

Vocabulary Teaching to Young Learners

PROCEDURE

A. PRESENTATION STAGE

Slide 1. Presenting Vocabulary

Introduce selected key vocabulary using pictures, a poster, flashcards and real objects where appropriate. Model the words and let students repeat them.

B. PRACTICE STAGE

Slide 2. Poster — Words and Numbers

Say the words and ask students to identify the corresponding numbers under the pictures. Then say the numbers and ask students to recall the words.

Slide 3. Flashcard Recall

Show the flashcards and ask students to say the words.

Slide 4. Picture Cards

Give selected students picture cards. Say a target word; the student holding the corresponding picture shows it.

Slide 5. Point

Place six flashcards in different places around the room. Say a word; students point to the relevant card.

Slide 6. Clap Hands

Hold up a flashcard and say a word. If the word matches the picture, students clap once; if it does not, they remain silent.

Slide 7. Odd One Out

Show a lexical set of flashcards with one item from a different category. Students name the cards and call out “Odd one out!” when the unrelated item appears.

Slide 8. Lip Reading

Place six flashcards on the board. Silently mouth one word; students watch your lips and identify it.

Slide 9. Miming

Show a student a picture and ask them to mime it. The class guesses the word.

Slide 10. What's Missing?

Display a set of flashcards. Students close their eyes while you remove one or more cards. They open their eyes and identify what is missing.

Slide 11. Copy Me!

Hold up a flashcard and say the word in different ways — softly, loudly, slowly, quickly, sadly or angrily. Students copy both the word and the manner of saying it.

Slide 12. Balloon Challenge

Divide the class into two groups and invite volunteers. Give a category. The learner has a limited time, indicated by a slowly deflating balloon, to produce words from that category; a learner who cannot recall a word may say “Pass”.

Slide 13. Guess the Card

Choose a flashcard without showing it. Students ask Yes/No questions until they identify the word.

Slide 14. What's Your Card?

Give each learner a card from one of several lexical sets. Learners move around the room asking “What's your card?” until they find the other members of their lexical set.

Slide 15. Kim's Game

Display a set of flashcards for a short time. Remove them and ask students to write as many words as they can remember.

Slide 16. Commands

Associate a set of flashcards with different commands. Show a card; students identify and carry out the corresponding command.

Slide 17. Musical Chairs — Adapted

Students move around the chairs while you call out words from one category. When you say a word that does not belong to the category, they sit down immediately. Continue for several rounds, changing players or roles so that many learners can participate. Remind students to move safely around the chairs and not to push one another.

Slide 18. Flashcard Recall Challenge

Show a student a flashcard. If the student says the word correctly, they move to the board. Continue and recycle the cards, then finish with a final recall round involving a small group of learners.

Slide 19. Throw the Ball

Say a target word and throw the ball to a student, who says another target word before throwing it to another student. A variation uses numbered vocabulary: say a number and the catcher recalls the word linked to that number. Always use a soft, lightweight ball and remind students to throw it gently.

Slide 20. Yes/No Questions

Give one student a flashcard without showing it to the class. The student answers Yes/No questions from classmates until they identify the word.

Slide 21. Match Words and Pictures — Flashcards

Give students word cards and picture cards. Ask them to match each target word with the corresponding picture.

Slide 22. Match Words and Pictures — PPT

Students match words and pictures using the PowerPoint presentation.

C. FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

Slide 23. Drawing Worksheet

Give students a worksheet and ask them to draw pictures representing the target vocabulary.

Slide 24. Jigsaw Puzzle

In groups, students put together a jigsaw puzzle related to the target vocabulary or story.

Slide 25. Pelmanism

Students turn over cards to find matching word-and-picture pairs. A student who finds a pair keeps it; the student with the most pairs wins.

Slide 26. Flashing Activity — Flashcards

Flash picture cards very briefly. After each card is hidden, students identify and say the corresponding word.

Slide 27. Flashing Activity — PPT

Flash pictures briefly on the PowerPoint. After each picture disappears, students write the corresponding word.

Slide 28. Worksheet

Use a prepared worksheet to recycle or assess the target vocabulary.

Slide 29. Shouting Dictation

Students dictate missing words or parts of a text to one another from a safe, controlled distance.

Slide 30. Running Dictation

In groups, one learner runs to read a displayed text, returns and dictates it to the group writer. Groups compete to finish quickly and accurately. Roles can be rotated.

Slide 31. Listening Dictation

Read the words or sentences three times. First, students listen without writing. Second, they listen and write. Third, they listen again, check and correct their work.

Slide 32. Guided Fantasy / Imagery

Guide students through an imaginative, sensory experience connected with the text or story.

Slide 33. True/False — PPT

Use a PowerPoint True/False activity to check comprehension and recycle vocabulary.

Slide 34. Homework

Set a short follow-up task that reuses the target vocabulary in a meaningful way.

Slide 35. Five Senses Project

Students identify and write words from the story or text connected with sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch.

Slide 36. Make Your Own Picture Dictionary

Students prepare their own illustrated dictionary using vocabulary from the story, text or unit.

Slide 37. Banko Quiz — PPT

Use the Banko Quiz PowerPoint to review vocabulary and comprehension in an interactive format. Teams may choose "Banko" before a question to take a risk for a higher score.

Slide 38. Quiz

Use a short quiz to review or assess learning at the end of the sequence.