analysis:		
The same of the sa	This shows that		
	Conclusion:		
	Conclusion.		

DNA is well suited to its function as the genetic material:

- DNA is a stable molecule.
- The base sequences form the genetic code.
- and the same of th

Bullet-point notes in

the science textbook.

- A DNA molecule can carry a large amount of genetic information.
- DNA can replicate accurately so that the same genetic information can be passed to new cells.

Add an introduction referring to the question

Provide **supporting details** to make your arguments *solid*.

Use **sequencial conjunctions** to make your argument *clear*.

Use academic words (e.g. 'replicate' instead of 'copy') to make your arguments scientific.

The structure of DNA <u>is well suited to</u> its function as a genetic material because of the following aspects:

*First*, DNA molecule <u>consists of</u> a large number of nucleotides. *Therefore*, it <u>carries</u> a large amount of genetic information.

**Second**, **since** DNA molecule <u>has</u> a long sequence of bases to <u>form</u> genetic code, it <u>stores</u> a large amount of genetic information.

**Third**, DNA <u>is</u> a stable molecule **because** it <u>has</u> strong sugar-phosphate backbones and double helix structure <u>maintained</u> by the hydrogen bonds between the two strands.

**Fourth**, DNA can <u>replicate</u> itself accurately through complementary base pairing. **As a result**, identical genetic information can <u>be passed</u> to the new cells from generation to generation.

Writing

**CLM Scaffolding:** 

C+L essay writing guide

The C+L essay writing scaffolding guides students to develop the bullet-point notes into the answer to an essay writing question (A DSE question type demanding for even Band I EMI students).

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#### Summary of quantitative and qualitative data

Class	Quantitative data	Qualitative data
S1 Junior Geography	pre-test scores	lesson observation (videotape appr 245 mins)
	<ul> <li>post-test scores</li> </ul>	focus group interview with students (audiotape appr 40mins)
	control class N=33	semi-structured interview with Ms C (audiotape appr 30 mins)
	• intervention class N=31	student works of the try-out unit (intervention class N=31)
S2 Integrated Science	pre-test scores	lesson observation (videotape appr 245 mins)
	post-test scores	focus group interview with students (audiotape appr 30mins)
	control class N=30	semi-structured interview with Ms C (audiotape appr 30 mins)
	• intervention class N=30	student works of the try-out unit (intervention class N=30)
S2 Junior Geography	pre-test scores	lesson observation (videotape appr 105 mins)
	post-test scores	focus group interview with students (audiotape appr 35mins)
	• control class N=29	semi-structured interview with Ms C (audiotape appr 40 mins)
	• intervention class N=29	student works of the try-out unit (intervention class N=29)
S3 Biology	pre-test scores	lesson observation (videotape appr 280 mins)
	<ul> <li>post-test scores</li> </ul>	focus group interview with students (audiotape appr 30mins)
	• control class N=27	semi-structured interview with Ms C (audiotape appr 45 mins)
	• intervention class N=30	student works of the try-out unit (intervention class N=30)
S4/5 Biology	pre-test scores	lesson observation (videotape appr 280 mins)
	<ul> <li>post-test scores</li> </ul>	focus group interview with students (audiotape appr 50mins)
	• control class N=30	semi-structured interview with Ms C (audiotape appr 50 mins)
	• intervention class N=28	• student works of the try-out unit (intervention class N=28)

## Finding 1

#### Results of quantitative data analysis indicated:

- in the post tests, the intervention classes **outperformed** the control classes in both content and language knowledge development;
- the **differences** were statistically **significant** when...
- -both designed scaffolding and interactional scaffolding (Gibbons, 2009; Lin, 2016) were provided for the students during the EMI lessons, and
- -content knowledge and language knowledge were integrated during the EMI lessons.



### Finding 2

The **thematic-patterns-based CLM materials** were welcomed by the students and teacher who considered the CLM pedagogy helpful for learning the subjects in English as their additional language.



#### Feedback on CLM teaching materials

The C+L cards offered meaningful learning opportunities and helped students to clarify the meaning of the concepts.



The C+L cards built up networks of interrelated meaning about the concepts and provided more focused structures of their critical attributes that are scattered at different locations in the textbook.

The multimodal information helped students to better understand the concepts.



The language support was beneficial for students to better express the content knowledge.

