Applying Common Core for English Learners: Lesson Planning for Academic Language

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Today’s Goals

1. Identify the features of academic language in WiDA and Common Core.
2. Differentiate and create academic language activities across English proficiency levels.
Math Problem

Take 20 minutes to write in complete sentences:

• How you solved the problem.
• Why you took the steps you did.
• Show your work.
Unpacking Academic Language

Take 2 minutes to:

• Circle any technical vocabulary
• Square any sequential words
Unpacking Academic Language

Take 5 minutes to:

• Underline and draw 1 star for a simple sentence.
• Underline and draw 2 stars for a compound sentence.
• Underline and draw 3 stars for a complex sentence.
Unpacking Academic Language

Take 2 minutes to:

• Write the number of sentences written.
Unpacking Academic Language

Reflect:
Evaluate your math answer. What are the strengths and weaknesses in your writing.
## Terminology: Academic Language in WiDa & Common Core

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WiDa</th>
<th>Common Core</th>
<th>WiDa Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Linguistic Complexity</strong></td>
<td><strong>Text Complexity</strong></td>
<td>• Amount of speech/written text</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Discourse)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sentence Level</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conventions of standard English</strong></td>
<td>• Types of sentences-simple, compound, complex, compound-complex</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>(CCSS.ELA.Literacy. CCRA.L.1)</em></td>
<td>• Word order</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Prepositional phrases</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Phrasal verbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Word Level</strong></td>
<td><strong>Vocabulary acquisition and use</strong></td>
<td>• General, specialized, technical content words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(CCSS.ELA.Literacy. CCRA.L4)</em></td>
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</table>
To help an ELL, **THINK** like an ELL

• Remember, we are teaching academic language through the content.

• How can you modify the writing expectations to meet the language levels of your ELLs?
Differentiating Academic Language

Take 30 minutes to:

• Read the ELL student description.
• Plan academic language for your ELL by identifying: supports, complexity, grammar, and words.
• Show an example of a completed math response for your ELL.

*For levels 1-4, Think about how sentence starters can be used to help ELLs*
What we learned...

• Academic language consists of: linguistic complexity, sentence levels, and word levels.
• Understand language learning involves how students will SHOW us what they know, but maintain the content rigor.
• Differentiate academic language using language functions and supports, with a focus on the role of sentence starters.
Resources

The academic language packet can be downloaded at:

http://thinkthematic21c.wikispaces.com/Academic+Language