Promoting Reading with the ACTIVE Framework

The ACTIVE framework includes six principles that can be integrated into EFL reading instruction.

The session will focus on how to use the six principles regardless of the reading materials you use in your program.

In this session, we will consider how the six principles of the ACTIVE reading framework can be integrated into your teaching.
Neil J Anderson

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Neil has been as active member of TESOL International Association for 40 years having served as president from 2001-2002. He has worked with EFL teachers in over 50 countries.
Promoting Reading with the ACTIVE Framework
Session Outcomes

As a result of this session, you will

- understand the six principles of the ACTIVE reading framework.
- explore how to use the principles to guide your teaching of reading.
ACTIVE Reading

A  Activate prior knowledge
C  Cultivate vocabulary
T  Teach for comprehension
I  Increase reading rate
V  Verify reading strategies
E  Evaluate progress
Why Are These Six Principles Important?

A. Drawing upon prior knowledge makes reading easier
B. Increasing vocabulary increases comprehension
C. Teaching rather than testing comprehension improves reading
D. Reading slowly results in low comprehension
E. Reading strategically is a characteristic of a strong reader
F. Making progress increases student motivation to read
How many can you recall?
Write down each principle that you can remember!
How did you do?

A  Activate prior knowledge
C  Cultivate vocabulary
T  Teach for comprehension
I  Increase reading rate
V  Verify reading strategies
E  Evaluate progress
How might these six principles guide your teaching of reading?
Activate Prior Knowledge

What are some possible classroom activities that could be used to activate prior knowledge?

- Ask open ended questions
- Provide a KWL chart
- Use a think-pair-share activity
Activate Prior Knowledge

Let’s try it out!

1. What are popular hobbies in your country?
2. Have you ever played the game of chess?
3. What do you know about the game of chess?
4. Do you know anyone who plays the game of chess as a hobby?
Activate Prior Knowledge

chess board

map of Kazakhstan
How do you activate prior knowledge in your classroom?
Cultivate Vocabulary

What are some classroom activities that could be used to cultivate vocabulary?

- Teach parts of speech of new words
- Make vocabulary flash cards
- Create a word web
Cultivate Vocabulary

Let’s try it out!

1. Rank *(verb)*: to put in order
2. Judge *(verb)*: to assess
3. Expert *(noun)*: someone with a special skill
How do you cultivate vocabulary in your classroom?
Teach for Comprehension

Rather than test reading comprehension, how do you teach students to comprehend?

- Use level appropriate texts
- Balance types of texts
- Teach metacognitive awareness
Teach for Comprehension

What are some classroom activities that could be used to teach for comprehension?

- Establish a clear purpose for reading
- Provide a reading model
- Use level appropriate reading passages
Our reading purpose is to **learn two things** about women chess players in Kazakhstan.

1. What is the world ranking of women chess players from Kazakhstan?

2. Why are women likely to be good at chess?
Kazakh Women Are Good At Chess

Kazakhstan has become very important in the world of chess. Kazakhstan has become important because women players have done very well. Recently, Kazakhstan was ranked number 9 in the world for women players. Some experts believe that women are more likely to be good at the game because chess is judged on how well the player does, not the gender. Who knows? Maybe Kazakhstan will one day be the top-ranked country in the world for women chess players.

1. What is the world ranking of women chess players from Kazakhstan?
2. Why are women likely to be good at chess?
Increase Reading Rate

What are some possible classroom activities that could be used to increase reading rate?

- Repeated reading
- Self-paced reading
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Why do you think increased reading rate is important?
Verify Strategies

Consider...
• **What** strategy should I use?
• **How** to I use the strategy?
• **When** do I use the strategy?
• **Why** do I use the strategy?
• **How** do I evaluate the successful implementation of the strategy?
Verify Strategies

What are some classroom activities that could be used to verify strategies?

- Identify the main idea
- Make predictions and confirm or reject the predictions
Verify Strategies

Let’s try it out!

What is the **main idea** of the paragraph?
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What questions do you have about verifying strategies?
Evaluate Progress

What are some classroom activities that could be used to evaluate progress?

- Ask readers to rate their own performance and explain their rating
- Keep a log of reading comprehension question errors
- Chart reading fluency
Evaluate Progress

Let’s try it out!

On a scale from 1 to 6 (1 = very poor, 6 = very well),

1. How well did you do on today’s reading?
2. Did you accomplish the reading purpose?
3. Why did you give yourself that rating?
How do you evaluate progress in your classroom?
Summary

A Activate prior knowledge
C Cultivate vocabulary
T Teach for comprehension
I Increase reading rate
V Verify reading strategies
E Evaluate progress
References


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Reflection Questions

1. What challenges do you observe your students confronting during reading instruction?

2. What types of in-class activities might help them overcome the challenges you identified in the previous question?

3. What were the key takeaways from today’s session on the ACTIVE reading instruction framework?

4. How will you apply what you’ve learned today in your classroom?