

Possible Sentences

What is Possible Sentences and why is it important?

Possible Sentences (Moore & Moore, 1992; Stahl & Kapinus, 1991) is a strategy that gets students involved in discussing, writing, and reading key vocabulary words from the assignment for the day. This strategy prepares students to read, understand, and respond to the text.

How can I use Possible Sentences with my students?

Read the assigned vocabulary words to students and tell them what each word means. Encourage students to write Possible Sentences using the vocabulary words. The words should be used correctly. Discuss the sentences with students and decide if they need to be corrected. Read the text and note how the vocabulary words are used. Finally, ask students to use the vocabulary words to create new sentences that reflect information from the text. Be sure that students create sentences that are different from the ones in the text. Following is an example of Possible Sentences for *Sing Down the Moon*.

Vocabulary Words:

plunder, mesa, haughty

Before Reading Sentences:

1. The burglars plundered the house despite the piercing sound of the sirens.
2. The mesa lay between the ramparts.
3. The haughty man looked scornfully at others.

After Reading Sentences:

1. The Indian chief said he would fight enemies who tried to plunder his tribe.
2. The sheep would graze on the mesa above the canyon.
3. The young warrior was haughty after he killed a bear.

Name: _____ Date: _____

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Vocabulary Words:

Before Reading Sentences:

After Reading Sentences:

