

Module 6: Academic Language Functions Toolkit

Language Function 1: Inquiry/Seeking Information

Student uses language to:	Observe and explore the environment, acquire information, inquire
Examples:	Uses who, what, when, where, and how to gather information
Strategies:	Quick-write, Think Pair Share, Novel Ideas, 5 W's and How, Question Creation, Chart (Q-Chart)
Cue Words:	In other words, that is to say, according to, specifically, who, what, when, where, why, how

Language Frames

Expressing an Opinion:

- I think/believe that . . .
- In my opinion, . . .
- Based on my experience, I think . . .

Soliciting a Response:

- What do you think?
- We haven't heard from you yet.
- Do you agree?
- What answer did you get?

Paraphrasing:

- So you are saying that . . .
- In other words, you think . . .
- What I hear you saying is . . .

Language of Inquiry/Seeing information:

- I wonder why . . .
- How does . . . work?
- I'd like to ask you about . . .
- Am I correct in assuming that . . .?
- Could you expand a little bit on what you said about . . . ?
- Could you be more specific about . . .?
- Something else I'd like to know is . . .
- If I have understood you correctly, your point is that . . .
- I didn't understand what you said about . . .
- I'm sorry, could you repeat what you said about . . . ?
- Sorry, but I'm not quite clear on . . .

						Statement
K What do I already know about this	W What do I want to learn about this	L What did I learn about this subject?				
subject?	subject?		Name:	Date: Writing Organizer		Groups should only have one leader.
			Det alt	Definit	Evtati	Everyone in a group sho get an equal vote in decision-making.
				Topic:		Children are capable of taking care of themselve without adult supervision
						Superstitions should be believed in and followed
			Details	Defialt	Det all:	5. If a leader orders you to hurt someone, you shou do it.
						6. Food is more important than shelter.

Statement			Explanation	After	After Reading Novel	
	Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree	
I. Groups should only have one leader.						
2. Everyone in a group should get an equal vote in decision-making.						
Children are capable of taking care of themselves without adult supervision.	Г					
 Superstitions should be believed in and followed. 						
5. If a leader orders you to hurt someone, you should do it.						
5. Food is more important than shelter.					+	

Language Function 2: Summarizing and Informing

Student uses language to:	Identify, report or describe information		
Examples:	Recount information presented by teacher or text; retell a story or personal experience		
Strategies:	Novel Ideas Only, Writing Frames		
Cue Words:	In short, in summary, to sum up, finally, all in all, in conclusion		
	Language Frames		
Reporting on a Partner's (or anyone's) idea: indicated that pointed out to me that emphasized that concluded that	 Language of Summarizing: On the whole Basically he/she is saying that In this text, the author argues that To support the main claim, the author provides evidence that suggests that Language of Informing: The advantages of outweigh the disadvantages of insofar as The statistics are misleading because they do/not show These [facts/reasons/data] strongly suggest that Yet some argue strongly that 		
	Graphic Organizers		
Summarizing Non-Fiction Task: Section Title Heading: Key Ideas 1. 2. 3. Main Idea Main Idea Summary	Title Somebody Who was the main character? Wanted What did the main character want? Wanted What was the problem? But What was the problem? So How was the problem solved? Then How does the story end?		

Language Function 3: Comparing and Contrasting

Student uses language to:	Describe similarities and differences in objects or ideas
Examples:	Make/explain a graphic organizer to show similarities and contrasts; Write in bullet or paragraph format to specify similarities / differences; Categorizing to organize terms or ideas; Verbal clarification of similarities or differences through questioning or pairing activities.
Strategies:	Categories on a wall, Content Curiosities (Survey), Jigsaw Project
Cue Words:	likewise, however, nevertheless, despite, on the other hand, on the contrary, contrary to, conversely, rather, still

Language Frames

Language of Comparing and Contrasting:

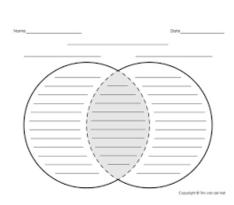
- One similarity/difference between [subject 1] and [subject 2] is [Subject 1] and [subject 2] are similar because they both....
- [Subject 1] and [subject 2] are rather different because while [subject 1] has _______, [subject 2] has ______.
- Whereas [subject 1] is ..., [subject 2] is ... [Subject 1] is Similarly / In contrast, [subject 2] is

Language of Agreeing:

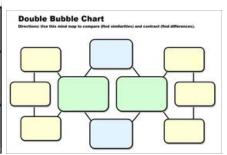
- My idea/answer/explanation is similar to/related to...
- I agree with (a person) that...
- My idea builds upon (a person's) idea...
- I don't agree with you because...

