MAKING MULTILITERACIES REAL:
Comparing Multiliteracies Pedagogy & Communicative Language Teaching

Origins and Purpose

Communication Language Teaching (CLT)
Developed in the early 20th century to communicate effectively across social classes. Developed in social functional, and interactional language in the late 20th century.

Multiliteracies Pedagogy (ML)
Developed in response to the need for language and cultural practices to address the diversity of society, including English language learners.

Focus on Meaning

Both approaches place meaning at the center of instruction at different times and places.

Teaching Principles

Communicate language forms and functional information to students.

Multiliteracies activities and instruction should be based on multilingual participation, cultural identity, and cultural context.

Technology plays a critical role in multiliteracies pedagogy.

Technology is used to support language forms, meaning, and cultural context.

Technology for language learning should be based on cultural and historical context.

Technology is used to support language learning activities and instruction.

Conclusion

Both approaches emphasize a focus on meaning through different instructional and curricular instructions.