## Finding 3

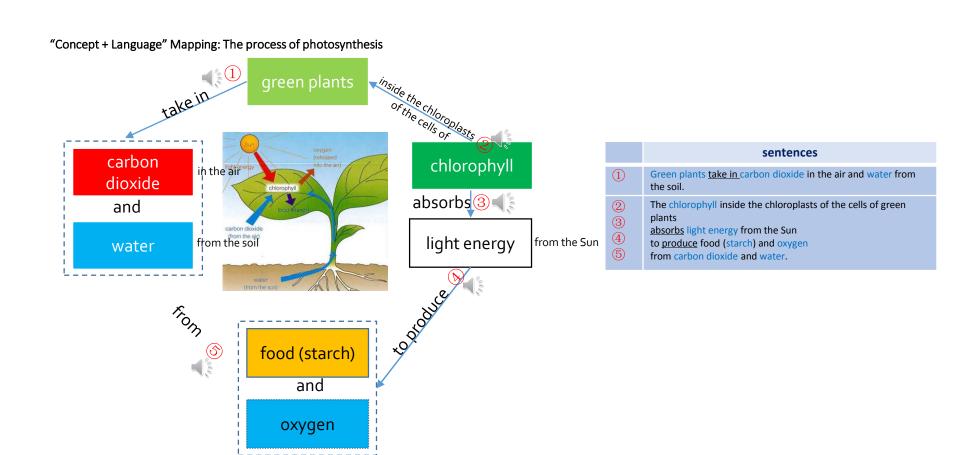
#### The importance of designed scaffolding and spontaneous scaffolding

The thematic-pattern-based CLM approach enabled the teacher to guide the students to **better understand** and **inquire into the content knowledge** through both <u>designed</u> and spontaneous scaffoldings (Gibbons, 2009; Lin, 2016) in shifting <u>communicative approaches</u> (Mortimer & Scott, 2003).

The thematic-pattern-based CLM materials and activities enhanced students' **motivation** to learn both the content and language knowledge actively through <u>self-directed</u> and <u>collaborative learning</u>.



#### CLM Scaffolding: C+L Map





S4: The C+L maps on the PPT we saw during the lessons made it easier for us the remember what we've learned. I mean, we don't need to recite everything in the book all the time.

R: What's the difference between a big map and the cards in different pieces?

S4: Well the maps are bigger when you read them you don't just focus on a certain part.

R: What is there between the different small parts?

S5: There're connections.

R: Are there just arrow-connections or are there also some words in the connections?

S5: There're words, which is good. If there were only cards without connection, it would be time-consuming for us to search which concepts are linked with which and which one is being introduced. It would be easier to remember what we've learned if we read the whole maps.

Complicated concepts are constructed by simple concepts which are connected logically according to the interrelationship between each other. The 'Concept + Language Mapping' Approach visualises the interrelatedness between the concepts (thematic patterns).

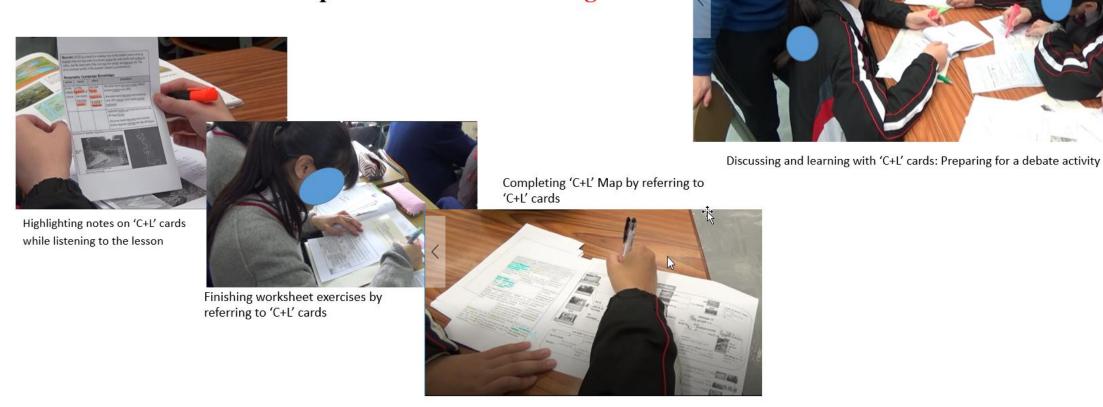
R: *Now can you make your own C+L maps?* 

S1: I will put all the key points on paper slips, and then stick them on my notebook. And the maps will connect all the key points together.

