

# An Explicit Vocabulary Instruction Model



Can the Contextualized Word Family (CWF) vocabulary instruction model effectively improve students' vocabulary size and writing performance?

## Vocabulary learning for second language (L2) learners

- ✿ Vocabulary acquisition is vital since it helps learners to access and express ideas and communicate ideas.
- ✿ There is a strong relationship between vocabulary knowledge and reading comprehension.
- ✿ Lack of vocabulary has been identified as one of the factors inhibiting L2 learning.

The CWF model contains 8 principles effective for direct vocabulary instruction.

- Giving definitions of new words
- Teaching vocabulary in context
- Teaching tier-two words
- Teaching words in word family
- Using visuals
- Providing multiple exposures
- Providing context
- Using a variety of language learning activities

## The CWF Model

**Step 1:**  
Identify new tier-two word in a reading context



**Step 2:**  
Give definition of word



**Step 3:**  
List the members of word family

**Step 5:**  
Write a short paragraph using word family



**Step 4:**  
Construct meaningful sentences using the word family



**Step 6:**  
Draw a picture of the word family based on meaning



**Step 7:**  
Talk to peers about a completed entry of a word family

## Teaching Suggestions

- ✿ The CWF model can improve vocabulary size of learners from all proficiency levels.
  - Teach words in word families
  - Provide direct and explicit vocabulary instruction
  - Use both definitional and contextual information
  - Multiple exposures, especially to tier-two/ high-frequency words/ academic words (at least 6 encounters)
  - Active and deep processing of words

### Reference:

Subon, F., & Unin, N. (2021). The Efficacies of an Explicit Vocabulary Instruction Model on ESL Learners' Vocabulary Size and Writing Skills. *Journal of Language and Education*, (1), 205-220.

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