Huamin Primary School

OUR SINGAPORE LESSON STUDY LESSON JOURNEY **STUDY** (a)**SYMPOSIUM** HUAMIN 2013 **PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Mrs Jessi Siva Huamin Primary School, Singapore Huamin Primary School

ENGLISH LANGUAGE



SINGAPORE LESSON STUDY SYMPOSIUM 2013

Mrs Jessi Siva Huamin Primary School, Singapore



School Vision Caring Thinkers Adventurous Learners Passionate Contributors A Happy Learning Place Home of Quality Holistic Education Where we Learn to Love and Love to Learn N3 CLUSTER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR VISUAL ARTS



- (1) Why Lesson Study in Huamin Primary School
- (2) English Language Lesson Study Journey from 2010 – 2013 in the School

Plan & Desig

(3) Q&A



- School started on Professional Lesson Communities (PLC) in 2010
- Huamin chose to do PLC through Lesson Study (LS)
- The LS journey @ Huamin Primary began in 2010



SEM 3.2 : <u>STAFF LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT</u> <u>STG 3.2.2</u>:

To build staff capacity through training & development

2010 : Introduction of Lesson Study in Huamin
2011 : Growth of Lesson Study
2012 : Development of Lesson Study
2013 : Consolidation of Lesson Study

PLC Thorugh LC : Huamin's 4-year plan

4 Year PD PLC-LS Plans			
2010	2011	2012	2013
Intro of LS to Huamin	Growth of LS	Development of LS	Consolidation of LS
PD & Training			
Introductory LS workshops for	Additional LS training for	Advanced LS training for	Advanced LS training for all
all teachers by P	selected teams	selected teams	teams
		NIE LS workshop for Math team	
	NIE LS workshop for Math team	with problem solving RL (Dr	
Seminar by Japanese LS expert	w RL (Mr Sato)	Takahashi	NIE workshop for EL team
Additional AST workshop for 1			
LS team	AST workshop for Science team	AST coaching for Science team	AST & ELIS coaching
Oshari kanada kating kul O	Oshard have dishering had 0	School-based & cluster based	School-based, cluster-based
School-based sharing by LS	School-based sharing by LS	sharing by LS teams every	and zonal sharing by LS teams
teams every semester	teams every semeste	semeste	every semester
Participation in LS Symposium	Participation in LS Symposium	Presentation in LS Symposium	Presentation in LS Symposium
Participation in ES Symposium	Participation in ES Symposium	Fresentation in LS Symposium	Fresentation in LS Symposium
1 seminar by Japanese LS	3 seminars by Japanese	2 seminars by LS experts with	
expert	experts	RL	2 seminars by LS experts w RL
Participation & 1			
Presesentation in WALS	Participation & 2 Presentations	Participation & 3 Presentations	Participation & 4 Presentations
Conference in Brunei	in WALS 2011 in Tokyo	in WALS 2012 in S'pore	in nat'l & int'l conferences
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		



WHY LESSON STUDY Traditional Information Transfer Lesson Study

Traditional Information Transfer

Knowledgements Change of the state of the s

RIPE

Expert

Figure 9.1: A comparison of the role of the expert in professional development and in lesson study. Concept courtesy Akihiko Takahash

WHY LESSON STUDY

LEARN LEAD

Lesson Study is teacher-led.



Lesson Study provides opportunity to directly study teaching and learning in the classroom.

Lesson Study keeps students at the heart of the professional development activity.

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Lesson Study is a means to improve subject pedagogy



WHY LESSON STUDY

Self-directed learner Confident Person Civic Literacy, Global Au Information and Communication Self-Awareness eness and Cross-cultural Skills Self-Management Responsible **Decision-Core Values** Making Social Awareness Relationship Management Concerned Citizen Active Contributot Critical and Inventive Thinking

21st Century Competencies and Desired Student Outcomes

Source: http://www.moe.gov.sg/media/p ress/2010/03/moe-to-enhancelearning-of-21s.php

WHY LESSON STUDY

"You cannot change others and your work [done] in the past, but you can change yourself and your lessons in the future."

