

Classroom Observation Tool: Effective Vocabulary Instruction in Mixed-Ability Classrooms

Instructional Practices	Strong +	OK ✓	Weak -	Observations & Comments
Apparent preparation for essential vocabulary instruction to support lesson comprehension				
Assessing students' current knowledge level of the target lesson vocabulary				
Prompting students to assume an active role (listening, responding, taking notes)				
Pre-teaching central lesson concepts and terms				
Pre-teaching high-utility "tool kit" vocabulary				

Providing a note-taking scaffold for less proficient readers and English users		
Following a consistent "multi-modality" instructional sequence for teaching a word		
Pronouncing new words clearly and asking students to repeat		
Providing visual support to support note-taking and comprehension: (writing target words, synonyms, definitions, examples)		
Using accessible language to explain terms, including familiar synonyms (before definitions)		
Checking for understanding with a concrete task/question that requires critical thinking		