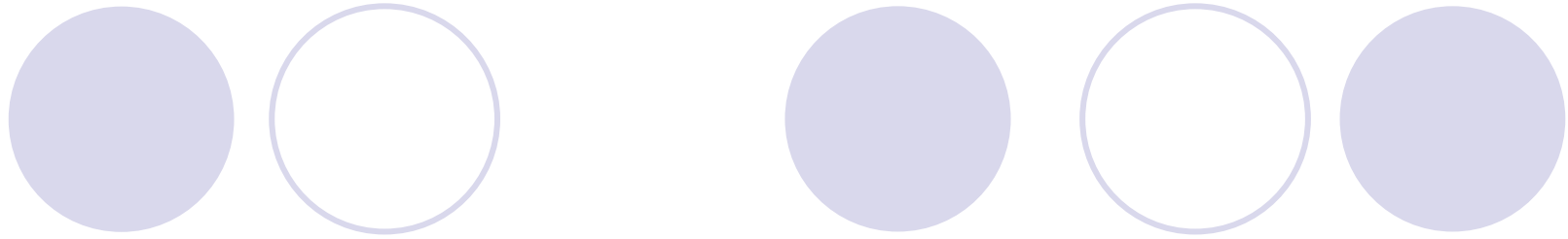


Tandem Learning in a Bilingual Society

FinTandem

Katri Karjalainen





- Brief history of tandem learning
- Different types of tandem
- Principles of tandem
- FinTandem - a tandem course for Finland
- Feedback from participants

Tandem Learning



Open learning where two people with different native languages meet regularly in order to learn each other's languages

My Interest in Tandem Learning

- Participated in course in 2003-04
- Coordinator since 2004
- Masters thesis about theoretical and practical views in tandem 2005
- Research on communication and learning strategies and autonomy

Tandem Learning



- Used since 1960's
- In Vaasa since 2002
- Open learning between two people with different native languages
- Free discussion
- You learn language, culture and get to know a new person



Different Forms of Tandem

- Face-to-face-tandem
 - Personal meeting
 - Intensive and extensive courses
- eTandem
 - With technical medium, e-mail, chat

Tandem Principles



- The Principle of Reciprocity
 - as equal as possible
 - time to each language
 - energy and support to each language

Tandem Principles



- The Principle of Autonomy

- Both partners decide

- what (needs and goals)

- how (methods)

- when (together with tandem partner)

