To translate or not... that is the question!

Start Here:
Is the student a newcomer?

Yes → Is it basic information/vocabulary to help them understand English?

No → Is it an assignment all students are receiving?

Is it basic information/vocabulary to help them understand English?

Yes → Translate it!

No → Is it an assignment all students are receiving?

Is it an assignment all students are receiving? (left branch)

Yes → Don't translate it. Scaffold the material with pictures and vocabulary.

No → Is it something parents will need to know to help with?

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Yes → Translate the main idea or directions using Talking Points.

No → Whatever the assignment, keep in mind, our goal is to unlock language learning, not translate everything.

Is it an assignment all students are receiving? (right branch)

Yes → Don't translate it. Scaffold the material with pictures and vocabulary.

No → Is it translating directions to an assignment?

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Yes → Translate it if it helps them understand how to complete the assignment.

No → Is it clarifying a word or two in the student's native language?

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Yes → Yes! Use cognates whenever possible to build connections between languages.

No → Whatever the assignment, keep in mind, our goal is to unlock language learning, not translate everything.