(Mr Ono, a principal of Oka Elementary School told the Teachers after an LS session- Shared by Prof Kiyomi Akita)

HUAMIN'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Mission:

Create a dynamic learning environment where pupils cultivate a learning passion for English so that they will blossom into competent critical readers and listeners, expressive and skillful writers and speakers.

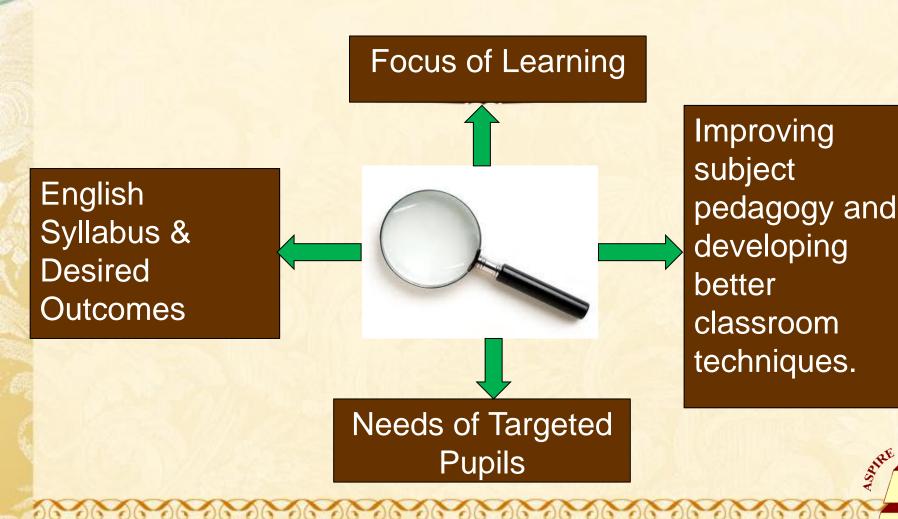


Vision:

Passionate Learners and Effective Users of Good English (PEG for EL).

Lesson Study in the EL Department

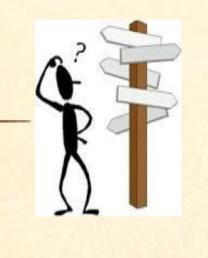
Determining Lesson Study Focus in the EL Department



Lesson Study in the EL Department

How LS is carried out in the EL Dept : The Structure

- Placed in teams
- Analyse pupils' results
- Component Analysis
- Identify Weak Areas
- Intervention Plans
- Areas for Lesson Study
- Share the skill with the EL teachers before LS is carried out
- Target class & RL teacher decided upon
- Compact LS no 2nd RL





Lesson Study Groups

Lesson Surty at its inner core makes teachers more aware of how students think and learn.



Lesson Study in the EL Department

AREAS FOR EL LESSON STUDY

2010 : Composition

- Use of Plot Graph to Plan Writing

2011 : Reading Comprehension - Use of Storyboarding

2012 : Reading Comprehension - Use of Annotation 全國

2013 : Philosophy for Children (P4C) - Use of Meaningful Stories & Questions to develop a community of inquiry

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LESSON STUDY CYCLE

(1) STUDY

- Consider long term goals for student learning and development
- Study curriculum and standards
- Strategies? Questions?

(5) Enhance & Teach

- Build in the suggestions from Reflection
- Enhance & apply learning points
- Teachers carry out lessons in their own classes

(2) PLAN

- Select and plan research lesson
- What to observe?
- What are the expected responses?
- What data to collect?

(4) REFLECT

- Share data
- What was learned about students learning, lesson design & content?
- What are implications for this lesson and instruction more broadly?
- The singapore rac

(3) RESEARCH LESSON

- Conduct research lesson
- Observe and collect data
- Share and discuss data
- Observe a protocol

Jiding the Future of Our Nation

PRIOR 2 RESEARCH LESSON

Brief Observers

- <u>Points to note</u>:
- (1) during observation
- (2) post observation
- (3) roles