Graphic Organizers

Compare/Contrast Matrix



o o in paro i o o i i i ao i i i ai i i i		
	Name 1	Name 2
Attribute 1	[enter last base]	[enter-text home]
Attribute 2	junter text have	[enter leat here]
Attribute 3	[enter lest here]	[anter text here]



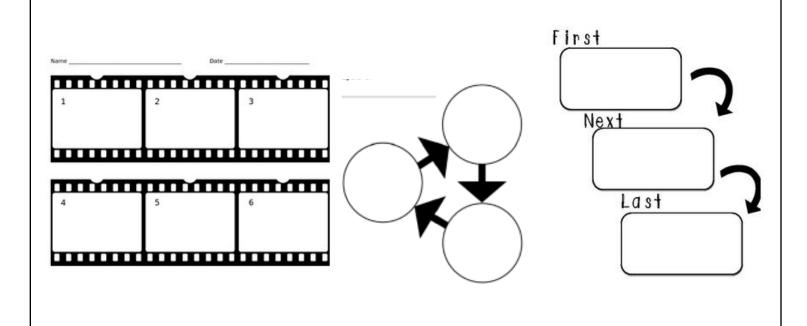
Language Function 4: Sequencing/Ordering

Student uses language to:	Sequence objects, ideas, or events.	
Examples:	Describe / make a timeline, Continuum, Cycle, Narrative sequence	
Strategies:	Mix and match, Categories on a wall, Collaborative Poster	
Cue Words:	at which point, at this time, simultaneously, subsequently	
	·	

Language Frames

Language of Sequencing:

- First, ... and second, ...
- Meanwhile, the ____ appeared to be ...
- While [subject 1] was ..., [subject 2] was simultaneously/concurrently...
- Finally ____ proceeded to...
- Consequently the _____ began to ...
- Previously, ____ had decided to ...
- Following this event, ...
- Initially Some time later.....
- After ... the next step is/was to...
- What occurred/happened prior to... was that...
- In the first stage/phase,
- The transition between stages __ and __ can be described as....



	Language Fu	nction 5: Classifying	
Student uses language to:	1	Group objects or ideas according to their characteristics. It is critical to identify the rules that govern class or category membership.	
Examples:	Describe organizing principle(s), explain why A is an example and B is not,		
Strategies:	Collaborative poster, catego	Collaborative poster, categories on a wall, word sorts, sort and label	
Cue Words:	Sort, categorize, select, belo	ongs to, fits into, features, traits, qualities	
	Lang	uage Frames	
 The [quantit We can class The most sa An appropriatoinso 	es of [quantity] categories. ey] categories of are going to sify according to lient characteristic(s) of the characteristic group is	,, and and are types of because nis group is/are owing to the fact that they allcorrelates	
	Graph	hic Organizers	
Tree map: Inductive	e/Deductive Classification	Cross Classification Chart This approach can be used to condensing and organising data about the traits of many items for comparison.	

Language Function 6: Analyzing

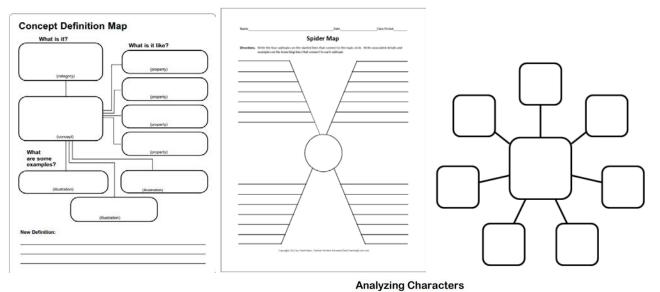
Student uses language to:	Separate whole into parts, identify relationships and patterns	
Examples:	Describe parts, features, or main idea of information	
Strategies:	Analysis Pizza, Collaborative poster, word sorts, sort and label, dissecting, various lab activities	
Cue Words:	Examine, scrutinize, break down, dissect, investigate, determine, elements	
Languaga Eramas		

Language Frames

Language of Analysis:

- We can interpret _____ as
- Given the evidence, we can deduce that... _____ can be differentiated from _____ based on... After a thorough analysis of the evidence, we conclude that....
- This is significant because...
- After careful examination of... it appears that... _____ is related to _____ insofar as.... ____ and are connected by..... This is important because...
- We can draw parallels between ____ and the world/other texts/self because....

