

They Picked Up the Tune—and the Chunks, too!



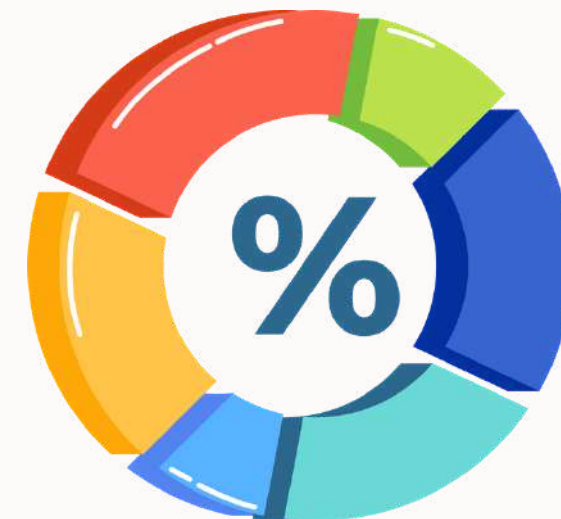
Fernández, Gabriela and Valls, Carla

Research Project J040 Secuencias formulaicas en leyendas y canciones:
enseñanza-aprendizaje de Inglés como Lengua Extranjera

In today's presentation, we'll talk about...

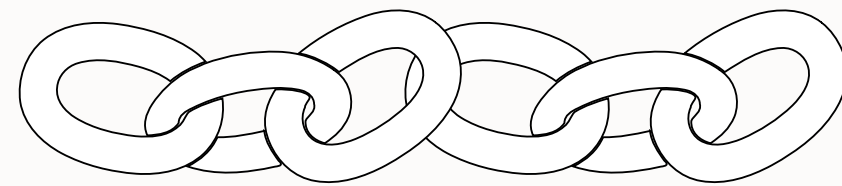


- Formulaic Sequences in the EFL classroom
- A brief look into the literature
- Descriptive study into FS Production
- Analysis of results and discussion
- Teaching implications



Theoretical Framework

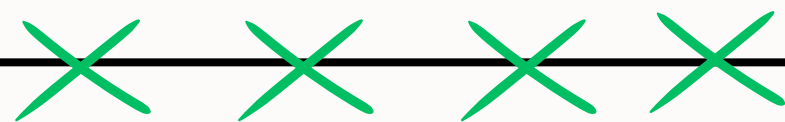
- Formulaic Language



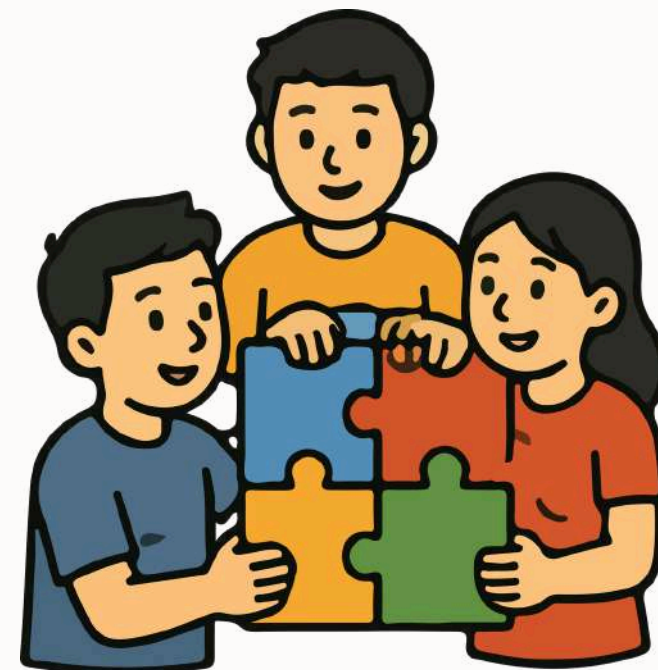
Strings of words



length



Frequent



Predictable and conventional within a community

Adapted from Siyanova-Chanturia & Pellicer-Sánchez, 2019

- Processing advantage

- Challenge:



- EFL Teachers' strategy: Deliberate Teaching of FSS

Literature Review

- **Noticing:**

- Typographic Enhancement (Boers et al, 2017; Choi, 2017; Vu & Peters, 2021)
- Input flooding + Typographic Enhancement (Sonbul & Schmitt, 2013; Szudarski & Carter, 2017; Tomer & Elgort, 2019)

- **Retrieval:**

- fill-in-the-blanks exercises
- multiple choice
- matching (Boers, 2014; Boers et al., 2017; Stengers et al. 2015)

- **Generative use:**

- (Husltijn & Laufer, 2001; Kim, 2008; Keating, 2008; Laufer, 2003; Rassaei, 2015)

(Peters & Pauwels, 2014; El-Dakhs, 2017; Alhassan & Wood, 2015)

- Undergraduate students
- English for Academic Purposes
- Good command of English

A picture of learners' formulaic knowledge (Webb & Kagimoto, 2009)



Our study

- Descriptive and Quasi-experimental
- Gauge the impact of the deliberate teaching of a selection of FSS from a song among EFL young learners through a creative task.



