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Focus on Form

Focus on Form (FonF) is when a learner may need clarification on language or meaning. The task may be paused as a learner asks for more information on the language. The teacher and the student then focus on that form of language to give more understanding and deepen the meaning of what is being communicated. This is called Focus on Form (Long, 1991). Willis and Willis (2007) state that students may need to slow down the input and focus on meaning of a subject to better understand the process. FonF is different from explicit grammar instruction, because FonF draws brief attention to a learner's questions to help deepen the learning that may arise, which may or may not be structured or expected. Once the question or focus is addressed the activity or task is continued. In other words, meaning and communication remain the primary focus, the form (grammar) is discussed as it supports the expression of meaningful language.