

Scaffold for Multilingual Learners

Strengthening Goal Setting and Planning

Table 8.3. Goal-Setting Calendars

Encourage students to schedule their practice on a calendar using the principles of spaced practice. Use the bullet points below to scaffold their thinking and planning.
• How many goals are you working toward? What content areas? • Consider color-coding your goals on your calendar for each subject. • How much time do you think it will take to achieve each goal? Do you have a deadline? • Create a plan on your calendar to practice toward each goal. • Make sure to make time to check in on your progress weekly with a friend.

Consider the cultural element of time. In our fast-paced American culture, time is a driving force. However, in many cultures, the concept of time differs from the American concept of time. For example, while American culture is task and deadline-motivated, and the deadline itself becomes the motivator, many Latin American cultures see time as fluid and attach importance to the emotional connection to the task (Lewis, p. 217).

Therefore, consider the addition of the following questions to **Table 8.3** when working with your multilingual learners:

- Why do these goals matter to you?
- Why is scheduling practice time to reach your goals important?
- Will color-coding help organize your focus by content area? Is there another way that might work better for you?
- What are some ways that you and your family practice an important skill?
- Can you imagine how it will feel to reach your goal after practicing?
- How long do you think it will take for you to get there?
 - Now, use the calendar to set a timeline for yourself to practice towards your goal.
- How can sharing your progress with a partner help you? How do you imagine you will feel when you share your progress with a partner? Who would you like to share your progress with each week?

If necessary, provide frames for your multilingual learners to support their responses to these questions.