Teaching ELLs Grammar Context

Article # 14 Visible Literacy Series



The goal of this infographic is to share a process of teaching grammar instruction to ELs within context.

The Research

Weaver (1979) suggested that educators frame teaching grammar as a tool for supporting writing (as cited by Lyons, 1996).





Instead of isolated instruction, grammar can be taught within the context of the texts students are reading or while students are creating their own texts (as cited by Lyons, 1996).

The Process

Identify a Grammar Pattern

As teachers guide ELs through reading a text, stop to identify one language pattern.



Ask ELs to find patterns in the language structure. Allow them to discuss in table groups.





Quick Write the Pattern

After discussing the pattern, ask ELs to write a sentence that follows the grammar rule.

Reflect on the Language Pattern

Ask students to explain what they should do when they encounter the same language pattern in a text. This reflection develops reading comprehension.

Lyons, B. (1996). Books. The Quarterly, 18(3), 15-17. Retrieved October 2, 2016, from http://www.nwp.org/cs/public/download/nwp_file/845/Teaching_Grammer.pdf?x-r=pcfile_d