Vocabulary Building: A Response to Students’ Present & Future Needs

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Overview of Presentation

- Vocabulary building options
- Selection of key vocabulary for instruction
- Principled ways to teach and recycle vocabulary to promote vocabulary growth
- Concluding remarks

- It’s Your Turn
It’s Your Turn

- Turn to a person near you.
- Take 30 seconds to brainstorm all the different ways that you teach vocabulary (or encourage vocabulary building) in your classrooms.
It’s Your Turn

➢ Turn to a person near you.
➢ Take 30 seconds to brainstorm all the different ways that you teach vocabulary (or encourage vocabulary building) in your classrooms.
  • Translation
  • Antonyms & synonyms
  • Definitions
Vocabulary Teaching Techniques

- Anecdotes
- Antonyms & synonyms
- Collocations
- Classification
- Concept-of-definition maps
- Definitions
- Dictionary use
- Flashcards
- Games and puzzles
- Graphic displays
- Matching
- “Odd man out”
- Pictures & realia
- Ranking
- Recycling
- Vocabulary from context
- Word analysis
- Word collection strategies
- Word families
- Word splash
- Word walls
Vocabulary Teaching Techniques

- Anecdotes
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- Word analysis
- Word collection strategies
- Word families
- Word splash
- Word walls
Graphic Displays
Always
Often
Sometimes
Rarely
Never
Concept-of-Definition Map

What is it?

Examples

Key Word

What is it like?

Non-examples
Concept-of-Definition Map

What is it?

Key Word

Examples

What is it like?

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Concept-of-Definition Map

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What is it?

Examples

Key Word

Non-examples

What is it like?
Concept-of-definition map

What is it?

Examples

a computer

What is it like?

Non-examples
Concept-of-definition map

Machine

Mac
PC
Apple

Has keyboard
Has monitor
Used for writing
Used for games

Typewriter
Toyota
Concept-of-definition map

Machine

- Mac
- PC
- Apple

a computer

- Has keyboard
- Has monitor
- Used for writing
- Used for games

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Toyota
Concept-of-definition map

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Concept-of-Definition Map

What is it?

Examples

(an) exurb

Non examples

What is it like?
Concept-of-Definition Map

Area beyond suburbs

Examples

(An) exurb

What is it like?

Non examples
It’s Your Turn

Examples: (an) exurb
Non examples: Area beyond suburbs

What is it like?
Word-collection Strategies

- Word flashcards
- Vocabulary notebooks
Word-collection Strategies

- Word flashcards
- Vocabulary notebooks
exurb (n)

[ ek – serb ]

Def: Area beyond downtown and suburbs

Ex: Ojai, CA
**exurb (n)**

[ ek – serb ]

**Definition**

Area beyond downtown and suburbs

**Original sentence**

The rich and famous moved to the exurbs in early 2001.

**Student’s own sentence**

I would like to live in the exurbs someday.
(to) make (v)
[ meɪk ]
(translation)

Collocations

Word
Part of speech
Pronunciation
Translation

(my) bed  money
breakfast  a film
lunch  a promise
dinner  an effort
a wish  a mess
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>target word</th>
<th>translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>synonym or</td>
<td>brief example</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>antonym</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Word Flashcards

- Students can teach words to each other.
- Students can “test” each other.
- Students can choose a word and
  - Use it for a speed write
  - Use it to tell or write a story
  - Make a list of collocations
Word Flashcards

- Students can choose a word (or more than one word)
  - To create a radio or TV advertisement
  - To write a letter to a classmate
  - To write in their journals
  - To look for examples (on the Web, in the newspaper, in magazines) and then create a collage or mini poster
Word-collection Strategies

- Encourage students to become word collectors.
- Find time in class for students to use their flashcards (or vocabulary notebooks).
- Let students suggest other word-collection strategies.
In danger of vanishing, nature reserves in Indonesia face threats from endangered species, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, and butterflies. Ecologists and biologists propose plans to conserve and protect nature, including forests and coral reefs. Ranchers and hunters threaten the sustainable management of nature reserves. Conservationists and nature enthusiasts educate the public on the importance of preserving biodiversity. Proposals for national parks and nature reserves aim to protect and rescue these ecosystems.
It’s Your Turn

- Look at the set of (unorganized) words from an article on Indonesia.
- Work in pairs to put words in logical groups. There is no right or wrong answer.
  - Some word groups might be small (two words).
  - Some word groups might be bigger (up to seven words).
- Have fun!
ecologists

endangered

ranchers

reptiles

National parks

in danger

biologists

butterflies

Nature reserves

conserve

threaten

safeguard

save

destroy

mammals

hunters

coral reefs

sustain

birds

rescue

Indonesia

educate

protect

proposal

nature

forests

vanish

plan
National parks
Nature reserves
endangered
unprotected
in danger

Indonesia

plan proposal

safeguard
conserv
save
protect
sustain

nature
coral reefs
forests

butterflies

mammals

ecologists
biologists

conservationists

ranchers
hunters

reptiles

Indonesia

threaten
vanish

destroy

rescue
National parks
Nature reserves
endangered
unprotected
in danger
ranchers
hunters
conservationists
ecologists
biologists
plan
proposal
destroy
threaten
vanish
safeguard
conserve
save
protect
sustain
educate
rescue
reptiles
mammals
birds
butterflies
nature
coral reefs
forests
Indonesia
National parks
Nature reserves

Endangered
Unprotected
In danger

Plan
Proposal

Indonesia

Destroy
Threaten
Vanish

Safeguard
Conserve

Save
Protect
Sustain

Rescue

Ranchers
Hunters

Conservationists
Ecologists
Biologists

Reptiles
Mammals
Birds
Butterflies

Nature
Coral reefs
Forests
It’s Your Turn

- Turn to your neighbor: What do you think our Indonesia text will be about?
It’s Your Turn

- What do you think our Indonesia text will be about?

