

DEFINING A CONCEPT

Basic Skills and Tools to Teach Subject Contents in English

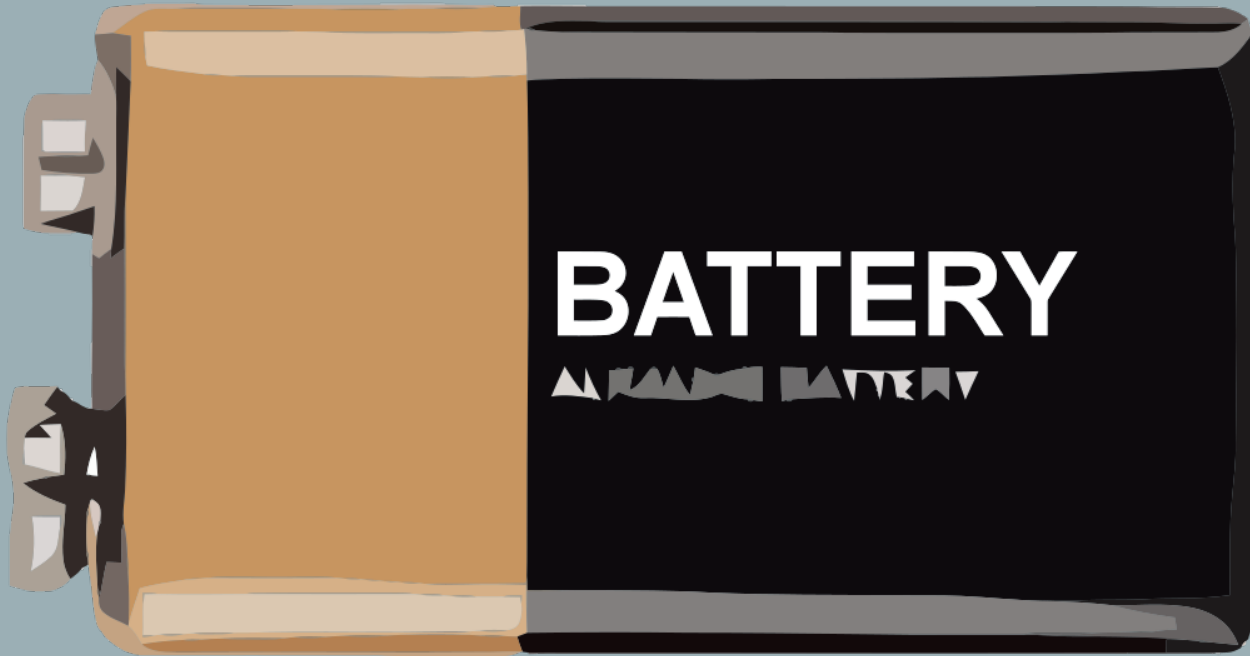
M^a del Mar Suárez

Polysemy in
different
specialization
fields, e.g. 'native'

Definition
beyond the
dictionary

WHY?

BATTERY



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BATTERY

STEPS: WRAP-UP

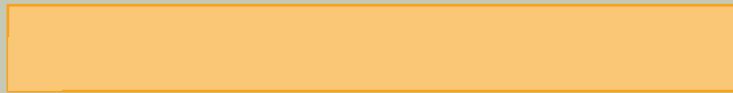
1. Hypothetical story / anecdote
2. Rhetorical question to introduce concept
3. Definition repeated
4. Examples to clarify meaning
5. Definition of other (unknown?) terms
6. Checking for understanding
7. Summary of explanation
8. (Checking for understanding)

TASK I



SIGNPOSTING: USE

‘Okay’



?

?

?

‘So’



?

?

?

SIGNPOSTING: USE

‘Okay’



- Kickstart
- Topic shifting
- Checking for understanding

‘So’



- Result
- Summary
- Conclusion



FILLERS

DANGER!!!

FILLERS

A stylized illustration of a human brain in a light blue oval. A small yellow glow is visible on the brain's surface. Below the brain, a large yellow arrow points downwards towards a glowing yellow lightbulb. Several other unlit lightbulbs are scattered around the arrow.

FILLERS???

FILLERS: EXAMPLES

- Uh
- And
- Like
- You know
- I mean
- You know what I mean
- For instance
- For example
- And so on (and so forth)
- Ok
- So
- Sort of
- ...

EXTENDING A DEFINITION

- An enumeration of characteristics or features
- A discussion of different types or kinds
- A description of the structure or components
- Examples
- A description of how something is made
- A discussion of how something works or is carried out
- A description of applications
- A discussion of the history or evolution of the concept, including its future potential
- A comparison/contrast with a similar concept

ORGANIZING
EXTENDED
DEFINITIONS

- Listing
- Chronological order
- Classification (organization by category)
- Spatial order

**“TODAY, I’M GOING TO DEFINE
‘BATTERY’”**

Opening?!



STRATEGIES
TO OPEN
YOUR
SPEECH

- Rhetorical question
- A question meant to elicit a response from the audience
- Hypothetical situation or short anecdote
- An example
- An opening statement that places the concept in a context
- Historical background
- A picture
- Music or other sounds
- A quote, a poem or a saying
- ...
- ...

TASK 5



FORMAL DEFINITIONS: STRUCTURE

01

The term

02

The class in which
the term belongs

03

The characteristics
that distinguish it
from other terms
in the class

DEFINITION: EXAMPLE

A membrane is a thin wall which allows certain types of substances to pass through.



term



class



distinguishing characteristics

TASK 7 + 'NOTICE
THAT'



REDUCED RELATIVE CLAUSES AKA PARTICIPLE CLAUSES

- Two types:
 1. Active
 2. Passive

TASK 8 & 9





ONCE WE
HAVE THE
MAIN
DEFINITION...

- Defining additional terms as shortly as possible: How?
 1. Synonym
 2. Paraphrase
 3. Example
 4. Acronym

TASK 10



LET ME (LEMME)

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graph TD; A[LET ME (LEMME)] --> B[TALK TO YOURSELF]; A --> C[ADDRESS THE AUDIENCE]
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TALK TO YOURSELF

**ADDRESS THE
AUDIENCE**

TASK 12



TASKS 11 & 13



INTONATION

'NOUN +
noun

Vs

Adjective
+ 'NOUN