### Elements of Cooperative Learning

1. **Positive Interdependence (Most important element)**
   - Students:
     - **Believe** their role is required and indispensable for group success
     - They sink or swim together.
     - Have mutual goals and tasks
     - Share materials/resources
     - Recognize team accomplishments

2. **Face-to-Face Interaction (provides academic and personal support system)**
   - Students:
     - Promote each other’s success by sharing resources/materials
     - Support each other’s efforts by encouraging and applauding each other’s efforts
     - Orally explain how to solve problems
     - Teach one’s knowledge to others
     - Check for understanding
     - Discuss concepts being learned
     - Connect present with past learning

3. **Individual and Group Accountability (must be structured into lessons)**
   - Individual Accountability:
     - Contribute his/her share of the work (i.e. color code individual work)
     - Assess performance of each member and results are used to determine who needs more assistance, support, and encouragement in learning.
     - Share or demonstrate learning (i.e. – students paraphrase, turn in own answers)
     - Assign and grade segments of learning.
   - Group Accountability:
     - Achieve goals of group
     - Don’t give group grades

4. **Interpersonal and Small Group Skills**
   - Teachers teach and demonstrate skills in:
     - Leadership
     - Decision-making
     - Conflict resolution
     - Communication
     - Trust-building
     - Sharing

5. **Group Processing**
   - Members:
     - Analyze how well members are using social skills
     - Make decisions about what behaviors to continue or change