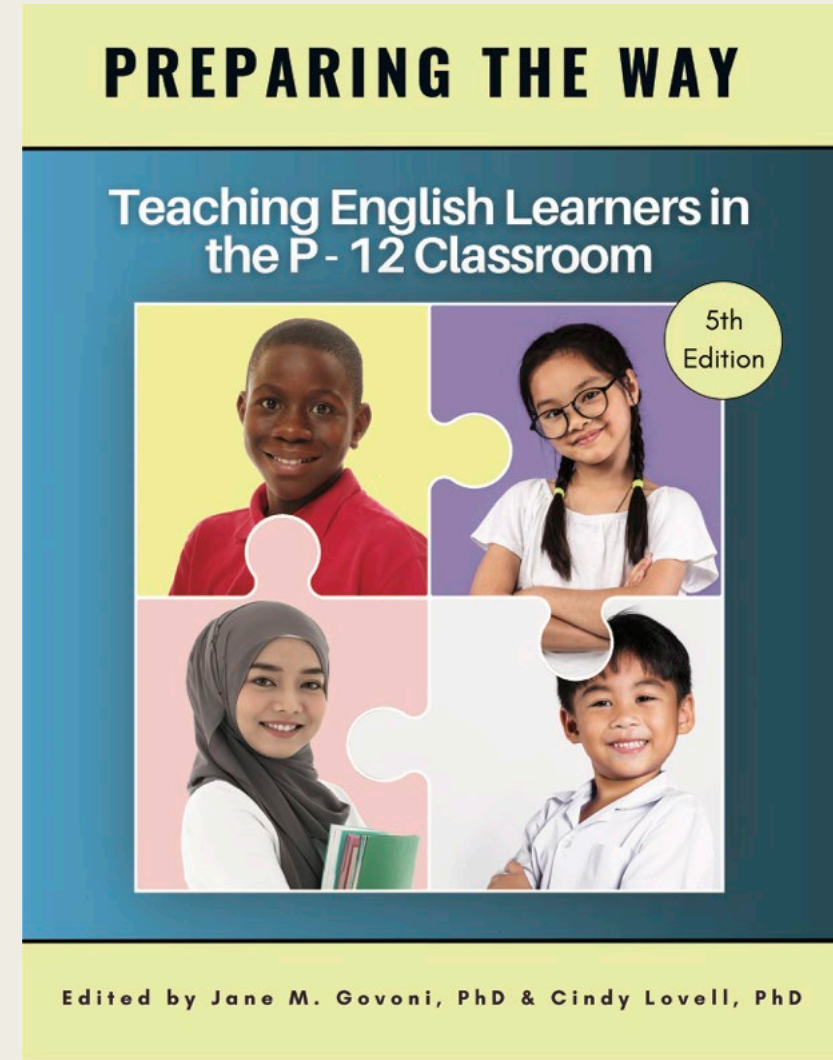


# DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE LESSON AND UNIT PLANS FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

## Chapter 9



# Introduction

- Importance of purposeful lesson and unit planning
- Emphasis on academic growth and language development for English learners (ELs)
- Goals: Clarity, structure, and student engagement



# The Foundation of Strong Instruction

- Align plans with state and national standards
- Use backward design (start with the end in mind)
- Integrate content areas to strengthen comprehension



# Today's Classroom Realities



Classrooms reflect a wide range of backgrounds, experiences, and skill levels



Recognize student strengths and prior knowledge



Aim for full student access and engagement in all subject areas

# The Unit Planning Process

1

Step 1: Identify academic standards and learning goals

2

Step 2: Conduct a needs assessment (pre-tests, surveys, KWL charts)

3

Step 3: Choose meaningful themes connected to real-world relevance

4

Step 4: Involve families early with a unit welcome letter or kickoff event



# Designing Daily Instruction

- Tailor instruction to meet different learning needs:
  - *Vary content, process, and product*
  - *Adapt classroom setup and grouping formats*
- Focus on clear, measurable objectives for both content and language

# Multiple Ways to Reach Students

## Use

Use various methods: visuals, hands-on activities, movement

## Apply

Apply multiple intelligences:

- Verbal, logical, spatial, kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, intrapersonal, naturalist