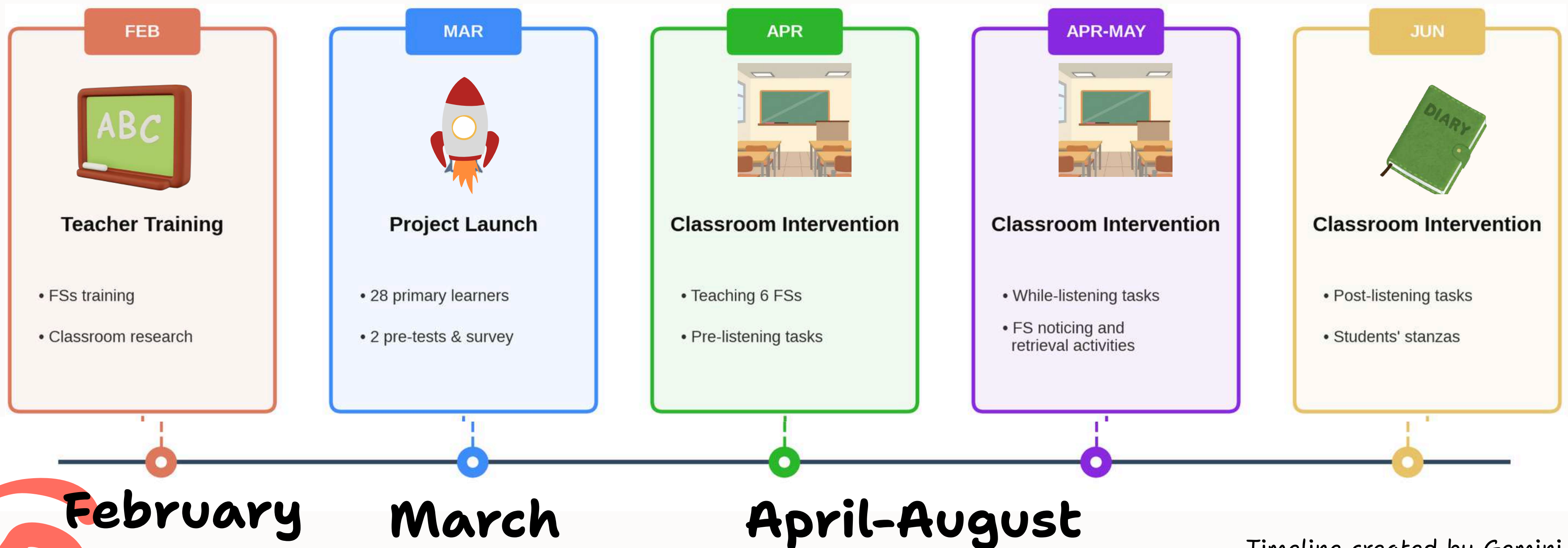
- 4th & 5th graders
- 40-minute lesson per week

28 Primary school Argentinean learners (A1) - 2024

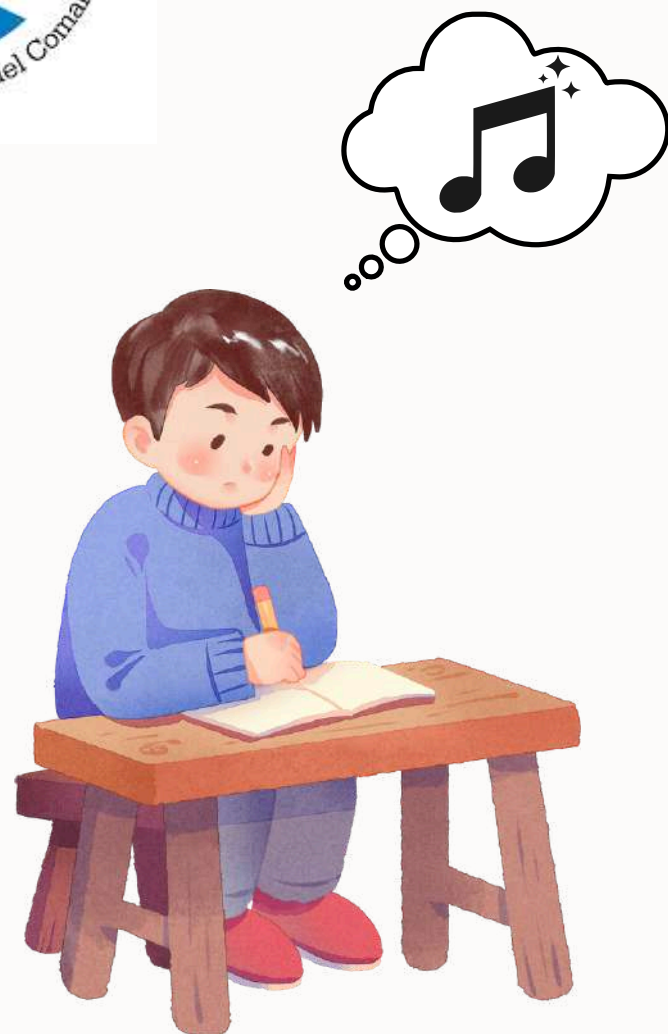


Treatment

Classroom intervention 2024



Methodology



Activity 16: You are a singer
now!

