



P₂ SUBJECT BRIEFING MOTHER TONGUE



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What is Mother Tongue Language

Mother Tongue Language (MTL) is offered in Singapore schools as a second language. It is a compulsory subject. There are 3 official MTLs:

- Chinese
- Malay
- Tamil



- Students of Chinese, Malay and Indian ethnicities will study their own MTLs.
- Non-Tamil speaking students of Indian ethnicity can apply to study Non-Tamil Indian Language (Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Punjabi or Urdu).
- These languages are **conducted outside of school premises and hours**. You may want to find out more information from the Board for the Teaching and Testing of South Asian Languages' website.



- Students registered with a double-barreled race will be assigned a MTL based on the first component of their double-barreled race. Those who wish to study a MTL based on the second component of their race may apply to do so through their schools.
- Students who are Eurasian or of other races, and whose mother tongue is not one of the official MTLs, can request to study any of the official MTLs through their schools, subject to approval.





Mother Tongue Language Syllabus



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- The Mother Tongue Language curriculum focuses on **listening, speaking, reading, writing and interaction skills**.
- Your child can progress to different levels of proficiency. For example, to learn Higher Mother Language based on each's ability and interest, from primary three onwards.



Listening



Speaking



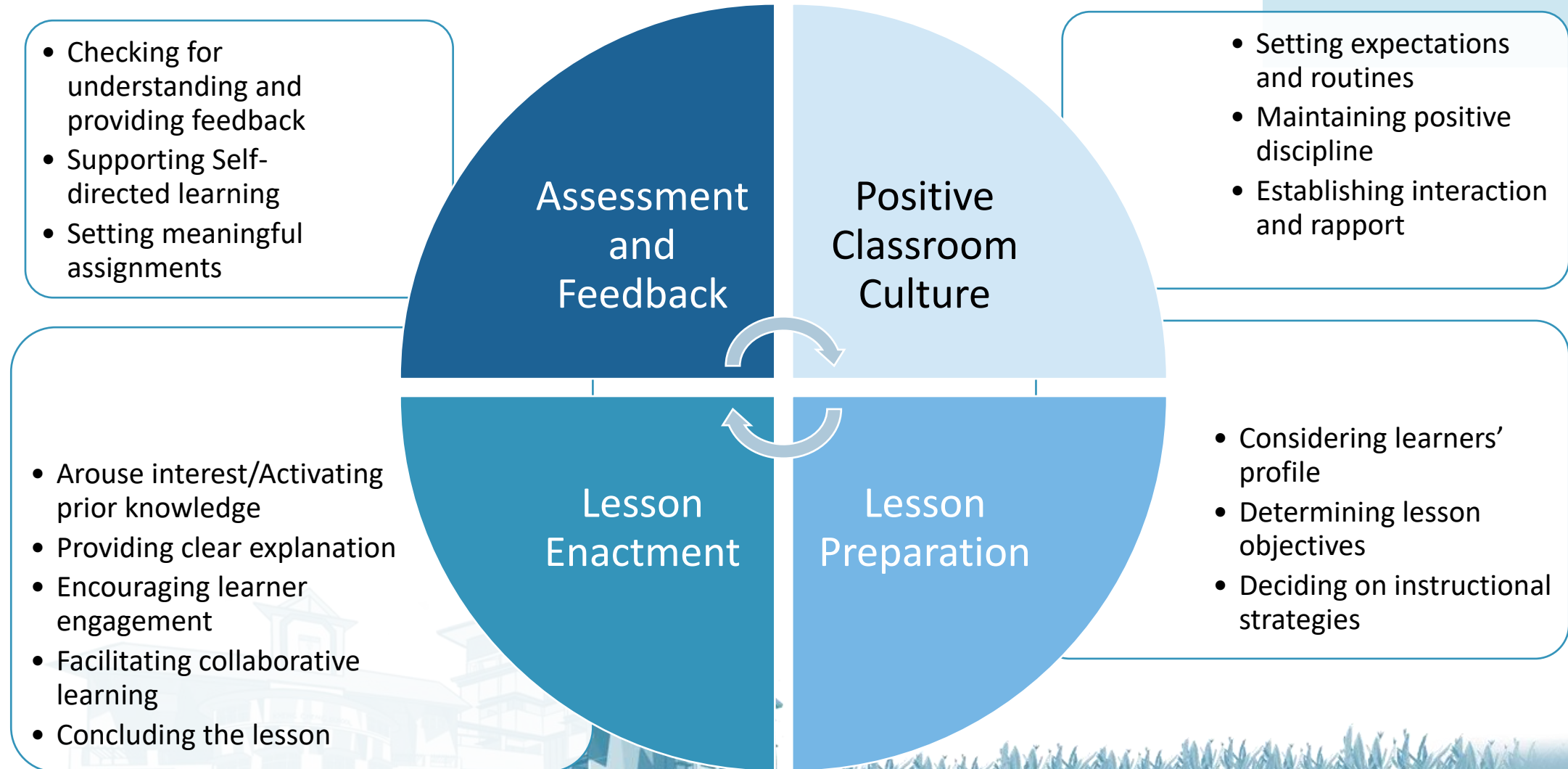
Reading



Writing



The Four Teaching Processes and Teaching Areas



Key Mother Tongue Programmes

- Structured Reading Programme
- Mother Tongue Language Fiesta





ASSESSMENT





Focus on listening, speaking, reading aloud, reading comprehension and writing full sentences.



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Learning Outcomes

Lower Primary: Focus on listening, speaking, reading and writing simple sentences.

	Learning Outcomes	
	Semester 1	Semester 2
 Listening	Listen attentively to short, simple spoken content related to daily life, identify the main idea and some details.	
 Speaking	Speak with correct pronunciation using vocabulary and sentence structures from Primary 2 texts.	Participate in short conversations related to daily life with some guidance.