TESSON STUDY 2010

FOCUS AREA



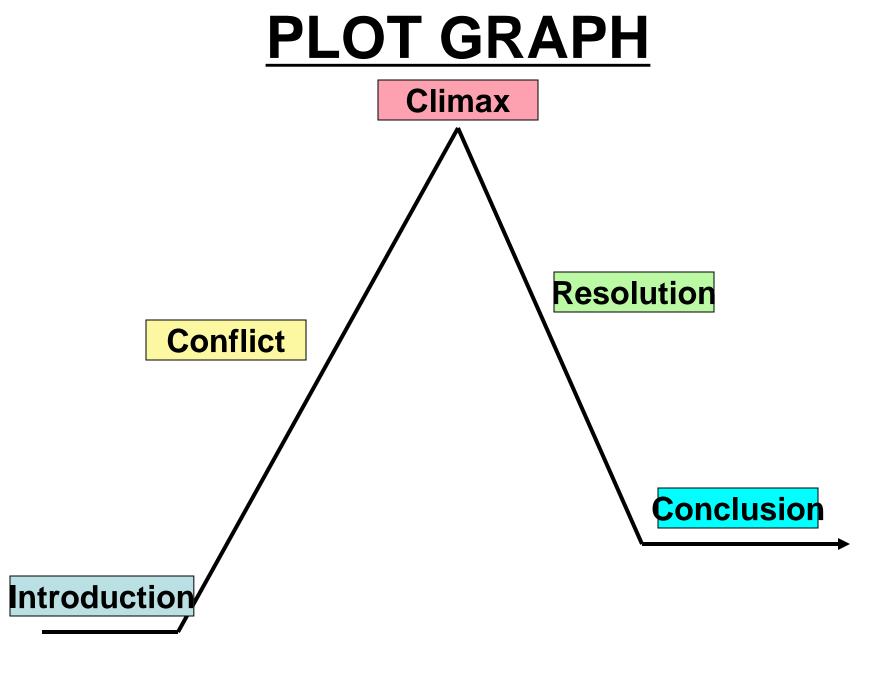




Goals for Lesson Study & Research Lesson

- Pupils to be able to plan their composition systemically
- Pupils to be able to use the plot graph as a technique to organise their composition





RL SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

- Pupils to understand the importance of planning their composition before writing it
- Pupils to understand the use of the plot graph as a tool for planning and sequencing their ideas
- Pupils to understand the elements of a plot graph
- Pupils to be able to disintegrate the content of a model composition onto a plot graph
- Pupils to plan a composition using the plot graph (in subsequent composition writing lessons)

CONNECTION WITH RESEARCH FOCUS

- Pupils often began on their piece without planning.
- Their ideas were not effectively sequenced.

- Their compositions lacked coherence.
- The use of the plot graph will allow the pupils to arrange their ideas and to produce a piece that is coherently written as well as one that would be interesting to read.
- The elements of the plot graph would also ensure that the pupil has tackled different aspects (eg. Introduction, conflict, climax, resolution and conclusion) in his/her writing piece, 10



CONNECTION WITH RESEARCH FOCUS

- The use of the plot graph will allow the pupils to arrange their ideas and to produce a piece that is coherently written as well as one that would be interesting to read.
- The elements of the plot graph would also ensure that the pupil has tackled different aspects (eg. Introduction, conflict, climax, resolution and conclusion) in his/her writing piece.

ACTUAL SITUATION OF THE PUPILS

were of low ability

- had poor writing skills
- not independent writers
- lacked creativity
- did not know how to plan before writing
- some of them had problems expressing themselves

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

(a) Strategies for the Learning Process

- Understanding the importance of planning before writing composition
- Introducing the plot graph as a strategy for planning before writing the composition
- Identification of elements of plot graph in model composition
- Using a model composition, the content is disintegrated and arranged according to the elements on the plot graph
- Pupils to carry out the exercise in groups
- Pupils share their inputs on how they have disintegrated the content onto the plot graph

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS (b) <u>Strategies for Support & Evaluation</u>

- A video clip on fire was shown to set the context and for tuning in.
- For activity 1, pupils were provided with a model composition for them to realise that they were able to understand the content of the story because the ideas had been effectively planned and sequenced.
- The content of the model composition was disintegrated onto the plot graph, according to the elements featured.



