OBTAINING VOCABULARY COMPETENCE FOR ELLS

Michelle Land
Randolph Township Schools
NJTESOL/NJBE Executive Board
OBJECTIVES OF WORKSHOP

• Demonstrate strategies that can be used to help ELLs attain necessary vocabulary for any content area
• Engage in strategies to help anyone (aka you or your students) learn new vocabulary
• Have fun!
Stages of Learning a Word

1. Never heard or saw the word.
2. Heard it, but don’t know what it means.
3. General associations or recognizes in context.
4. Can USE IT in speaking and writing.

When you “own” the word

Easily forgotten after used

(Edgar Dale, 1976)
HOW DOES A TEACHER HELP ELLS TO ATTAIN VOCABULARY FOR “OWNERSHIP”

• Teacher previews and identifies words that are unfamiliar and most important words for comprehension.

• Uses alternative methods. (visuals, kinesthetic methods, games, music/chanting)

• Scaffolds with a variety of supports. (pictures, word banks, sentence frames/starters)

• Makes connections to theme, word root, or similar words.

• Engages in activities to use the words in a variety of ways (passively and actively)
When previewing and identifying vocabulary, focus on **ELP Level**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELP5</td>
<td>Technical and abstract content-area language, words and expressions with shades of meaning across content areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP4</td>
<td>Specific and some technical content-area language, words or expressions with multiple meanings across content areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP3</td>
<td>Specific content-area language and expressions, words and expressions with common collocations and idioms across content areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP2</td>
<td>General content words and expressions, including cognates, social and instructional words and expressions across content areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELP1</td>
<td>General content-related words, everyday social, instructional and some content-related words and phrases</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ELP 1 VOCABULARY FOCUS -

• Most important words for comprehension
• Cognates
• High frequency words (more bang for your buck)
ELP 1 VOCABULARY STRATEGIES -

• Visuals
• L1 support
• Word wall
• Graphic organizer/Word Square
• Sentence frames
• Rhymes/songs
Vocabulary Strategies for ELLs should be Anchored in their English Language Proficiency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ELP</th>
<th>Vocabulary Strategies</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| ELP5  | - Technical and abstract content-area language  
       | - Words and expressions with shades of meaning across content areas |
| ELP4  | - Specific and some technical content-area language  
       | - Words or expressions with multiple meanings across content areas |
| ELP3  | - Specific content-area language and expressions  
       | - Words and expressions with common collocations and idioms across content areas |
| ELP2  | - General content words and expressions, including cognates  
       | - Social and instructional words and expressions across content areas |
| ELP1  | - General content-related words  
       | - Everyday social, instructional and some content-related words and phrases |
ELP 2 VOCABULARY FOCUS -

• Most important words for comprehension
• Cognates
• Social/Instructional words for across content areas
ELP 2 VOCABULARY STRATEGIES -

• Visuals
• Word walls
• Graphic organizer
• Word bank for activities
• Sentence frames
• Games/online programs
• Sorts
• Rhymes/songs
## ELP 3 Focus Is:

Content area language/expressions

Words with common collocations

Idioms across content area

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<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Focus Points</th>
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| ELP4  | - Specific and some technical content-area language  
        - Words or expressions with multiple meanings across content areas |
| ELP3  | - Specific content-area language and expressions  
        - Words and expressions with common collocations and idioms across content areas |
| ELP2  | - General content words and expressions, including cognates  
        - Social and instructional words and expressions across content areas |
| ELP1  | - General content-related words  
        - Everyday social, instructional and some content-related words and phrases |
ELP 3 VOCABULARY STRATEGIES -

• Sentence frames
• Games/online programs
• Group work/Think Pair Share
• Visuals/Word Wall
• T-Chart
• Rhymes/songs
ELP 4 Focus Is:

Specific and some technical language

Word/expression with multiple meanings across content areas

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<th>Focus Areas</th>
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<td>ELP5</td>
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ELP 4 VOCABULARY STRATEGIES -

• Games/online programs
• Group work/Think Pair Share
• Visuals/Word Wall
• Cornell notes
• Rhymes/songs
ONE LAST THING....

thank you
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