

PURPOSE: This strategy helps students learn meanings of academic words. These words are not found only one discipline, and students will encounter them often.

Strategy 5 Instructions – Academic Words

1. Select a few key words that can be used during a lesson.
2. Use these words in conjunction with a known word or phrase.
Example: We are going to CONCLUDE or END this lesson. Use the words together a few times and then eliminate the word END.
3. Expand the use of the new vocabulary word to other parts of speech: CONCLUSION, CONCLUDING
4. Encourage the student to use the academic word during discussion.
5. Be sure to teach these in context, not in isolation, so students know how to apply the new word. Using words from homework assignments provides a strong context.

For a reference to identify additional academic words that students might need in their classes read the handout, “High-Incidence Academic Word List (AWL).” The words are listed in alphabetical order. Each word has a number. The number “1” indicates the words used with the highest frequency.

Website Resources:

www.vocabulary.com Interactive site. Type in words and it defines the words and organizes practice activities.

<https://www.vocabulary.com/lists/218701#view=notes> This section of the same website, organizes practice and spelling bees for the academic words in the handout listed above.

Add Academic Words to a Word Study Notebook. For example:

ACADEMIC WORDS	EVERYDAY WORDS/PHRASES
conclude	end; finish
proceed	move on; continue
analyze	look closely at something; break down
summarize	shorten; wrap up