You're the daughter and you write
a song for your father. Write one
new stanza using as many
phrases from the song Remember
me as you can.

TARGET FORMULAIC SEQUENCES

- ☐ remember me,
- ☐ I'm with you,
- ☐ travel far,
- ☐ say goodbye,
- ☐ make you cry
- ☐ close your eyes



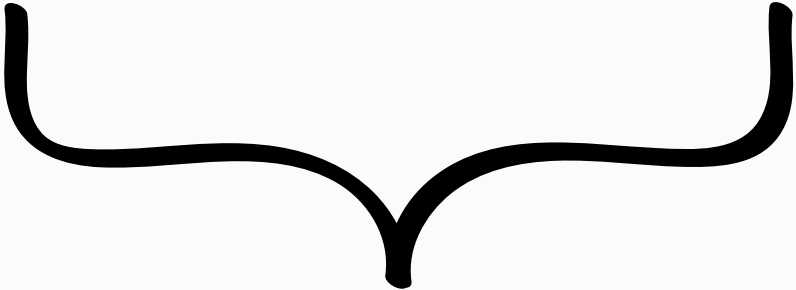
- Task not done
- Faithful copy of part
of the song

Methodology

FS Classification criteria:



Correct Use	Approximation minimal spelling errors phonological misinterpretations	Attempt incorrect selection, omission, or addition of articles, prepositions, or pronouns	Incorrect Use erroneous selection or omission of content words
MAKE YOU CRY	MAK YOU CRI	MAKE YOUR CRY	MAKE YOU/ CRY MAKE



Correct Use



(Wiktorsson, 2003 & Lewis, 2009)



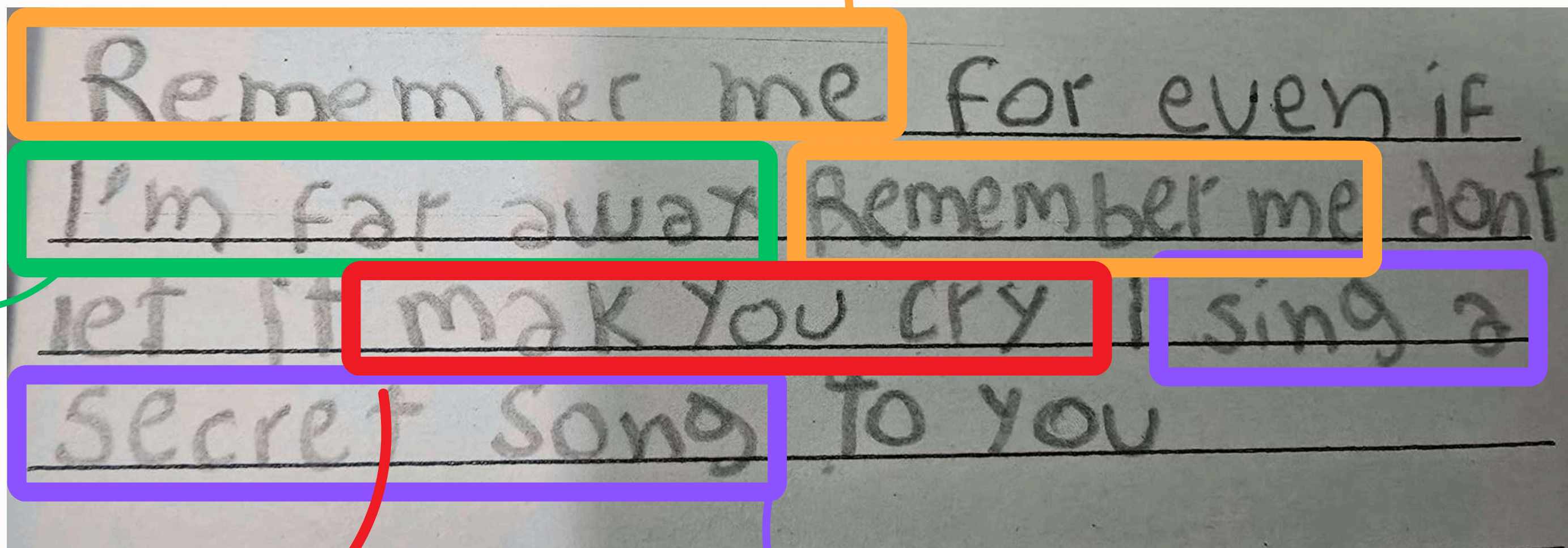


Enjoy!