- What other words might you read in this text?
- Southeast Asia
- Fife MacDuff
- collocations
- Jakarta
- Sulawesi
- Amazon
- archipelago
- islands
- populous nation

- Java
- Kathmandu
- exurbs
- NELTA
- 17,000
- Bangladesh
- biodiversity
- Mongolia
- high density
- Southeast Asia
- Fife MacDuff
- collocations
- Jakarta
- Sulawesi
- Amazon
- archipelago
- islands
- populous nation
- Java
- Kathmandu
- exurbs
- NELTA
- 17,000
- Bangladesh
- biodiversity
- Mongolia
- high density
What do you think our text is going to be about? Write a short prediction (2-3 sentences).

I think this text will be about . . .
It’s Your Turn: Recycling

- What do you think our text is going to be about? Write a short prediction (2-3 sentences).
- **Tell** your partner about your prediction.
It’s Your Turn: Recycling

- What do you think our text is going to be about? Write a short prediction (2-3 sentences).
- Tell your partner about your prediction.
- **Share** your predictions with the “class.”
Let’s look at our text

- Read the title.
- Read the first two paragraphs.
  - What is the text about?
  - Were your predictions correct (so far)?
Let’s look at our text

- Take three minutes to skim the full article.
- Identify 6-8 words that you think are KEY words, that is, words needed for text comprehension.
Selection of Key Vocabulary
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<th>Word is generally useful</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
It’s Your Turn

➢ Look back at your list of key vocabulary.
➢ Which category do they fit in?
  • + + (needed for text comprehension and generally useful)
  • + – (needed for text comprehension but not generally useful)
Selection of Key Vocabulary

- biodiversity
- species
- endangered
- sustainable

- (to) safeguard
- (a) reserve
- conservation
- (a) proposal
Collocations

- (to) safeguard:
- biodiversity:
- sustainable:
Collocations

- **(to) safeguard**: environment
- **biodiversity**: of rain forests
- **sustainable**: energy
It’s Your Turn

Scan the article and look for one or two additional collocations:

- *(to) safeguard*: environment . . .
- *biodiversity*: of rain forests . . .
- *sustainable*: energy . . .
Collocations

- **Safeguard**: environment, species, animals, biodiversity, mammals, birds, reptiles, areas, acres, coral reefs, forests

- **Biodiversity**: of rain forests, of the archipelago, of Indonesia, of the forests

- **Sustainable**: energy, policies, environment, economy, development projects, agriculture
Classification

Living things  Action verbs  Negative adj
## Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living things</th>
<th>Action verbs</th>
<th>Negative adj</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reptiles</td>
<td>protect</td>
<td>endangered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>butterflies</td>
<td>educate</td>
<td>vanishing</td>
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<tr>
<td>mammals</td>
<td>strengthen</td>
<td>tenuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>humans</td>
<td>cultivate</td>
<td>barren</td>
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<td>farmers</td>
<td>combat</td>
<td>stripped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>villagers</td>
<td>sell</td>
<td>threatened</td>
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</table>
## Word Families

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
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<th>Adjective</th>
<th>Adverb</th>
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<tr>
<td>propose</td>
<td>dense</td>
<td>natural</td>
<td>biologically</td>
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<td>population</td>
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<td>(para 5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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It’s Your Turn: Odd Man Out

(a) strengthen  protect  destroy

(b) residents  parks  farmers

(c) danger  threat  protection

(d) reptile  poacher  butterfly
Odd Man Out

(a) strengthen          protect          destroy
(b) residents           parks            farmers
(c) danger              threat           protection
(d) reptile             poacher          butterfly
It’s Your Turn: Ranking

Place the following adjectives on the line, from most positive to most negative:

magnificent  endangered  sustainable
ambitious    promising  threatened

+  —
It’s Your Turn: Ranking

magnificent  sustainable  ambitious  promising  threatened  endangered
Matching (Beat the Clock)

- poacher
- safeguard
- plantation
- threat
- sustainable
- combat
- imminent
- large farm
- very soon
- protect
- continuing
- danger
- thief
- fight
<table>
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<td>safeguard</td>
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</table>
Recycling of vocabulary is probably one of the most important steps that we can take to help students consolidate their vocabulary learning.
Recycle, recycle, recycle

- Reread (with a different goal)
- Reformat (in a graphic organizer)
- Repeat (in a dictation, role play)
- Report (in a jigsaw activity, a journal)
- Review (for a quiz, presentation)
Recycle, recycle, recycle

- Confirm understanding
- Use vocabulary in new or varied contexts
- Compare two related texts
- Personalize information
- Evaluate information
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