



ELA

Shifts: Complexity and Knowledge

Anchor(s): R4, L4

CCRS Teacher Workout

Building Academic Vocabulary Knowledge with Semantic Maps

Time needed: 25-40 minutes

Goals:

- List the types of knowledge needed to thoroughly know a word
- Use semantic maps to build understanding of academic vocabulary

Materials

- [Knowledge Rating](#)
- [Semantic Maps](#)
- [Framer Model](#)

Introduction

1. Pass out the document titled "Knowledge Rating." Participants fill out the table to rate their knowledge of the vocabulary.
2. Turn and talk: How do you know that you know a word? What are all the types of knowledge you have about a word that you know well?

Practice

3. Pass out the document titled "Semantic Maps." Read the introduction on the handout.
4. Provide participants with a text that contains some academic vocabulary to use with the sample activities, such as this one from NEWSELA about religious fasting (free log in required) <https://newsela.com/read/religious-fasting/id/2001006166/>
5. Participants complete the sample semantic maps in the handout and in the document titled "Framer Model"

Wrap Up

6. Turn and talk: How might you use and adapt these activities in your class?