Non-target

Target



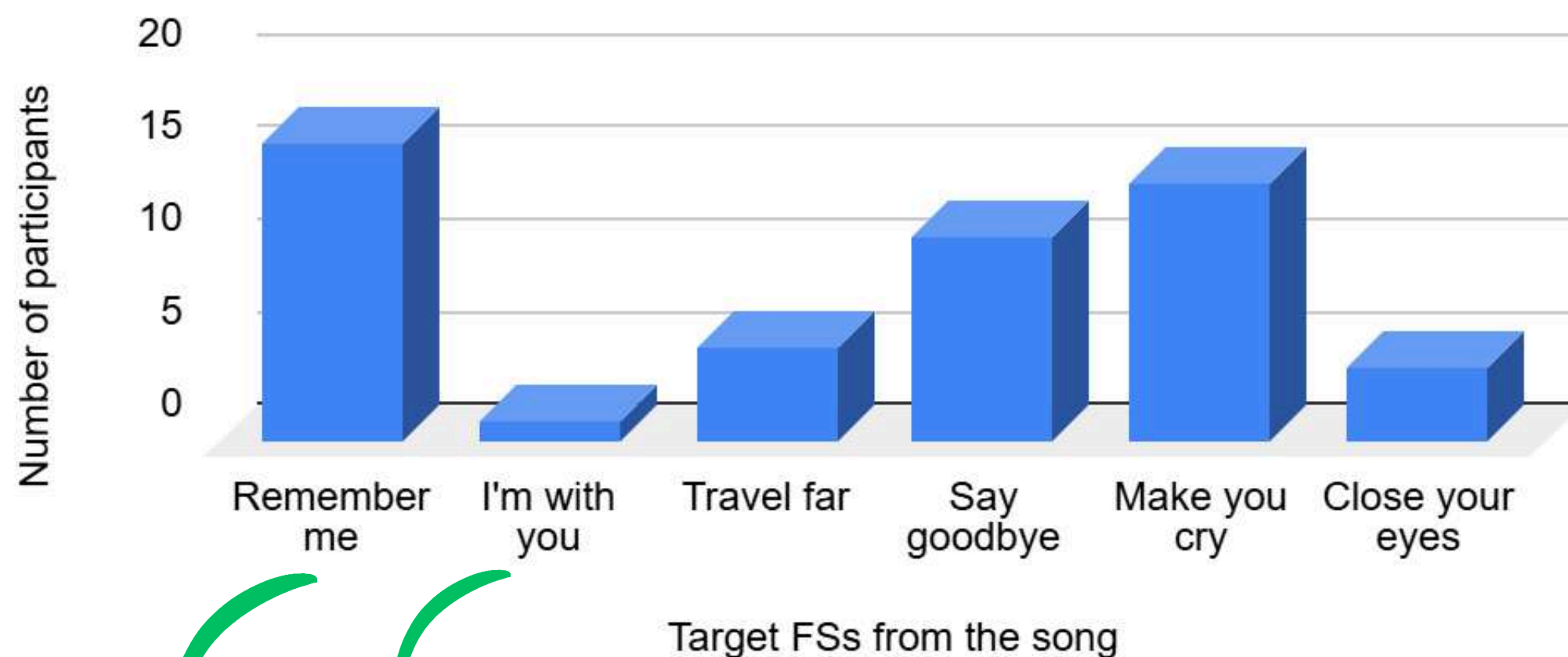
Target

Non-target

Results

Favourable findings

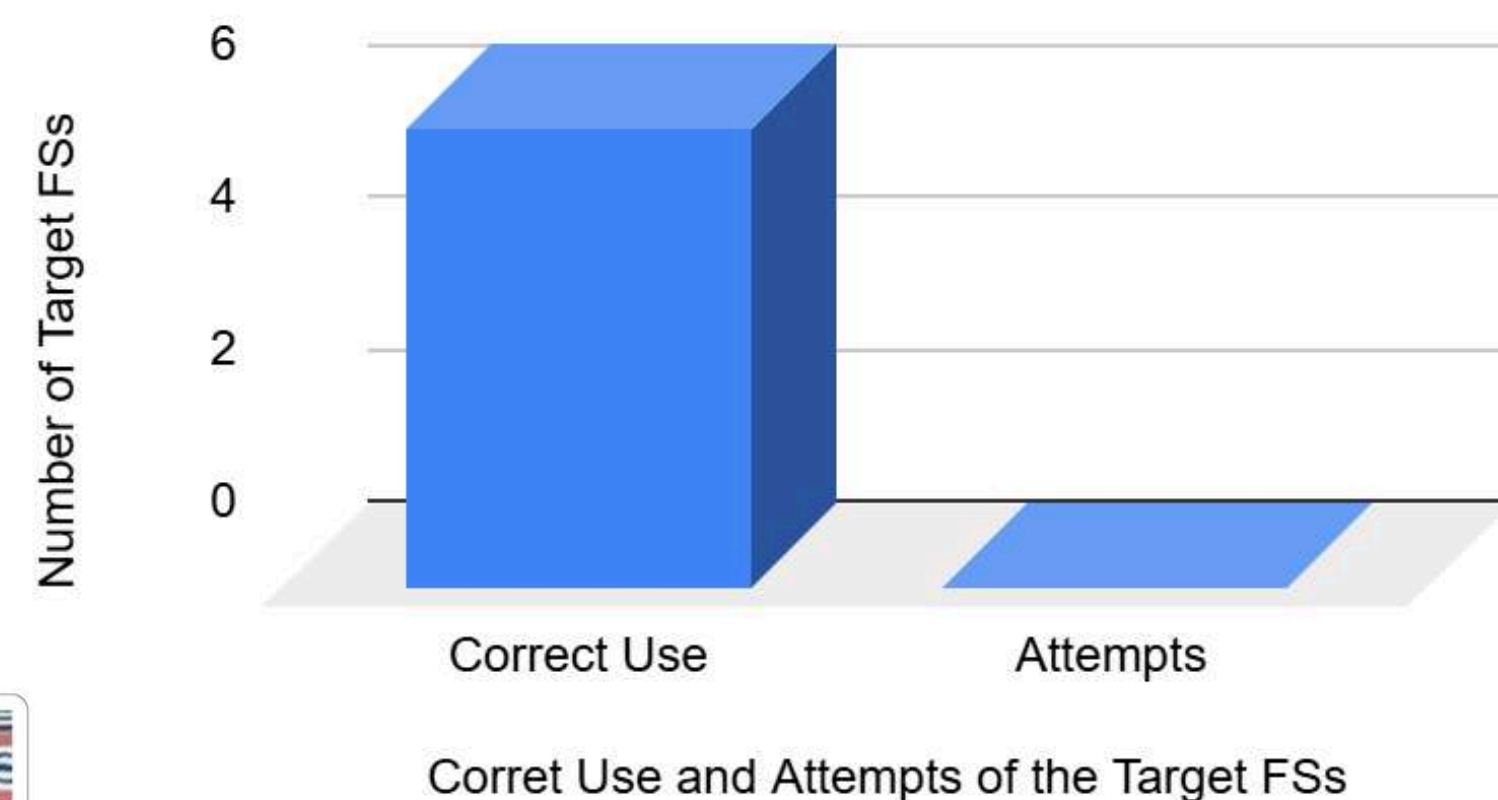
Distribution of Target FSs in the students' stanzas