Graphic Organizers



People Information Reason 1 Problem Reason 2 Process Systems

Character's Name:	Example or Quote	What the example reveals about the character?
Character's words		
Character's appearance		
Character's		

Language Function 7: Inferring, Predicting and Hypothesizing

Student uses language to:	Make inferences, predict implications, hypothesize.
Examples:	Describe reasoning process (inductive or deductive); Generate hypotheses to suggest causes or outcomes; Describe observations using multiple senses
Strategies:	Guess and check, Scientific method, Seeking patterns, Using visuals and structure of a text to predict topic, Pre-reading strategies
Cue Words:	Guess, conclude that, estimate, speculate, draw a conclusion, believe, due to, since, in light of

Language Frames

Language of Prediction and Hypothesis:

- I predict / imagine that...
- Given ..., I hypothesize that ...
- If I use ...then I predict...will happen.
- Based on past results, I predict...
- I deduced after analyzing _____ further.
- I discerned that______ because....
- I foresee ______ because....
- I prognosticate..... because I know.....

Language of Inference Based on ...

- Based on... I infer that ...
- I infer that... based on...
- My conjecture on _____ is.... I anticipate that...

Graphic Organizers

Hypothesis Matrix

Question	Conditional Statement	If, Then Statement

Text Clues (What I Read) +	Making an Inference Chart Background Knowledge (Schema) (What I Already Know) =	Inference

	EDICTI	
Clues These come from the text!	Prediction What do you think will happen?	Confirmation Was your predictor correct?
		<u></u>

Language Function 8: Justifying and Persuading

Student uses language to:	Give reasons for an action, decision, point of view; convince others	
Examples:	Tell why A is important and give evidence in support of a position.	
Strategies:	Socratic Seminar, Think-Pair Share, Anticipatory Chart with Round Robin, Rally-Robin Debate, Four Corners with justification, Error Analysis	
Cue Words: Defend, show, rationalize, think, feel, because of, for this reason, due to, right, argue, convince, influence, sway, urge, claim, beliefs, support, evidence, appershould, must, ought to, have to, furthermore, moreover, clearly		

Language Frames

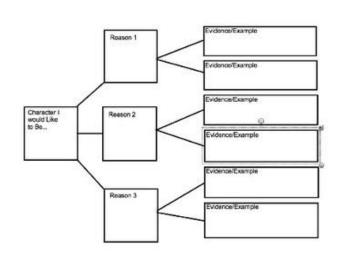
Language of Justification:

- I believe this because...
- My primary reason for thinking so is... Perhaps the most convincing reason for this is...

Language of Persuasion:

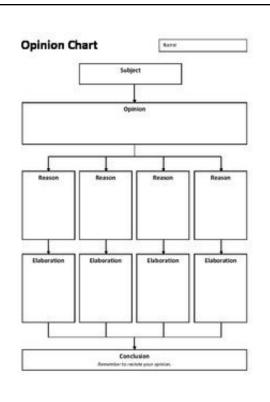
- Based on the evidence presented so far, I believe that...
 Although some people claim that..., opponents argue that....
- It is vital to consider...
- The advantages of ____ outweigh the disadvantages of insofar as...
- The statistics are misleading because they do/not show...
- These [facts/reasons/data] strongly suggest that... Yet some argue strongly that....

