

## TEACHING VOCABULARY USING TOP METHODS FOR INTRODUCING NEW TECHNICAL WORDS

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**Abstract:** This article has focused on a need to develop a technical vocabulary in the teaching profession. Concept mapping, a technique of graphically representing concepts and their hierarchical interrelationships along two dimensions, was used to examine the growth of student teachers' knowledge concerning planning over three sequenced courses. Quantitative and content analysis of the maps indicated that students developed a more shared, technical vocabulary reflecting course content and evidencing greater hierarchical organization. The study provides information about the nature of and growth of student teachers' thinking, and demonstrates a means of monitoring the growth of student teachers' conceptual development over a course.

**Keywords:** Teaching technical vocabulary, solving learning technical vocabulary comprehension problems, developing technical vocabulary

Technical words are often found in informational texts, such as fact files and reports. These words have specific meaning for the field they belong to, such as an academic subject area or a profession.

Technical words, also known as terminology or jargon, are a special type of vocabulary used to explain concepts unique or specific to one particular area. Let's take a look at technical words for different academic subjects and professions.

- English - metaphor, simile, and personification.
- Biology - photosynthesis, gestation, and respiration.
- Medicine - benign, malignant, and anti-inflammatory.
- Mechanical engineering - abrasion, acceleration, and torque.

If the teachers want to check students' prior knowledge? Challenge their class to add as many technical words as they can to these lists, or come up with their own for other areas.

Teaching vocabulary in English as second language (ESL) is crucial to a technical student's language development and communication skills. After all, without adequate words, it's difficult to relate thoughts, ideas, and feelings about who we are and how we interpret the world around. But it should be achieved this goal without making students memorize lists of ESL technical vocabulary that will be forgotten after the next quiz? It necessary to check out these teaching strategies for how to teach technical vocabulary to ESL students – whether giving in lessons or teaching English online.

What is the best way to teach technical vocabulary in the classes of ESL?

Create technical context around teaching words. It's a good idea to think about how students will recall a word when sitting for an exam and use this as starting point to determine how to remember what it has taught. In other words, it shouldn't teach

new technical words in a vacuum. If the teachers want to create a contextual experience (an interesting story, a series of images, a dialogue) that leaves a deep impression so that when the time comes for class to recall a particular list of technical words, they'll be able to access these words with little trouble, building their ESL technical vocabularies throughout each class.

In teaching relevant ESL technical vocabulary teachers should be aware that if you focus on vocabulary that can't be put to immediate and repetitive use in technical students' day-to-day lives, it will be relegated to the quicksand of short-term memory and soon forgotten, thus rendering all hard work useless. Teaching vocabulary in ESL is of vital importance to long-term use of classroom lessons. Also, teachers should be sure to choose vocabulary that is connected to students' lives and can be easily applied to their world outside of the classroom. (2)

Before teaching English conversation every teacher should learn the ins and outs of teaching it and consider students' language level. (4)

Technical institutions students need the appropriate English technical vocabulary to help them relate to others on both a personal and technical level, and they rely on teacher to give them the best and most common words and phrases that will help them improve their communication skills.

Besides, ESL teachers learn more about the differences between teaching elementary, intermediate and advanced level students.

What are the techniques for introducing and teaching new technical vocabulary?

First of all, it would be very beneficial to show images or drawings because they are fairly universal and understood by most people, this is perhaps the best way to present new technical vocabulary.

Secondly, if ESL teacher has a knack for image or photo, the teacher can make his own pictures or create the students own characters, but making sure that these are large enough for everyone to see clearly if there is access to a SMART board. And keeping the composition of the photos or drawings simple, as too many things happening at once can confuse students.

If you are teaching online, you can make use of Skype or Zoom's screen share function to show the images. These platforms also have whiteboard features and annotation tools, which you can use for making simple technical drawings on-screen.

The best professional tip for teachers is creating a couple of characters that technical students can relate to and use them throughout teachers' course to present new ideas. When it used consistently, students form attachments to the characters and will rely on them when learning new concepts.

The next tip is presenting technical vocabulary with realias. Realia is essential to the learning of ESL vocabulary. For a lesson on how to describe the flavors of different foods, for example, there is nothing better than to have students taste a variety of foods, condiments, herbs, and spices. As you give your class a taste of each ingredient, announce what it is, and give them the accompanying statement that incorporates the vocabulary you are teaching. Examples: This is sugar. Sugar is sweet. These are potato chips. Potato chips are salty. This is mustard. Mustard is sour. This is also a good method for technical students using technical vocabulary with realias. (1)

Even if you're teaching virtually, you can use traditional and digital realia in your online classroom. For example, you can use an online map to review English directions or the PDF version of a restaurant menu to practice phrases for ordering food. Everyone can learn more about using realia in the virtual classroom by watching a different series of webinars on the topic using internet.

What are other ways ESL technical students can improve their technical vocabulary?

It has been learned that students who are self-taught what methods they used to learn English on their own, they will invariably tell you the following:

They listen to and learn technical conversations and watch technical documentary videos with subtitles in English (some students like learning by English subtitles, saying that it helps with their pronunciation). (1)

They read English technical books and magazines that are of interest to them.

Many students also download language learning apps, such as Babbel and Duolingo, to their smartphones, so encourage them to use these tools to help develop their language skills on their own time.

Another way to improve students' vocabulary is to have them keep a notebook that is small enough to fit in their pockets. This is a great way for them to have a real-time record of the words and short phrases they use in their daily lives. When students keep a list of the words that are of interest to them, they are effectively writing their own little dictionaries that can be filled with pictures, synonyms, antonyms, and sentences that are useful to them.

Another best tip is correcting students' technical vocabulary mistakes helps them improve their usage of new words. One way to develop this skill is by taking a short Micro-credential course in Error Correction in the EFL Classroom. (3)

Need a quick refresher on how to teach ESL vocabulary? Download this Bridge info graphic for strategies for teaching technical vocabulary to English language learners

What should I keep in mind for how to teach technical vocabulary to ESL students?

Here are some more tips for helping students learn technical vocabulary better:

Whether the teachers are teaching technical vocabulary, grammar, phraseology, or pronunciation in a physical classroom or online, every teacher of English should do their best to make sure students can relate to each lesson and are almost immediately able to use what they've learned. (2)

Following a logical and organic order when teaching new technical vocabulary, and putting the words into useful phrases as often as possible also helpful for students. As well as, looking for every opportunity to review what teachers have taught from one lesson to the next, and engage their students by focusing on topics that interest them the most. In this case teachers should always encourage the students to ask them about the meanings of words and how these can be applied to lives outside of the classroom.

There are myriad methods of teaching technical vocabulary – get creative, have fun, and do what works best for the students.

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