

Strategies for reading success

Helen Askie & Sue Hodgson

The Language Centre: The University of Newcastle

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Workshop

- Skills classes
- Skills good readers use
- Teaching strategies



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Skills Classes

Failure →

- Desperation
- Negotiation
- Low self esteem

Special classes for repeating students

- Usually 5 week courses
- Depend on numbers
- Int / U Int / EAP
- Different course content
- Skills focus

Skills classes →

- Motivation
- Optimism
- Learning & exam strategies
- Success
- Increased self esteem

How do we support students' reading success?

- Answer questions... get them wrong... feel a failure

BUT if...

- Teacher anticipates problems... shows them how to handle them... THEN answer questions → **SUCCESS**



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**Skills good
readers use**

- Background knowledge
- Prediction
- Context
- Vocabulary
- Skimming
- Scanning
- Gist
- Reading for detail
- Text structure



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Teaching strategies

- Identify possible problems
- Explain them
- Provide practice
- Monitor to support success
- Provide constant reinforcement

- Id_____ possible problems
- Ex_____ them
- Provide pr_____
- M_____r to support success
- Provide constant re_____

Traps for the unwary...

Temporary work permits, which several countries increasingly issue, help a bit to fill the gap, but most involve a complex process.

(The Best of Reasons, *The Economist*, 2.11.02)

- Identifying subject / verb / complement
- Nominalisation
- Active / Passive
- Relative clauses
- Referents
- Modals
- Signal words
- Text structure

- Analyse sentences
- Analyse larger chunks of texts
- Use this knowledge to answer questions
- Becomes **AUTOMATIC**

Structural clues...

In a sentence...

_____, _____ **and**
_____.

The contracts say that the pickers can lose their jobs if they eat a single strawberry, stop work or smoke indoors.

*(No strawberries and cream for fruit pickers,
Guardian Weekly, one.stopenglish.com)*

- Punctuation
- Conjunctions

In a paragraph...

_____ e.gs.....

..... _____

_____ e.g.....

- Supporting ideas
- Supporting details / examples
- Transition signals / linking words

Over several paragraphs...

- Topic sentences
- Transition signals

Contact details:

- Helen.Askie@newcastle.edu.au
- Sue.Hodgson@newcastle.edu.au