The 'Concept + Language Mapping' Approach motivated students to do self-directed learning

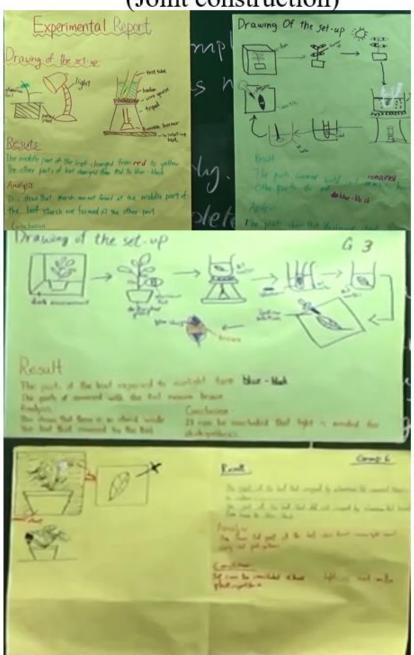
#### Teaching and learning activities with CLM scaffolding---'C + L' Cards and 'C + L' Maps: Collaborative Learning

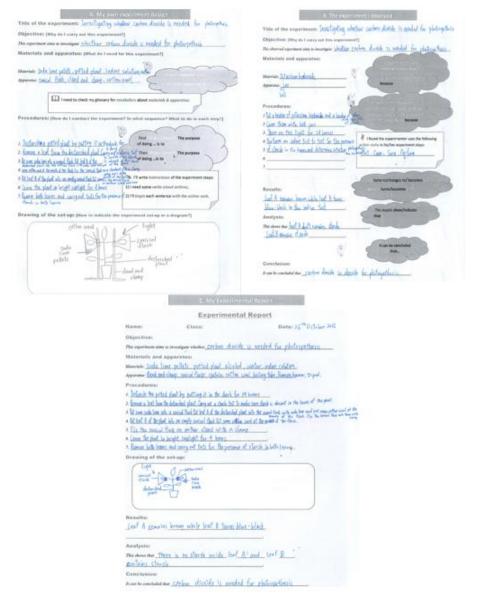
### Teaching and learning activities with CLM scaffolding-'C + L' Cards and 'C + L' Maps: Self-directed Learning



Group experiment design

(Joint construction)





### **Experimental Reports**

(individual construction)

### Bingo Game with "C+L Cards"

### Dictation in a Bingo Game

#### Directions.

- + Select g worth or pilvases from the vocabulary about Basic Genetics,
- + Pill the purculativity flems into the grids on your firego Card at random codes
- . Lister carefully to the teacher when the annualocal the definitions of different HOOKELSHY PERSONS BY AVE.
- . Circle the word or phrase in the grid if it matches the defliction the teacher ANYON/YORK
- + Say "BitisGO" when you have three circled vocabatory from in a straight firm formulate wreats or deposity.

#### Market Dr. page.

- The mostle resided absolute models the destructions processed.

  All variabilities shows much be specified correctly;
  The mass who four good these control variability processes a montply line in the whomas.

What is

A Level 1 Bingo game: The cha There are only 9 grids.

heredity factors which occur in pairs. During gamete formation, separation of each pair of heredity factors occurs so that each gamete receives only one factor from each pair.



63





# Finding 4

### The importance of content and language integration

The thematic-pattern-based CLM approach helped the teacher to **raise** students' **awareness** of both <u>academic content literacy</u> and <u>academic language literacy</u>.

The thematic-pattern-based CLM approach **takes effect** only when the teacher **integrates** flexibly and appropriately the teaching and learning of both **content and language** during the CLIL practices.





**Soak** means "to immerse something into liquid to clean it or make it softer

Since in the previous experiment we "soak the leaves in the boiling tube half-filled with alcohol" (sample sentence in the sentencemaking table), now can we say "soak the leaves in the boiling tube with soda lime?"

**Soda lime** is a **solid** mixture of sodium and calcium hydroxides used to absorb carbon dioxide

Mr X: Okay. 'Soak' means you dip something completely under water. Is it okay? Or under a liquid. So that is 'soak'. Highlight that. That is a new word that you, you may want to learn. Is that okay? Instead of always saying 'put, put, put', you can say 'soak'.

S1: Mr X. [raising hand] Can we soak the... soak the leaves to the soda... soda...lime?

Mr X: Under water or liquid. [smiling] Good question. What do you think? Soda lime, soda lime. Is soda lime liquid or solid?

