Reading The Discovery

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How to Teach This Book

Each unit in the Reading Discovery series is divided into nine parts. The following lesson plan is designed for a one-hour class period. For teachers with less available class time per unit, certain parts of the sample lesson plan may be omitted or shortened as necessary.

Pre-Reading (5 minutes)

Have students read the questions and write short answers. Writing the answers in complete sentences is not necessary. Next, divide the class into small groups of 3-5 students per group. Students share their answers in their groups. A group agreement is not required for the answers, as these answers are designed to activate the student's

background knowledge of the given topic. If time allows, have some of the groups share answers to specific questions. Record useful related vocabulary on the board and discuss how the vocabulary may be related to the reading.

Vocabulary Preview (10 minutes)

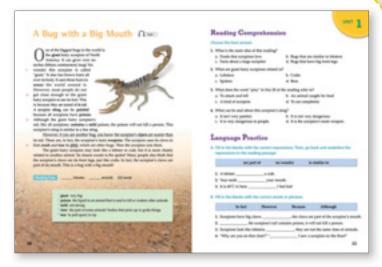
Have students complete the exercise by reading the sample sentences silently to themselves and then matching each underlined vocabulary word with the correct definition or picture directly across from the sentences. Check the answers together as a class by asking one student to read the sentence and then give her/his answer.

While checking the answers, spend a few minutes reviewing and extending students' understanding of the words. Ask the class to brainstorm alternative definitions of words or additional forms of the word. Have the class generate new sentences for words or predict how the word might be used in the reading passage. This activity will help students recall the target vocabulary as they continue throughout the unit.



Reading (10 minutes)

Set a time limit for students to complete the reading and work through the Reading Comprehension and Language Practice activities. At the end of the allotted time, have students work together in pairs to check their answers to both of the activities. In cases where students do not agree on an answer, have the pairs



refer back to the reading to show support for their answers. In this way, students help each other to clarify certain points about the reading. When the majority of students have finished checking their answers, check the answers together as a class. Encourage students to refer back to the reading to point out correct information for any incorrect answers.

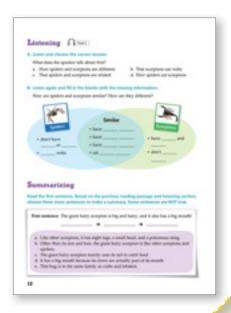
Listening (5 minutes)

Have students read the questions for the listening exercise. After listening to the recording, students should choose the best answer based on what they hear. Play the recording a second time, and have students complete the note-taking activity in part

B. While the answers for part A and B are being checked, students can also refer to the transcripts at the back of the book. This is useful for highlighting key vocabulary items and idiomatic expressions. Using the written transcripts, students may also practice fluency and pronunciation by reading aloud in pairs.

Summarizing (5 minutes)

Have students complete the Summarizing activity presented in the book. Students will need to synthesize information from both the reading and listening content of the unit in this activity. They may check their answers together in pairs before reviewing the answers together as a whole class.



Integrated Practice (10 minutes)

The Integrated Practice section includes a variety of activities for students to express their opinions and experiences. This section also provides students with additional practice for synthesizing information from different sources. Students can then write their responses in short written paragraphs. Each Integrated Practice page is divided into three parts. Parts A and B should be completed as a class. The writing activity for part C may be completed in class as time allows or completed as homework.



Vocabulary and Idiom Review (5 minutes)

Set a time limit of 2 or 3 minutes for students to work through the Vocabulary and Idiom Review exercise on their own. At the end of the allotted time, have students work together in pairs to check their answers. When they do not agree on an answer, have the pairs highlight key words or grammatical structures that bring them closer to the correct answer. In this way, students help each other to clarify confusing points about vocabulary and grammar. Check the answers as a whole to

make sure everyone has the correct answer for each question.

If time allows, focus students on the word form exercise "B." After determining the correct form of the word to fill in the blank, ask students to brainstorm original sentences using the other word forms. For example, in Unit 1 of Reading Discovery 1, students read the sentence, "The scorpion has a lot of _____ on its legs." The correct answer choice is "hair." The other answer choices for this question are "hairy," "hairless," and "haired." From these words, students might come up with sentences like, "My dog is very hairy." or "A Manx cat is a hairless species of cat."



General Teaching Strategies

Building Reading Fluency

The Reading Discovery series aims to increase students' reading fluency while building on their accuracy in reading comprehension. Fluent readers may be defined as those with adequate comprehension (at least 70% accuracy) at an adequate reading rate (200+ words per minute). Having well-developed reading fluency is essential for good performance on reading-based exams as well as for enjoyable outside reading. Below are some suggested activities for developing reading fluency:

1. Do timed readings.

Have students read the passage silently all at the same time. Using a watch or clock, keep track of the time elapsed by writing it on the whiteboard or by using time cards. Teachers may want to keep track of the elapsed time in 5-10 second intervals. When the students finish their reading, they look at the board or time card and record their personal reading time next to the passage. Teachers can use the reading time of earlier readings to rate progress through the duration of the reading course.

2. Re-read passages.

Reading fluency can also be developed by repeated reading of the same text. Teachers may want to have the students re-read the previous day's reading as both a review of the vocabulary presented and a further practice of their reading skills. A timed reading of this previously covered reading is also recommended.

Alternatively, setting a time limit (e.g. 4-5 minutes at first) on the reading is also possible. By having the students mark the place in the text that they reach in the given time, the students themselves can be made aware of their reading rate. Setting a time limit works particularly well when students are assigned texts to re-read multiple times (3-4 times for the same reading). In this way, they can see the improvement that they make with each reading.

3. Paired/Choral Readings

As a component of re-reading passages, students can focus on developing their fluency with two versions of assisted reading. After the text has been listened to, a more proficient student is paired with a less fluent reader in a paired reading activity. An overall time (usually 10-15 minutes) is allotted for the activity. Each student reads for a limited time, while the other listens. If a student reaches a difficult passage, the other student can take over reading. Students can also assist each other if they have difficulty with pronouncing words.

Choral readings provide an opportunity for students to read aloud in a non-stressful setting. A limited section of a reading text (usually a short paragraph) is used for students to practice stress and intonation of a previously read passage. With limited use, students can progress from recognizing words in short phrases, to increasing their awareness of the relationships of these words in a complete reading.