

Expanding Kernel Sentences

Focus: After-Reading Strategy | Language Level: Sentence

Description	Timing	
<p>Expanding or Kernel Sentence supports both content and language development. It is a powerful way to support student comprehension of text and develop their ability to write clear, detailed, and coherent students to communicate their understanding.</p> <p>Give your students a brief, but complete sentence called a kernel sentence. Also give them a list of question words to respond to: who, what, when, where, why, and how. Students will provide answers in the form of notes and then combine these notes into a complete sentence.</p> <p>Except for your most bridging multilingual learners who might be able to work in small groups, this is best as a teacher-led activity.</p> <p>(adapted from The Writing Revolution)</p>	15-30 mins	
	Language Domains	
	Listening ✓	Speaking ✓
	Reading ✓	Writing ✓
Procedure	Classroom Materials	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> After reading a text or reviewing a math/technical problem, write one “kernel” sentence that is very short and has the most basic information (noun+ verb). Examples: The family fought. He solved the problem. They built pyramids. Choose your question words. Identify which question words students should answer in order to write a complete sentence that addresses all of the content you expect. If this is a new strategy, start with 2-3 question words. They should be presented in this order: Who? What? When? Where? Why? How? Guide students to answer your selected questions in note-form (not complete sentences, abbreviations are accepted). This is a great time to use lots of turn-and-talks. Have students write an expanded sentence using the information in their notes. They should begin their expanded sentence with the answer to <i>when</i> if it is one of the question words provided. They may work independently or in pairs. Have students share examples and provide corrective feedback. Encourage a variety of ways to expand the sentence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy anchor chart Kernel sentence template 	

Scaffolds		
Substantial	Moderate	Light
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If needed, give directions in 	Allow students to do more of the	Same as moderate with increasing

<p>L1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow for sense-making to be in L1 and then transition to English • Provide list of words with supporting visuals • Jointly construct the notes and expanded sentence. 	<p>work in small groups, and then report back their notes and sentences whole-group.</p>	<p>independence.</p>
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Keys to Success
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can be used as an exit task to review information.

ELD Standards
<p>Interacting in Meaningful Ways</p> <p>A. <u>Collaborative</u>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exchanging information and ideas with others through oral collaborative discussions on a range of social and academic topics 2. Offering and supporting opinions, negotiating with and persuading others in communicative exchanges <p>C. <u>Productive</u> (creation of oral presentations and written texts)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Selecting and applying varied and precise vocabulary and other language resources <p>Learning About How English Works</p> <p>B. <u>Expanding and Enriching Ideas</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Using verbs and verb phrases to create precision and clarity in different text types 4. Using nouns and noun phrases to expand ideas and provide more detail 5. Modifying to add details to provide more information and create precision <p>C. <u>Connecting and Condensing Ideas</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Connecting ideas within sentences by combining clauses 7. Condensing ideas within sentences using a variety of language resources

Learn More
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding / Kernel Sentence Template • Rosa Parks example • Video example (1st,3rd,9th grade examples) • 4th grade example, social studies • Math video example • 30 min. Webinar: Tips on teaching Sentence Expanding