## Blend

Blend traditional instruction with modern tools for greater impact

## Support

Support instruction with technology

# Building Motivation Through Choice

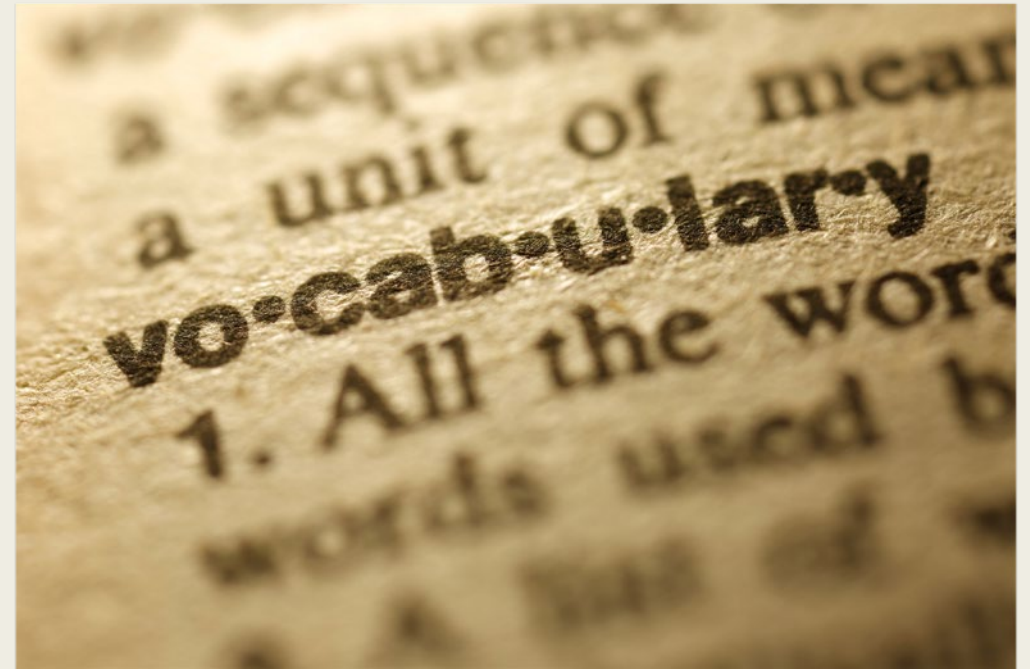
- Encourage participation by offering assignment options
- Examples: Poster, video, oral presentation, model, written report
- Let students showcase strengths while meeting academic objectives





# Language Support Strategies

- Teach key vocabulary before lessons using pictures and student-friendly definitions
- Use the WIDA Can Do Descriptors and Language Expectations
- Embed speaking, listening, reading, and writing opportunities in each lesson
- Teach academic vocabulary as well as content vocabulary



# Assessment Throughout the Unit

- Formative assessments: Exit tickets, observations, class discussions
- Summative assessments: Projects, presentations, tests
- Self-reflection: Encourage students to evaluate their learning and set goals
- Provide feedback regularly and constructively
- Content objectives (specific and measurable) are reflected in the assessment(s).



# Lesson Plan Components

- **Hook:** Activate curiosity and prior knowledge
- **Content objectives:** Specific, measurable, and tied to standards
- **Language objectives:** Enable students to access academic content
- **Teaching strategies:** Model, guide, and check for understanding
- **Student activities:** Promote thinking, interaction, and real-world application





# Supporting All Students

- Make instruction accessible with:
  - *Extra time, sentence frames, visual aids*
  - *Modified text, bilingual support, peer help*
- Work with ESOL specialists to ensure each student moves toward grade-level goals

# Classroom Technology and Tools



Tools to enhance  
engagement and  
language  
development:

Duolingo,  
Read&Write,  
Quizlet,  
Google  
Translate



Explore WIDA Digital Explorer for  
planning and support



Use technology to personalize  
instruction and track progress



# Professional Growth and Teamwork

- Participate in training sessions focused on instruction and lesson design
- Co-plan with colleagues and share strategies
- Use shared planning time to align goals, pacing, and supports





# Reflection and Revision

After teaching a unit:

- What worked? What didn't?
- Review student work, feedback, and outcomes

Adjust lessons based on student progress and evolving standards



# Families and Community as Partners

- Encourage home participation with newsletters, events, and family check-ins
- Use community resources to enrich instruction (e.g., field trips, guest speakers)
- Simple connections build trust and strengthen student success

# Final Thoughts

- Plan with intentionality
- Provide clear paths for student success
- Use practical strategies to make lessons relevant, meaningful, and engaging
- Support language growth in every content area

