5 Steps to Summarizing Nonfiction Texts

Making language visible for ELLs

The goal of the infographic is to share a process that helps the reader to navigate the process of summarizing nonfictional texts and structured contents more accessible for ELLs.

**Research says**

Teaching academic language is central to helping ELLs (S. Freeman, 2008; Freeman, 2008; Freeman, et. al., 2008).

It is our responsibility as EAL educators to teach students how to comprehend the nonfiction text. To achieve this, it is desirable to guide ELLs through the language with diagrams (Toscano, 2007).

**The Need**

Dealing with nonfiction text can be daunting for students relying on English as a second language. The process of translating academic language to a more accessible format is crucial.

**Your Role**

As educators, we play a pivotal role in helping ELLs navigate the complexities of nonfiction texts. This involves guiding them through the process of understanding and summarizing the material.

**Summary**

To conclude, this graphic shows a step-by-step process for summarizing nonfiction text, making it more accessible for ELLs.

**The Process**

1. **Outline the Main Idea**
   - Provide the chart to help students outline the main idea and support it with detailed details.

2. **Identify Large Ideas**
   - Identify the major concepts that are connected to the main idea.

3. **Identify Details**
   - Identify distinct and critical details that support the large ideas.

4. **Synthesize Large Ideas**
   - Synthesize the large ideas to form a cohesive summary.

5. **Write the Summary**
   - Help the ELLs find the connection between the core components to produce a cohesive summary.

**Takeaways**

1. Compressing the presentation of ideas.
2. ELLs can be taught to comprehend and summarize nonfiction texts.
3. Teachers can effectively support ELLs in navigating the complexities of nonfiction texts.

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