

Concept Construxions® is an interdisciplinary, articulated academic language system that provides all students, including English language learners (ELL), with tools to build comprehension of major concepts within a discipline (i.e., math, science, ELA and social studies). Each component of the **Concept Construxions** system supports English language learners with research-based instructional practices to facilitate academic language learning as they progress toward meeting state standards. In fact, **Concept Construxions** and Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) are based on the same premise: students learn best through clearly defined objectives, comprehensible inputs that are grounded in the context of a given discipline, and frequent practice and feedback.

For each of the **SIOP** precepts below, see how  directly bolsters instructional efforts:

SIOP Teachers should present curricular content that is aligned to state standards and should choose content concepts that are age appropriate and comprehensible.

- Over 200 **Concept Cards™** are provided in each Subject Set, and each concept maps directly to national and state standards, widely-used curricular programs, and the major concepts of the discipline.
- Students use the back of the **Concept Cards** to write down **Classroom Contexts™** where the word was used, and to make personal and real life connections so that concepts are meaningful and comprehensible.

SIOP The ELL classroom should incorporate cooperative learning, reading comprehension strategies, and differentiated instruction to promote high quality instruction.

- **Concept Construxions** supports a variety of pre-reading, during reading and post-reading strategies and allows teachers to provide multiple exposures to concepts over an extended period of time.
- **Concept Cards** can be used individually, in pairs, in small groups, or with the whole class, thus promoting opportunities for a variety of levels of cooperative learning and for the social construction of knowledge.
- **Concept Builders** provide teachers with model lessons that appeal to multiple learning styles, provide differentiated instruction prompts and structure cooperative learning tasks to optimize successful implementation.

SIOP Teachers should use best-practice instructional techniques, including visuals and graphic organizers, to develop English skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

- The **Construxion Site** is the perfect place for students to collaboratively problem-solve, organize, arrange, assemble, express, and, of course, construct meaning using higher-order thinking skills.
- The **Construxion Site** facilitates concept mapping, and the **Converse & Convey Panel®** is a visual display in and of itself!
- Teachers use the **Converse & Convey Panel** to prompt students to use academic language as they “Converse & Convey” when writing and speaking; this helps English language learners actively engage and interact with content of the discipline.

SIOP Every content lesson should include language objectives that are geared towards developing background knowledge and content-related vocabulary and emphasizing academic literacy practice.

- **Concept Construxions** can be used several times each week or daily, for a portion of a lesson or for the entire lesson, to flexibly support individual classrooms and mesh with curricular resources already in place.
- **Concept Construxions** promotes authentic academic language learning over the entire course of study by helping students learn language in context, then make connections to new concepts in subsequent units.
- The **Concept Cards**, with their interdisciplinary color-shape system, are ideal manipulatives that enhance content learning within a single content area (e.g., science), as well as bridge related concepts across the entire curriculum.

SIOP English Language Learners should be provided with comprehensive review of key vocabulary and content concepts, assessed frequently for learning and comprehension, and provided with feedback about their learning.

- A single Subject Set includes all of the key concepts and ideas that students need to assimilate over the course of an academic year. Teachers use **Concept Cards** again and again to reinforce past learning as new concepts are introduced.
- Writing and speaking prompts flow easily from the **Converse & Convey Panel**, acting as ready formative assessments that offer teachers and students with ongoing feedback about content learning and vocabulary acquisition.