Only once
Most frequently used

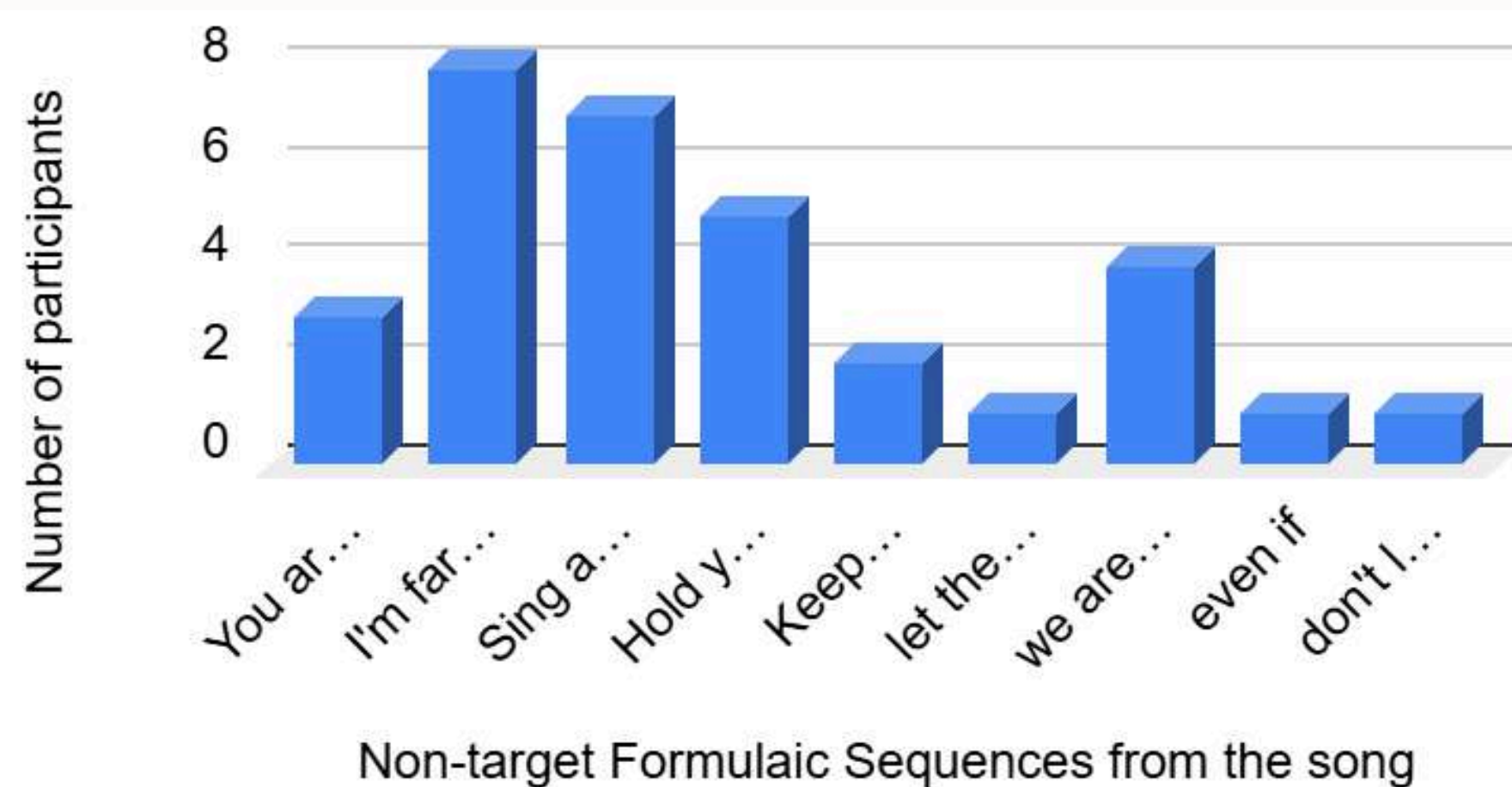


Distribution of Correct Use and Attempts of Target FSs



No attempts recorded

Distribution of Non-target FSS in the song



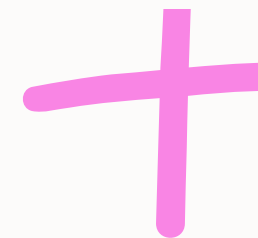
- Spontaneous, autonomous and accurate use of Non-target FSS from the song.
- Tendency to produce formulaic sequences rather than single words.
- Formulaic awareness
- Copy from the source or real spontaneous unsupported output?
- Development of formulaic competence as a result of the framework adopted.