Graphic Organizers



T-Chart

Looks Like	Sounds Like



Language Function 9: Solving Problems/Problem Solving

Student uses language to:	Define and represent a problem; determine a solution,	
Examples:	Describe the problem solving process or procedures; re-state the problem in their own words	
Strategies:	Collaborative Poster, Sage-Scribe, Mix and Match, Manipulatives, Creating a Mnemonic, Mathematically Speaking (ally Speaking), Fold-ables, Pass the Envelope, Gallery Walk, Reciprocal Teaching, Create- Exchange- Access, Quiz-Quiz Trade	
Cue Words:	Solve, figure out, think about, find, conflict, difficult question, situation	

Language Frames

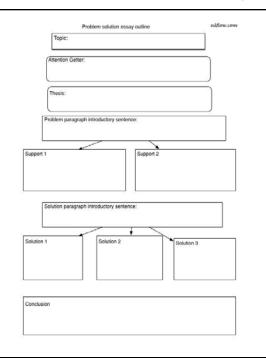
Language of Describing Problems:

- A way of thinking about solving this problem is...
- In order to solve this problem we must first/ initially....
- This problem is similar to....
- We need to identify...
- One way to visualize this problem is...
- Let's break this into parts. First, ...
- Another way of looking at this problem is...
- The most important thing to remember in this problem is...

Language of Explaining Solutions:

- A diagram or symbol that might represent this solution is...
- We know our solution is correct because....
- The solution to this problem is...
- I know I have solved the problem because...
- The solution to this problem will require....
- A critical element of the solution to this problem is...

Graphic Organizers



Problem What Where When Why How Attempted Results Solutions 1. 1. 2. 2.

End Results

Problem/Solution Outline

Language Function 10: Synthesizing

Student uses language to:	Combine or integrate ideas to form a whole group	
Examples:	Summarize information; incorporate new information	
Strategies:	Allow students to create their own problem, Collaborative Poster, Compare- Contrast Matrix, Creating a Mnemonic, ThINK- Pair Share, Writing Summaries, Reports, Mathematically Speaking, Fold-ables, Analysis Pizza, Jigsaw, Pass the Envelope, Create- Exchange- Access, Window Pane	
Cue Words:	Combine, merge, form, put together, synthesis, combination	

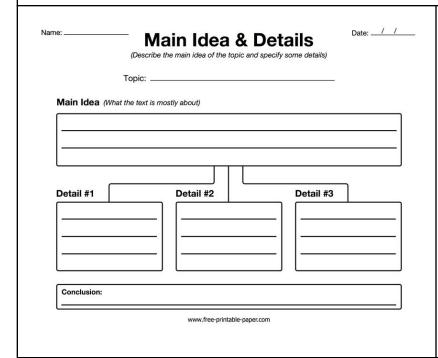
Language Frames

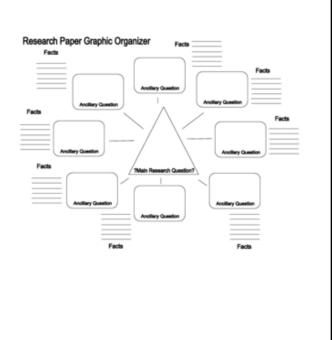
Language of Describing Problems:

- My idea is similar to/related to ______'s idea.
- I agree/disagree with _____that . . .
- My idea builds upon ______'s idea.
- As already mentioned...

Language of Explaining Solutions:

- The main point(s) is/ are...
- The point that _____ makes is related to ____ in that.....
- The significance of _____ is.....
- From my perspective, _____ means.....
- The concept of ____ can be expressed as.....
- Our conclusion is a synthesis of _____ and
- I feel that _____ and _____'s viewpoints are related in that....
- My visual represents a synthesis of ____ and because....
- While creating _____, I built upon





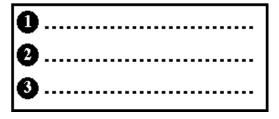
Language	Function	11: E	valuation
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Language of Evaluating	<u>:</u>		
	Language Frames		
Cue Words:	Judge, critique, assess, assessment, value, worth, based on, judgment, criteria, favorable, unfavorable, reason, evaluate, evaluation, features		
Strategies:	Thumbs up/down, Colored cards (green – agree; red – disagree), Fist of 5 (level of agreement), Quickwrite		
Examples:	Identify criteria, Explain priorities, Indicate reasons for judgment, Confirm truth		
Student uses language to:	Assess and verify aspects/properties/validity of an object, idea or decision.		

- We/They judge ______ to be _____ becauseWe/I evaluated _____ on the following criteria ...
- I assess that.... After inspecting.... I have determined...
- After carefully scrutinizing_____ I believe that....
- My interpretation of _____ is...
- When ranking its importance, I feel that... because...