Climax

- robber shot security guard in chest
- everyone screamed hysterically
- security guard collapsed in the pool of blood
- writer at entrance of the bank clutching briefcase
- robbers hurled abuses & threats at bank employees & clients

Conflict

- 2 masked men entrance of bank
- threatened bank tellers
- bank tellers terrified
- tellers followed orders
- emptied all cash into gigantic haversack
- security guard took out his revolver

Introduction

- sweltering hot afternoon
- Orchard Road
- over-zealous shoppers
- mid-year sale
- going to Citibank with month's taking from company

Resolution

- crept out of the bank unnoticed
- called the police on mobile phone

Conclusion

- police sirens wailed down the street
- policemen in bullet-proof vests
- policemen armed with powerful revolvers
- police charged into the bank
- a fierce struggle ensued between law enforces
 & perpetrators
- criminals / robbers arrested
- money was recovered
- writer commended by police for his help

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS (b) <u>Strategies for Support & Evaluation</u>

- For Activity 2, a model composition was given to the pupils to disintegrate the content of the story onto the plot graph.
- Pupils worked in groups on the plot graph drawn on butcher papers.
- To ensure that all members in each group participated, the CL strategy of talking chips was used.
- The groups then presented their work.

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STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

(b) Strategies for Support & Evaluation

 For Activity 3 the pupils were provided with a model composition and a blank plot graph onto which they were required to disintegrate the content of the model composition and indicate it onto the plot graph.

RESEARCH LESSON

PLAN

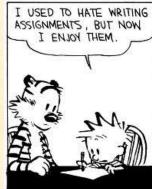


Huamin's EL Lesson Study 2010 POST-RL DISCUSSION COMMENTS BY RL TEACHER

- Pupils were enthused by the video clip.
- Duration of 1 hour is too short.
- Pupils had difficulty understanding certain aspects on the plot graph (eg. conflict & climax).
- More practice would help.
- Concerned with the steps of the RL.

POST-RL DISCUSSION COMMENTS BY KNOWLEDGEABLE OTHER

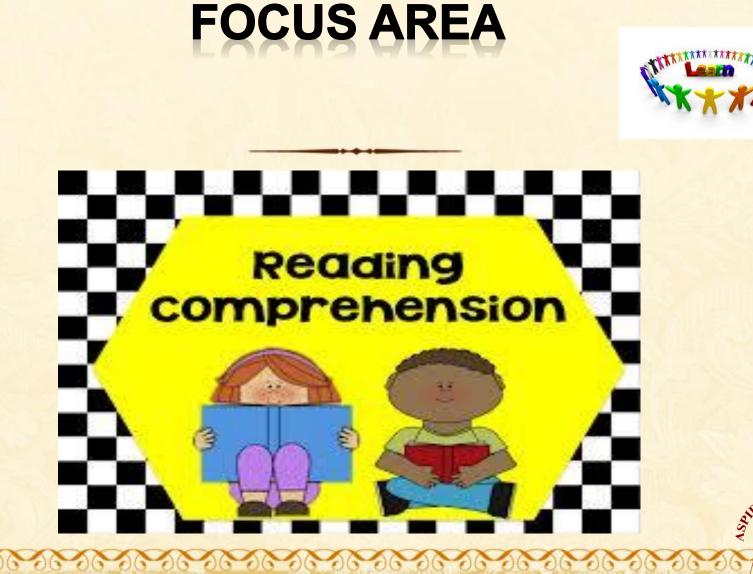
- Use of plot graph to plan compositions provides pupils with a structure.
- Important to model for pupils how to use the plot graph.
- Video clip for tuning in was good.
- Lesson activities engaged pupils effectively.



LEARNING POINTS Too much information imparted.

- Important to take note of how much information the pupils can process.
- Video Clip not necessary to show the full length; show pertinent parts.

IESSON STUDY 2011







Goals for Lesson Study & Research Lesson

- Use language to express themselves fluently & clearly.
- Draw a storyboard of the passage with a partner.
- Answer the 5W1H questions in open-ended comprehension.

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RL SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

- Understand a passage.
- Interpret information from the passage in order to answer questions.
- Visualise events in the story in sequence.
- Verbalise the content of the passage through the use of storyboarding.

CONNECTION WITH RESEARCH FOCUS

 Pupils find it a challenge to answer the inferential Comprehension OE questions.

- Pupils lack the skills to interpret the narrative text and contextual cues.
- They are unable to understand what the inferential questions is asking for.
- The use of storyboarding as a teaching tool in answering comprehension questions will enable them to visualize the events in a story in sequence.