 Reading	Recognise characters taught in Primary 2.	Read aloud Primary 2 texts with accuracy and fluency. Understand Primary 2 texts and can identify details with some guidance.
 Writing	Write short sentence(s) about daily life with guidance.	

Selection Criteria for P3 Higher Mother Tongue

- 1) All Learning Outcomes to achieve **ACCOMPLISHED** Level.
- 2) **Strongly recommended** by Mother Tongue teacher.



Key Features of P3 & P4 HMTL Curriculum

Built on existing MTL curriculum:

Sustain students' interest and deepen their knowledge in their MTL

Enhance Reading and Writing skills

Expose students to age-appropriate literary texts

Literary-based text. Incorporation of age-appropriate literary-based text to provide an enjoyable early experience to ethnic literature.

Exposure to higher-order thinking exercises e.g. Enhance reasoning skills by eliciting students' response during classroom activities and discussions; Construction of new knowledge by making meaningful connections between texts and students' lives.

Creative and fun-filled activities and games to teach language and cultural knowledge. To sustain interest and extend knowledge.



How are lessons carried out for HMTL at P3 and P4 level?

MOE recommends 2 additional periods per week

For HCL	For HCL, the textbook includes literary-based texts which would require two additional periods per week to provide an enjoyable early experience to ethnic literature and cultural knowledge.
For HML or HTL	For HML and HTL at P3 and P4, school will adopt Banded class/ differentiated instruction in a mixed ability class/ after school

- HTML at P3 & P4 will be reflected as a non-weighted assessment.



HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD?



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- If you are able to speak your Mother Tongue, **try to speak with your child at home.** As the child practices conversations, he or she repeats the new language structures in his or her mind.
- Otherwise, you may provide your child with a conducive environment for **reading and watching programmes that are in Mother Tongue language.**



- Monitor your child and **ensure that he or she completes homework and revises consistently at home.**
- Do keep a **MT journal** at home. Whether it is new expressions or full sentences, **revising and repeating new language structures** every day helps your child to build confidence.



A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step

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