Graphic Organizers

Ranking



	_
NAME:	— Evaluate

Did I enjoy reading the text?	Why?	
Yes/No		
What was interesting or what did t learn?	Share!	
Do l'agree or disagree with the author or the ending? Agree/Disagree	Why?	
What would i change about the story or the way the author wrote?	Changes	
Why did the author write this?	Why?	_

Graphic Organizer
Evaluation

Subject:		
Criterion:	Successful / Unsuccessful Reason:	Evidence:
Criterion:	Successful / Unsuccessful Reason:	Evidence:

<u>P</u> lus	<u>M</u> inus	Interesting

Language Function 12: Cause and Effect

Student uses language to:	Describe why and how relationships and patterns exist between events, ideas, processes, problems; Identify consequences that led to the outcome
Examples:	Make a graphic organizer to define the events leading up to the outcome or the possible outcomes based on a particular cause
Strategies:	1) Categories on a Wall/Sort and Label-Categories are provided and students develop list or students develop own categories based on given list; 2) Mix-n-Match cards-Students work in groups to match causes with effects; 3) Foldables; 4) Gallery Walk/Pass the Envelope-A cause or effect is given and students either rotate around the room or pass the problem from group to group to identify possible causes or effects; 5) Trading Cards-One cause or one effect is given on a card to each student. They develop an opposite idea for what they have and walk around the room to share. After sharing they trade cards to share with another.
Cue Words:	Therefore, consequently, thus, as a result of, since, because, in order to, ifthen

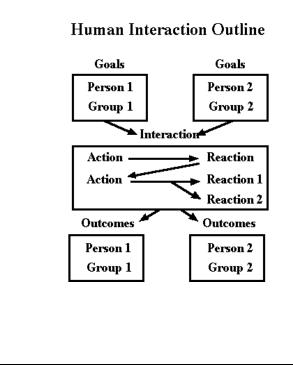
Language Frames

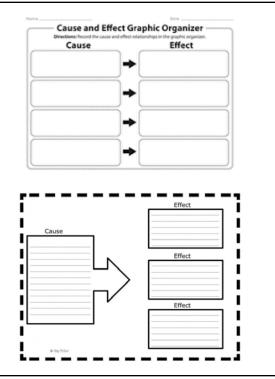
Language of Explaining Causes:

- Even though many people thought the cause was ..., I believe it was...
- The most likely reason for... was...
- I hypothesize that... made them...
- That wasn't caused by ...because
- Several factors contributed to the outcome. Namely, ...

Language of Describing an Effect:

- was a result of...
- The...led to..., which led to...
- The change resulted in...
- It combines with...to produce...





Student Discussion Guide

Ground Rules for Class Discussion:

- 1. Be prepared to share your idea when instructed to do so, first with your partner and next with the class.
- 2. No blurting (ever) or hand raising (until I ask for volunteers).
- 3. Use the assigned sentence starter to share your idea.
- 4. Use your public discussion voice to share your idea: two times slower and three times louder than conversation.
- 5. Listen attentively while classmates are sharing and jot down new ideas.
- 6. If your idea is similar to someone else's, acknowledge your classmate's contribution before sharing your idea.

Language Class Discussion Sentence Starters:				
Expressing Opinion: I think/believe that In my opinion Based on my experience, I think	Reporting a Partner's Ideas: indicated that pointed out to me that emphasized that concluded that			
Predicting: I predict/imagine that Based on, I infer that I hypothesize that	Reporting a Group's Idea: We decided/agreed that We concluded that Our group sees it differently. We had a different approach.			
Asking for Clarification: What do you mean? Will you explain that again? I have a question about that.	Disagreeing: I don't agree with you because I got a different answer than you. I see it another way.			
Paraphrasing: So you are saying that In other words, you think What I hear you saying is	Offering a Suggestion: Maybe we could What if we Here's something we might try.			
Soliciting a Response: What do you think? We haven't heard from you yet Do you agree? What answer did you get?	Affirming: That's an interesting idea. I hadn't thought of that. I see what you mean.			
Acknowledging ideas: My idea is similar to/related to I agree with (a person) that My idea builds upon's idea.	Holding the Floor: As I was saying, If I could finish my thought What I was trying to say was			