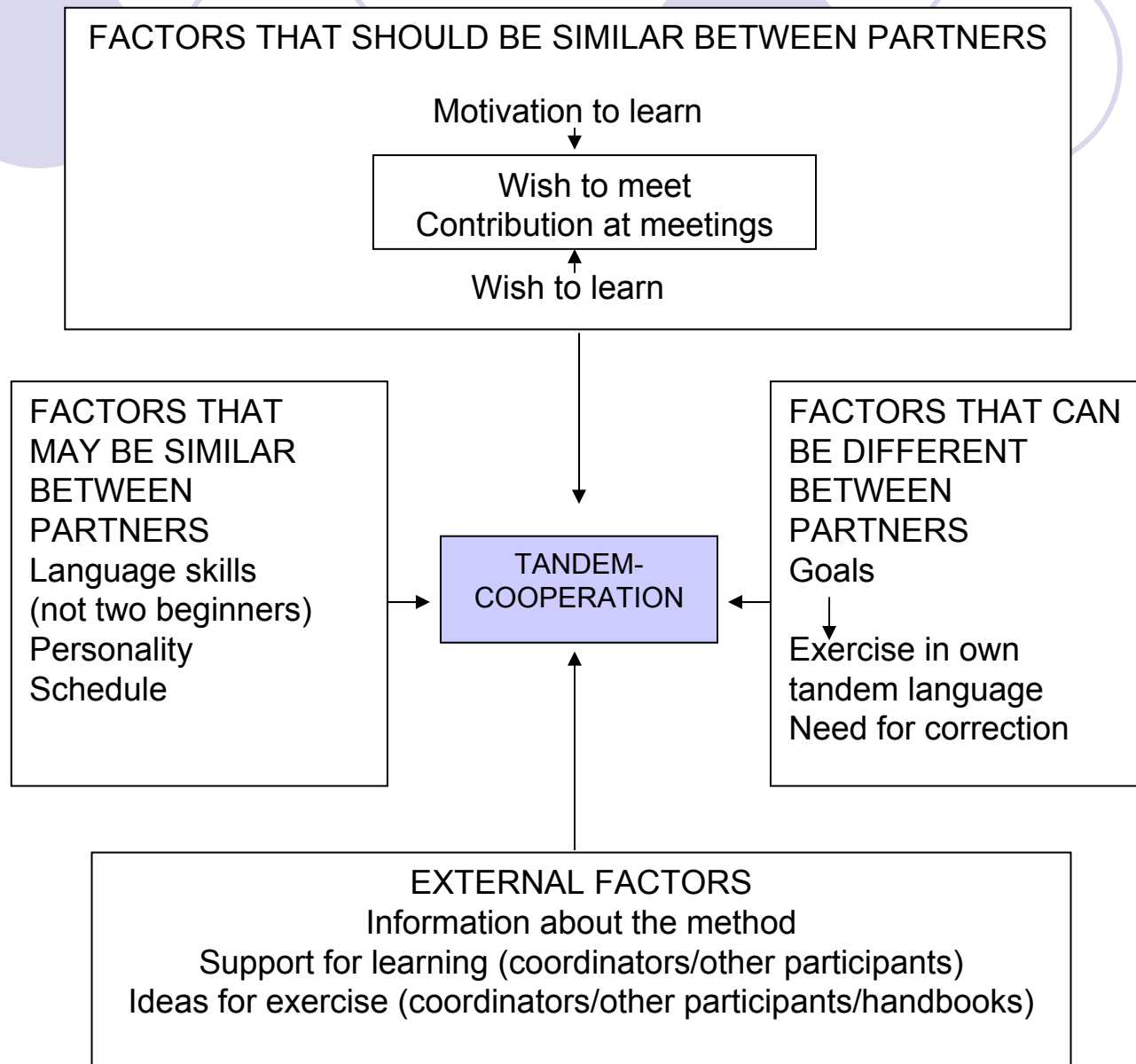
- they want to learn

- Both are responsible for their own learning

Who Can Participate in Tandem

Anyone who

- has at least basic skills in another language
- is willing to cooperate with another learner



FinTandem



- Developed in Vaasa and Korsholm to meet the needs of a bilingual area
- A model for an extensive course, that can be used for starting a FinTandem course in other places

Cooperation



- University of Vaasa
- Upper secondary schools in Vaasa and Korsholm
- City of Vaasa
- Municipality of Korsholm

FinTandem



- Finding a tandem pair
- Gatherings
- FinTandem Guide
- Individual support

Finding a Tandem pair

- Sign up in a database
- As suitable for each other as possible
 - Age, interests, education/ profession, sex
- Information to contact partner



Gatherings (5/year)

- Information about FinTandem
- More information about exercises and activities
- Group discussions
- Game night
- Picnic

FinTandem Guide



- To help people get started
- Information about method, exercises, activities
- Information about the National Certificate of Language Proficiency
- Tandem diary

Individual Support



- Contact with coordinators through the course by e-mail, phone, in person
- Help to solve possible problems with tandem partner

Feedback from Participants

- Positive aspects
 - Opportunity to speak → will develop capacity to dare to speak
 - Natural way to use and learn languages
 - Complement to theoretical studies
 - Two people → ultimate opportunity to speak, easier to speak than in groups
 - Both are motivated to help each other
 - Flexible

Feedback from Participants

- Negative aspects
 - It's up to you to meet regularly, even if you are busy
 - You have to make sure that you do what you have to do to learn
 - If you are on very different levels on languages it can be difficult to use the same amount both languages
 - Both can't be beginners

FinTandem



- Learning through communication with a native speaker
- Supporting partner in one's own mother tongue
- Individual, autonomous learning of language and culture
- Gatherings with other participants and coordinators to support learning

Information about FinTandem

- [http://www1.vaasa.fi/arbis/in.kurs
er.tandem.htm#Tandem](http://www1.vaasa.fi/arbis/in.kurs
er.tandem.htm#Tandem)