

Vocab-O-Gram

Definition: a classification chart showing the categories of story structure that requires students to organize key vocabulary or phrases in relationship to the structure of the selected text

(Blachowicz & Fisher, 2002)

Using a Vocab-O-Gram

Directions:

1. Select key words from a text that represents story structure or story grammar.
2. Write the words on a chart, board, or overhead transparency.
3. Group students in pairs or small groups and have them place the words in the appropriate category, using the clues that link words to the setting, characters, problem/goal, or actions and resolutions.
4. Conduct a class discussion that centers on student selections and their use of words in categories.
5. Have students create predictions about the story.
6. After reading, review and revise placement of words or phrases in categories on the chart.

Example: Vocabulary List

noisy	monkey
jungle	lion
sleeping	roar
elephant	quietly talking
hippo	chitter-chatter
raging fire	highest tree
chased	escaped
good	

Have students classify these words according to their predictions of how an author might use them.

Vocab-O-Gram

Use vocabulary to make predictions about the ...		
setting	What will the setting be like?	
characters	Any ideas about the characters?	
problem(s) or goal(s)	What might it (they) be?	
actions	What might happen?	
resolution	How might it end?	
What questions do you still have?		
Mystery words:		

(Blachowicz & Fisher,2002)

This graphic organizer provides information about the student's knowledge about the key words and how they are used within the story. Assessing the depth of vocabulary knowledge, whether learners understand the relationships among words is crucial for instruction. Creating a Concept Definition Map for key curricular concepts will demonstrate student understanding of word knowledge.