Conclusions

The favourable results of the deliberate instruction of a set of FSs to a group of EFL young learners using a spontaneous task

- From a learning/teaching perspective
A communicative task
- Output task

- a real-life purpose for writing
- clearly-defined role for learners
- focus on meaning
- creation of a new text



- A high motivational and cognitive involvement load (Laufer & Hulstijn, 2001)
- The effort put into creating a new context for a lexical item fosters stronger memories than other controlled activities.

(Zwier and Boers, 2023)

Shortcomings

- Results analysed considering immediate production



- No control group



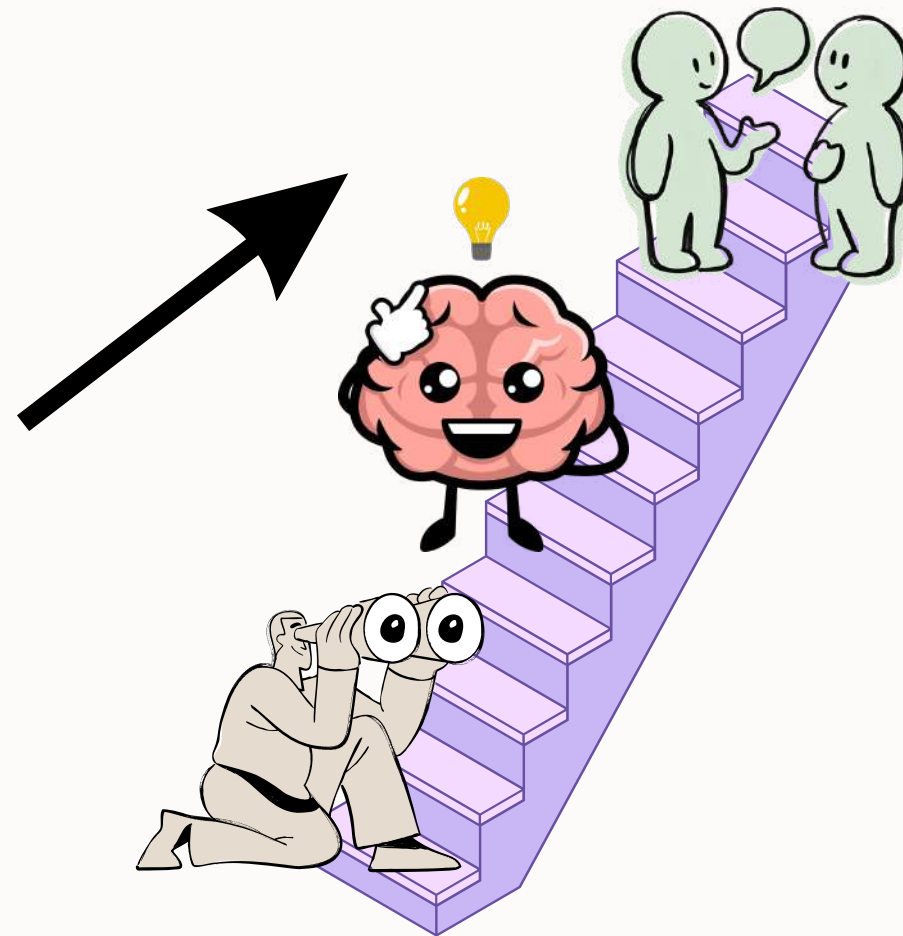
They picked up the tunes --and the chunks, too!

Teaching Implications

- Teach FSs regardless of age and level

- Implement Nation's Framework (2001)

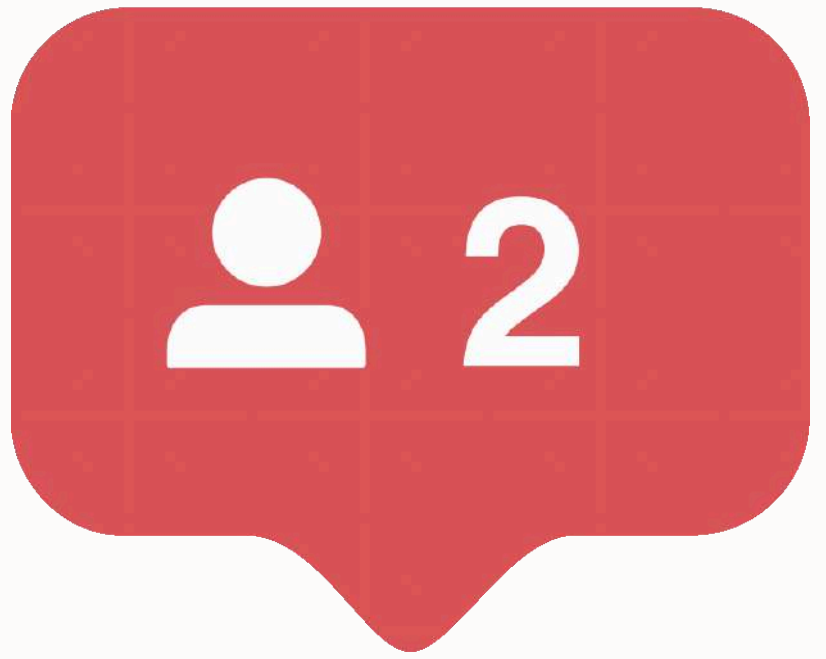
- Refrain from neglecting spontaneous tasks





