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The Highlights and Challenges of Bilingual Teaching

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Challenge: Shortage of qualified teachers

- teacher needs to be equipped with knowledge about subject and **both** languages
- lack of training programs or too time consuming for many teachers
- lack of confidence
- training not mandatory
- often little support or incentives given from administration
- high work load

Challenge: Finding the right bilingual material

- abundance of classroom material (-> Less is More!)
 - CLIL relies on **quality** and **suitability of materials**
 - challenges: problems of cultural content, outdated content, lack of authenticity
 - teachers invest extra time to craft their own materials
- => impacts on job satisfaction

Challenge: The Learners

- Different home (language) environment and parenting behaviors
 - Home literacy instruction => significant influence on children's attitude towards the foreign language
 - different levels of proficiency of students
 - students' personalities and attitudes towards CLIL
 - Learners' fears and expectations
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Possible solutions for educators:

- Create/join networks for bilingual teachers
- Find out what motivates you
- Encourage and support others
- Swap material and sources
- Find projects for your bilingual classes that enrich both you and your students
- Let go of high expectations