CONNECTION WITH RESEARCH FOCUS

- Drawing on the storyboard would appeal to the visual learners.
- Through storyboarding, pupils will be able to interpret information.
- Through discussion and storyboarding, pupils will also verbalise their understanding of the passage.
- Pupils will be more aware of how they think (metacognition).

ACTUAL SITUATION OF THE PUPILS

- Mixed ability class
- A few vocal students
- A few creative individuals
- A few students who are introverts
- Most of them rush to get the answers for worksheets done
- Most of them are able to read and understand text at superficial level
- Those who lack understanding, dislike reading the text
- Difficulty in interpreting contents in a narrative text



STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

- (a) Strategies for the Learning Process
- Narrative Text
- Presentation to develop pupils confidence levels and improve articulation (selected pairs)
- Socratic questioning metacognition

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Think pair share (Cooperative Learning Strategy)

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

(b) Strategies for Support & Evaluation

- Text and questions in worksheet (5W1H type questions)
- Think pair share (CL strategy) allows pupils to be observed while they think aloud

RESEARCH LESSON

PLAN



Huamin's EL Lesson Study 2011 POST-RL DISCUSSION COMMENTS BY RL TEACHER

- Duration of lesson time constraint
- Pacing throughout lesson
- Presentation by pupils lack confidence
- Scaffolding by teacher

Huamin's EL Lesson Study 2011 POST-RL DISCUSSION

COMMENTS BY OBSERVERS & KNOWLEDGEABLE OTHER

- Approach was new and innovative
- Use of prior knowledge to connect with the lesson
- Different levels of engagement
- Self-discovery and independent learning took place
- Method of chunking the passage helped pupils understand the passage better
- Drawing out visual interpretations helped

Huamin's EL Lesson Study 2011 POST-RL DISCUSSION

- COMMENTS BY OBSERVERS & KNOWLEDGEABLE OTHER
- Pupils sought clarification from one another during the storyboarding activity
- Tendency for one member to be dominant
- Pupils had difficulty identifying the salient points from the chunks that needed to be illustrated – a skill required by the pupils
- RL teacher obtained verbal evaluation from pupils
- Classroom physical arrangement for not too conducive pupils could not see the freeze frame activity (trigger activity)

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LEARNING POINTS

Different mode of understanding :

- emotional engagement (storyboarding)
- cognitive engagement (questioning & answering)
- physical engagement (freeze-frame activity)
- Transition involved from reading of a linguistic text to drawing (non-linguistic mode)
- Scaffolding for this mental leap

LEARNING POINTS

- Pupils need to be more aware that meaning of picture more important than artistic aspects
- Text was not too easy for storyboarding aspects especially the last scene in paragraph 4
- Pupils needed the skill to pick out the salient points / main ideas of each chunk

LEARNING POINTS

- Scaffold : providing questions to derive at these main points
- Verbal evaluation before pupils answered the questions of worksheet – pupils should work independently on the questions
- Goal of getting pupils to speak up not met due to time constraint

IESSON STUDY 2012













Goals for Lesson Study & Research Lesson

- Pupils to be able to use annotation to better understand the reading comprehension passages
- Pupils to be able to use the symbols for annotation
- Pupils to be able to identify what needs to be annotated



RL SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

- Pupils to be able to add notes to a text, giving explanations/comments
- Pupils to be able to use to represent characters and for 'when' and 'where' information and ? for confusing information or information difficult to understand



CONNECTION WITH RESEARCH FOCUS

- scan through the reading comprehension passage
- lack deep reading
- unable to understand what the main idea of each paragraph is
- do not understand what the writer is trying to communicate to them
- the intent of the writer not questioned
- lack effective strategies to interact with the passage in a meaningful way
- use of annotation to stay focussed, get involved with the passage and understand better with deep reading

ACTUAL SITUATION OF THE PUPILS

- are of average / high ability
- have average comprehension skills
- ➢ read widely
- lack deep reading
- unable to understand reading comprehension passages effectively
- Iack effective strategies to help them comprehend the passages



STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

a) Strategies for the Learning Process

- Realise the importance of understanding the reading comprehension passage
- Introduce the annotation as one of the skills to help in the understanding of the passage
- Introduce the symbols to be used for annotation
- Pupils to use the symbols (circle and rectangle) to annotate the passage

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS a) <u>Strategies for the Learning Process</u>

- Teacher role-models* the process of annotation
- While role-modelling, teacher annotates the 5W1H
- Pupils to carry out the exercise in pairs
- Pupils share their inputs on how they annotated the passage

Modelling (TST, page 224)

THE SKILLFUL

Conceptual models that have visual representations of what concepts mean and how they work improve student recall of the concept and performance on problems that ask them to extrapolate from what they have learned (Mayer, 1989).

