

Sample of Instructional Language from Reach Associates

Learning Behavior	Language of Instruction
Participation	<p><i>It's important for you to share your thinking with your classmates. Sharing your thoughts helps you clarify and deepen your own understanding as well as to help extend your classmates' understanding.</i></p> <p><i>When you share your thinking, make sure you are speaking in a clear loud voice so all your classmates can hear you. Also, make sure you are looking at the audience. The speaker maintains eye contact with the whole audience.</i></p>
Organization	<p><i>Before you raise your hand, take a moment and think about your response. Tell yourself what you are thinking. This will help you organize your thinking as well as to help you feel more confident when you share your thought.</i></p> <p><i>As you get ready for Writers Workshop, ask yourself if you have all of your materials ready to go. Check to see you have a tool for writing, your Writer's Notebook and needed reference materials. Being organized and ready to go is the first step to ready yourself as a learner.</i></p>
Pacing	<p><i>It's important to be aware of the time allotted for the assignment. Time can pass quickly if you aren't careful. Take note of the time when you begin as well as the time the assignment needs to be completed. While working, periodically check the time on the clock.</i></p>
Focus	<p><i>It's really important for you to make sure you are listening attentively and staying focused on the conversation, instruction, and/or directions during whole group instruction and small group activities in order to keep you from becoming confused.</i></p> <p><i>It's really important for you to monitor your behavior while working independently to make sure you are staying focused on the specific task of the moment.</i></p>
Task Persistence/Stamina	<p><i>Often times the work becomes really challenging – so much so that you might want to give up. It's really important you don't give up and you maintain task persistence, stamina, from the beginning of the task until it's completed.</i></p>
Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction and informational text	
Monitoring Understanding, Rereading and Restating	<p><i>As you read this paragraph, make sure you are thinking about what the author is telling you about the topic of _____. When reading informational text, careful readers restate/summarize to themselves as they are reading to make meaning of the text. This is especially important when the text is complicated and/or about new information.</i></p>
Practicing regularly with complex text and academic vocabulary	
Monitoring Understanding of Information and Vocabulary and Note-Taking	<p><i>Today's text is complex – meaning it is dense with information, concepts and unfamiliar vocabulary. As you are reading, think about the author's information. If there is a word you aren't familiar with, do what careful readers do – look for a root word within the word, read on and use context clues or use a reference source. Then, paraphrase/restate what you've just read to yourself, write it down, underline, annotate or highlight the text.</i></p>

Reading, writing, speaking and listening grounded in **evidence from texts**

Turn and Talk
and
Whole Group Sharing

Before you share with a partner and the whole class, take a minute to organize your thoughts and restate to yourself what you just learned from today's text. Now, turn to the person sitting next to you and take turns sharing your thinking. Be sure to use evidence from the text in your sharing. When your partner is speaking, make sure you are looking at him/her and listening to thinking about what he/she is saying. (Provide time for partners to talk.)

Class, let's come back together into a whole group conversation. Would someone like to start the sharing? Class, as ___ shares, remember it's important to put your eyes on the speaker, put your hands down and listen and think about what ___ is saying.

Emphasizing **3 modes of academic writing**

Elements of
Opinion/Argumentative Writing

5th Grade Writers, may I have your attention for a moment? (Pause until you have the attention of all students.) While you are planning your opinion writing piece, don't forget to also think about the audience, that is, the group of people this piece is targeting. When writing an opinion piece, remember you are sharing information in order to convince the reader of your opinion. Because you have relevant text-based evidence to support your reasons, you have become an authority on the topic, however this does not mean using the pronoun 'I.' This means you must remember to use the voice of an expert, stating facts, not merely your personal opinion. The facts and details should be clearly stated and organized in a way that will convince the intended audience of your opinion. Careful consideration of your audience is important in opinion writing using text-based evidence. Take a moment and reread the reasons and supporting evidence, such as facts, direct quotes and examples, to be sure you have kept the audience in mind. If you do not think your writing will make sense to your audience.