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Text Comprehension

Effective comprehension instruction is explicit and direct. Teachers tell readers “why and when they should use strategies, what strategies to use and how to apply them” (p 53). The following four steps serve as a guide to promoting effective comprehension instruction.

1. Direct Explanation.

In this step, the teacher is responsible for explaining why the strategy is beneficial and when it should be applied.

2. Modeling.

The teacher demonstrates how to apply the strategy, usually by “thinking aloud” while working on given student curriculum.

3. Guided Practice.

The teacher now works as a facilitator in guiding the student toward eventual independent application of the strategy. How and when should he/she use this technique?

4. Application.

The teacher and students work collaboratively to practice the strategy until the student can apply it with relative independence.