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

(b) Strategies for Support & Evaluation

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 To elicit the importance of understanding a text, a humourous poem entitled 'Homework Stew' by Kenn Nesbitt is provided to the pupils.

I cooked my math book in a broth and stirred it to a steaming froth. I threw in papers—pencils, too to make a pot of homework stew.

I turned the flame up nice and hot and tossed my binder in the pot. I sprinkled in my book report with colored markers by the quart. Despite its putrid, noxious gas, I proudly took my stew to class. And though the smell was so grotesque, I set it on my teacher's desk.

My teacher said, "You're quite a chef. But still you're going to get an F. I didn't ask for 'homework stew,' I said, 'Tomorrow, homework's due.'" and

STEPS TAKEN TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

(b) Strategies for Support & Evaluation

- For Activity 1, teacher role-models how to annotate a passage.
- For Activity 2, the pupils read the given passage. In pairs, they annotate the passage using the symbols for the various aspects. The pairs use the CL strategy of passage.
- For Activity 3, and as homework, the pupils are provided with a open-ended reading comprehension passage and they will annotate it so that they interact with the passage and understand it effectively.

RESEARCH LESSON

PLAN



RESEARCH LESSON Algenda for today...

Framing the Learning



* Trigger-Poems Anyone? * Intro - What is Annotation? * Modelling * Getting Into Action -Shoulder-Partners 00 -Presentation * Review & Wrap-up-Q? H-work (Individual

RESEARCH LESSON

Introduction

Trigger Activity – Poem



I cooked my math book in a broth and stirred it to a steaming froth. I threw in papers—pencils, too to make a pot of homework stew.

I turned the flame up nice and hot and tossed my binder in the pot. I sprinkled in my book report with colored markers by the quart.

Despite its putrid, noxious gas, I proudly took my stew to class. And though the smell was so grotesque, I set it on my teacher's desk.

My teacher said, "You're quite a chef. But still you're going to get an F. I didn't ask for 'homework stew' I said, 'Tomorrow, homework's due."

Huamin's EL Lesson Study 2012 **RESEARCH LESSON** Introducing Annotation * Who? ---- Characters Use of Symbols A What ? --- Things/Items character * Where? ---- Setting (Place) when & where * Why? ---- Reasons for events Confuses you - "I don't understand this." 07/03/2012

RESEARCH LESSON

Comprehension Open-Ended Worksheet

Read the passage below carefully

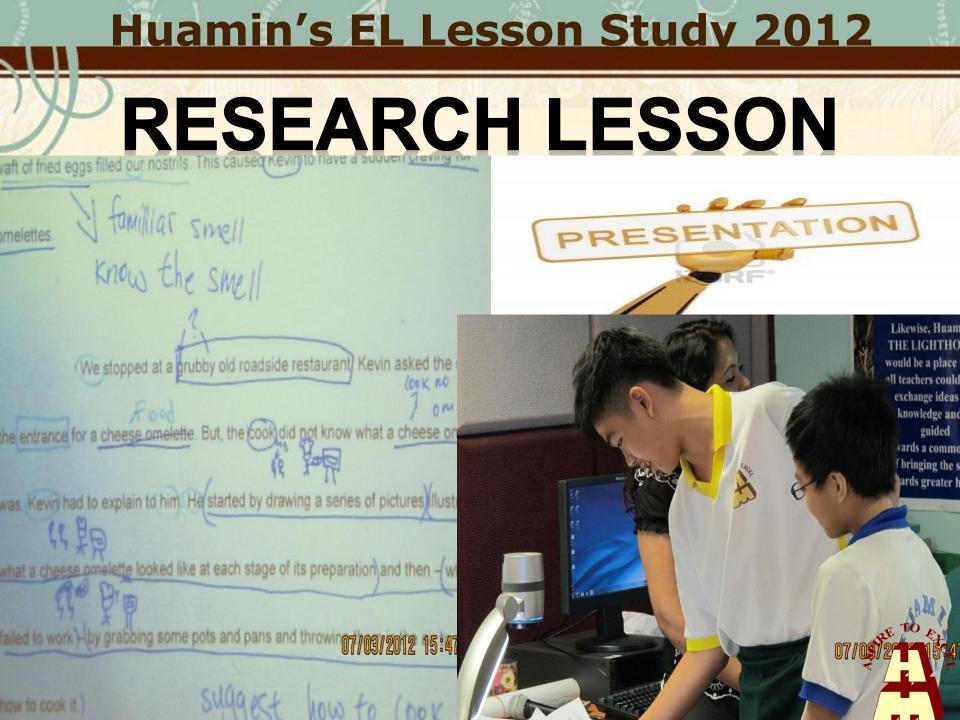
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<u>Teacher</u> <u>Modelling</u>

