

some extent, but what about productive skills? This is where FI and SA programs come into play. Research over the last twenty years shows that the SA context is particularly beneficial in terms of macro factors, providing the best opportunities for input provision, and opportunities for interaction and output production. As for micro factors, living in the country in which the language is spoken, far from home, helps develop strategic competence or intercultural sensitivity among other skills, apart from being a good opportunity for personal development and the acquisition of independence.

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