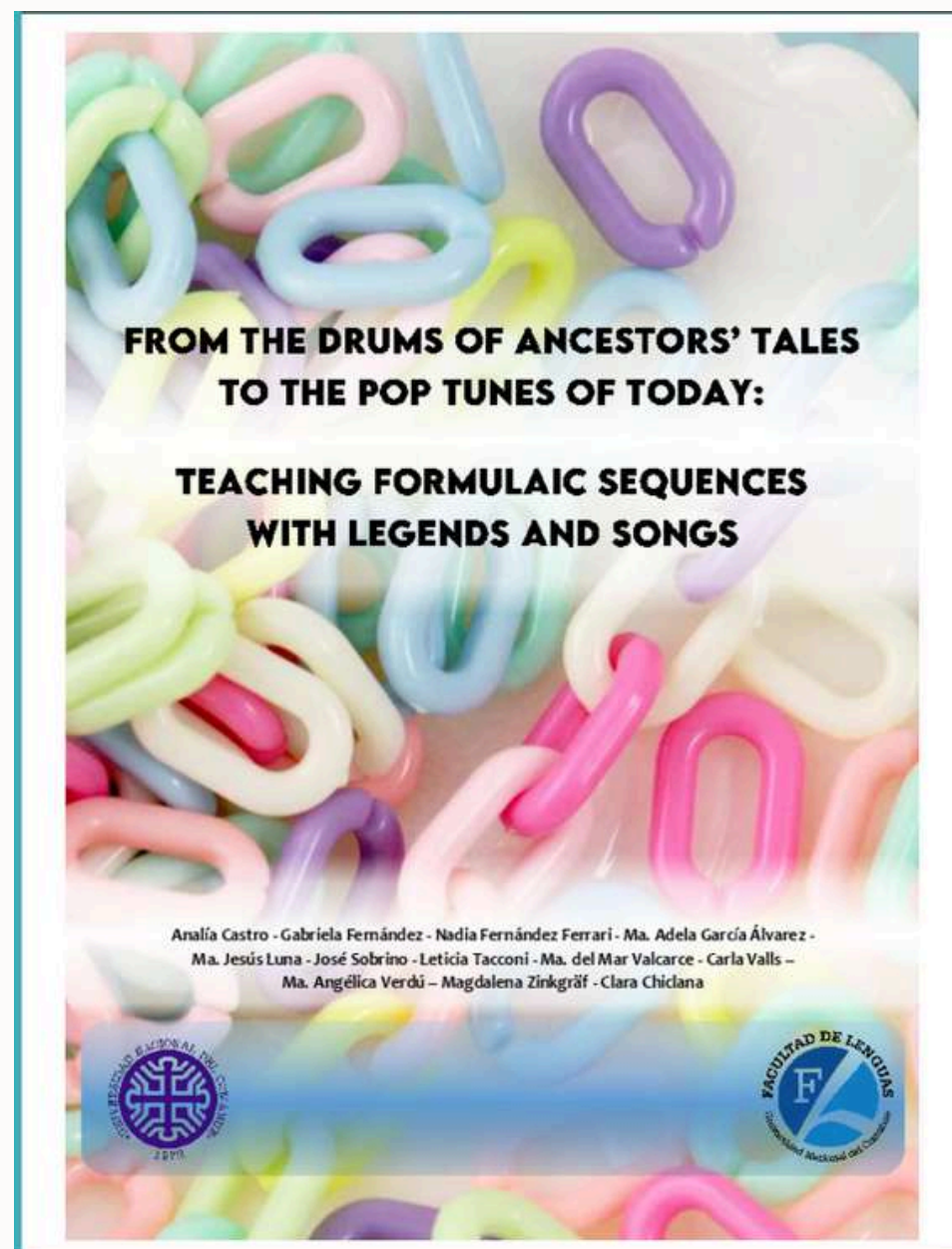
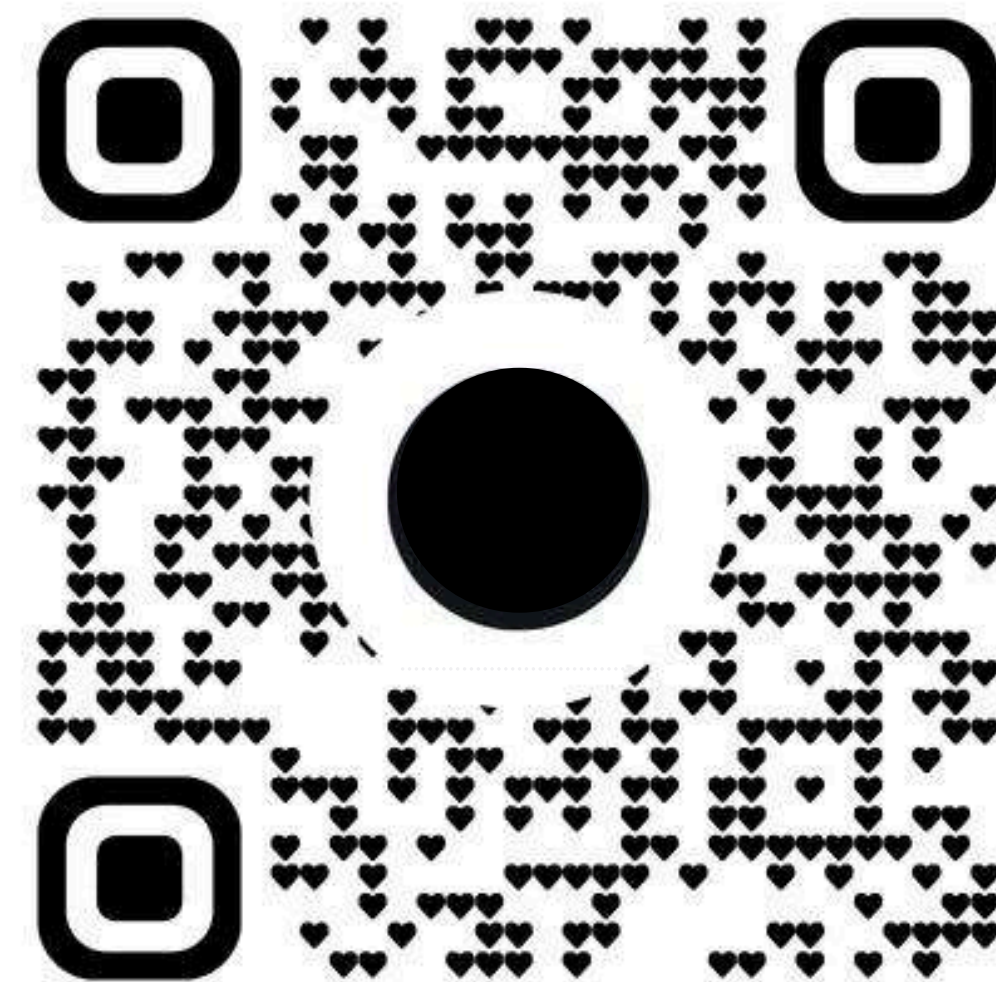