(e) was (a) day on fished alone in a skiff in the Gulf stream and or a fish. In the first forty days, a boy had been with h that the of being unluc three good fi

RESEARCH LESSON

THINK Ø





POSSIBLE QUESTIONS FOR POST-LESSON INTERVIEW WITH PUPILS

- What did you enjoy most about the lesson?
- What did you learn?
- What can you do now that you could not do before?
- How is it better?
- Which aspect of the lesson worked best for you?
- Which aspect did you find difficult or challenging?
- If the same lesson is being taught to another group, what would you change? Why would you change that?



RESEARCH LESSON

Review & Conclusion

03/2012 15:51

POST-RL DISCUSSION

- Approach was innovative
- A lot of engagement
- Pupils were clear of the lesson objectives
- Poem was engaging
- Pupils took down notes effective manner of reinforcing their learning
- Pupils collaborated well
- Opportunities to increase the depth for thinking from superficial to a deeper interpretation

POST-RL DISCUSSION

- Environment was safe pupils were allowed to make mistakes without repercussions
- Pairs were highly engaged in their work peer pressure (domination by one member of the pair)
- Pair work activity helped pupils to learn from their peers & address their doubts without asking the teacher

 - Poem was a good trigger activity Use of checklist an opportunity for selfcheck

POST-RL DISCUSSION

(1) sheets on flip board : paste them on the board so that pupils can see the flow

Suggestions

(2) peer pressure : teacher to scaffold possible interactive questions that can be asked appropriately prior to pair work – lay ground rules

LEARNING POINTS

- Class routines in place
- Key objectives & agenda were child friendly & very clear
- Time spent on trigger activity was apt
- Annotation helps to unpack the text

LEARNING POINTS Need to focus on purpose of reading Focus

- (different styles of reading for different texts for different purposes)

 AfL – post a question, pause & bounce the question

 Checklist – a good check for understanding
 (Eg. "I could understand the text better with annotation")

- pupils should be allowed to make comparison to a specific instance for a clearer understanding

LEARNING POINTS

Remember – DON'T over-annotate





 Less able pupils may not be able to identify the "how" and "why" questions

 Presentation – provide guiding questions (Eg. What you did? Did you like the strategy?)

LEARNING POINTS

Use of ______ for both 'when' and 'where' confused the pupils

Suggestion : use for 'when'

OTHER RESEARCH LESSONS ON ANNOTATION

- Used learning points to improve subsequent lessons on the use of annotation for reading comprehension.
- Tamil teacher & P1 teacher carried out the improved research lesson.