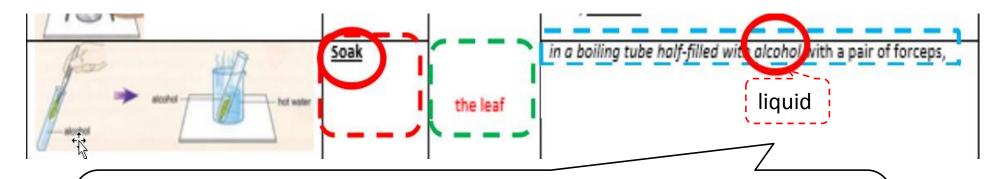
S2: Solid.

Mr X: Soda lime is solid, right? So can we use the verb 'soak'?

Ss: No.

Mr X: No. But good try.

# Integrating the learning of academic content knolwedge and academic language knowledge



The **thematic pattern** ("Soak", "the leaf", "into a boiling tube half-filled with alcohol") PROCESS/TARGET/CIRCUMSTANCE is highlighted in the sentence-making table. The special feature of the CIRCUMSTANCE of the thematic pattern requires a "liquid" not a "solid".

## Learning by rote-memorization or C+L mapping?

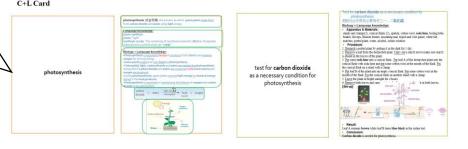
I tend to rote-memorize
everything because I cannot
understand the meaning of
the lessons, therefore I
cannot re-associate (重整)
the different concepts and
knowledge points

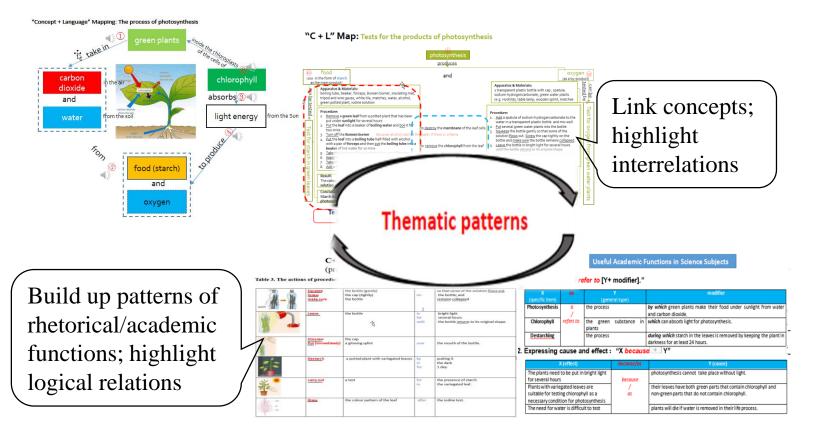
The CLM materials offered us a meaningful learning strategy and scaffolding which enabled us to learn the science concepts in meaningful and logical and interrelated way, hence it enhances our awareness in both academic language and academic content knowledge





Summarize critical attributes of the concepts and clarify key concepts





Serve not only as a writing guide (genre structure, sentence pattern, grammar, vocabulary)but also a road map for exploring science via experiments (i.e. a storyline that guides the narration of the science story)

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# **Integrating** Content and Language in EMI Education

### **Under the CLM Approach, content cannot be separated from language**

- •The talking, reading, writing, representing and doing in content sujects cannot be implemented without the use of language in networks of thematic patterns and semantic relationships.
- •The teaching of language becomes meaningless if it is not based on the content knowledge which it conveys.

# Teacher education about "thematic-pattern-based" CLM pedagogy

- CLIL teachers need to go beyond the mechanical and dichotomous belief that CLIL means simple addition of "Content" and "Language".
- An indepth **reflection on** the "thematic-pattern-based" CLM approach and its pedagogy may give teachers an implication of **the true meaning of** "**integration**" in CLIL.

## Limitations

- A quasi-experimental design
  - -only one intervention class and one control class for each subject and grade
  - -appromately 30 students in each cohort
- The limit of class number and class size may affect the quantitative result
- Short intervention (only tried out 3 8 lessons)
- The same teacher teaching both the control class and intervention class (e.g. in S1, S2 Junior Geography, S2 Integrated Science and S3 Biology)
- Delayed post-test in S2 Integrated Science

## Implications for future research

- Future research on the thematic-patterns-based CLM approach may adopt a **longitudinal** research design.
- Intervention may be tried out in **other subjects with MOIs other than English**.
- Data collection may also **include students' design and elaboration** on their own CLM materials, e.g. how students express their understanding of the thematic patterns through their own C+L cards and maps.
- Data analysis may focus on the effects of teacher's questioning and interactive/dialogic communications (Mortimer & Scott, 2003) on students' content and language development.

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