For further content on Formulaic Sequences...



To access our open access didactic material

From the drums of ancestors' tales to the pop tunes of today: Teaching formulaic sequences with legends and songs



Secondary School



**THANK YOU
SO MUCH!**

**Agradecemos a los estudiantes, docente y
autoridades de la ESCUELA 317 que
permitieron que se implementara esta
experiencia.**

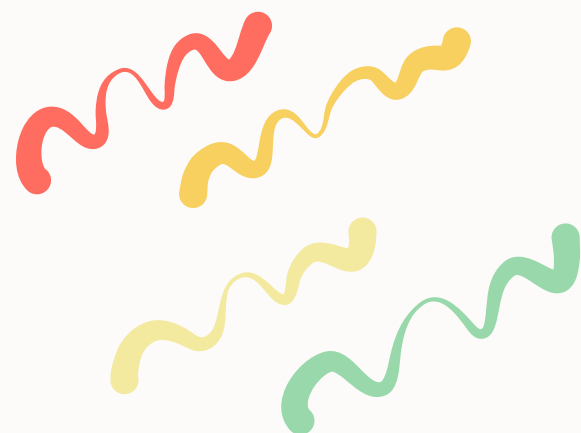


¡DEFENDAMOS LA UNIVERSIDAD PÚBLICA!

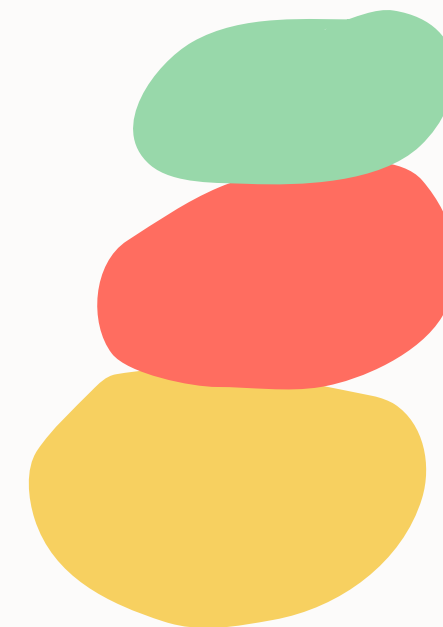
HACE MÁS DE UN AÑO NO SE CUMPLE LA LEY DE FINANCIAMIENTO UNIVERSITARIO



PRÓXIMA MARCHA FEDERAL UNIVERSITARIA: 15/10



Thank
you!





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