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RESEARCH LESSON PLAN

Questioning Strategy



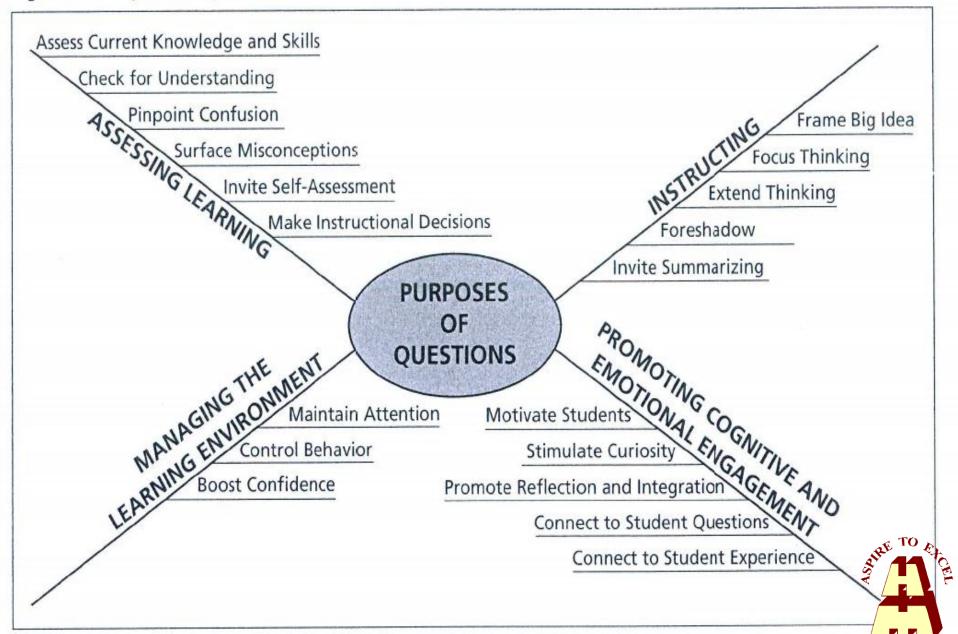
- Each segment of the lesson plan had questions included
- Team brainstormed for suitable questions to guide and elicit pupils' understanding
- Questions categorised based on table 9.5
 of The Skillful Teacher (page 209)

Table 9.5. Thinking Skills Model Categories

Category	Examples of Trigger Questions	Key Words	HOW WEN WEN WHO P
Knowledge	Define the word What is a? Label the following Identify the in this Who did?	Define, repeat, identify, what, label, when, list, who, name	WHAT WHAT WHAT WHERE WHEN
Organizing	Compare thebefore and after Contrast the to the Differentiate between and Classify by Order by	Compare, differentiate, contrast, order, classify, distinguish, relate	QUESTIONING STRATEGY
Applying	How is an example of? How is related to? Why is significant? Predict what would happen if Explain. Choose the best statements that	Apply, demonstrate, calculate, complete, illustrate, show, solve, examine, modify, relate, change, classify, experiment, discover, dramatize, sketch	VIIVALEUT
	apply to Identify the results of Tell how much change there would be when		Levels of thinking
Analyzing	What are the basic elements (ingredients) in a? What is/are the functions's) of? Inventory the parts of Categorize the of Sort the What is the order of steps in?	Subdivide, categorize, break down, sort, separate	- trigger questions
Generating	Hypothesize what will happen if Predict what would be true if Conclude what the result will be if What if had happened instead of?	Deduce, anticipate, predict what if, infer, apply, speculate, conclude	
Integrating	What would you predict/nfer from? What ideas can you add to? How would you create/design a new? What might happen if you combined? What solutions would you suggest for?	Combine, integrate, modify, create, design, invent, compose, theorize, develop, devise, originate, revise, synthesize, conceive, proj- ect, hypothesize	STRE TO
Evaluating	What you would do if happened? Why? Judge what would be the best way to solve the problem of Why did you select that solution?	Evaluate, argue, judge, recommend, assess, debate, appraise, critique, defend Evaluate whether you would or Why?	000000000

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Figure 9.7. Purposes of Questions



IESSON STUDY 2013









OUTCOMES OF RESEARCH LESSON

- Joint planning of the lesson plan involves thought process, different perspectives and levels of experience
- Clarity in the delivery of this strategy other teachers could execute the lesson

OUTCOMES OF RESEARCH LESSON

Pupils' thinking becomes more transparent

- More eyes to observe pupils and gain ²⁰⁰, ²⁰⁰
 feedback on how these pupils think and learn
- Post RL encourages reflective learning among the teachers which results in better and improved lessons

FREE RANGE



"How can teachers improve their teaching without lesson study?"

Akihiho Takahashi, De Paul University

1 Rank you!

