

THE SIOP MODEL

(A SUMMARY OF "MAKING CONTENT COMPREHENSIBLE FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS. THE SIOP MODEL" JANA ECHEVARRIA, MARYELLEN VOGT, DEBORAH J. SHORT. PEARSON EDUCATION, 2008)

0. INTRODUCTION

Put simply, the SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol) model provides teachers with both a research/assessment tool and a standard model for lesson planning and delivery in the context of teaching/learning academic content for English language learners (ELLs).

The protocol is composed of 30 features grouped into 8 main components:

1. Lesson Preparation ————— 1. CONTENT OBJECTIVES
2. LANGUAGE OBJECTIVES
3. APPROPRIATE CONTENT CONCEPTS
4. SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS
5. ADAPTATION OF CONTENT
6. MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES
2. Building Background ————— 7. CONTENTS LINKED TO STUDENTS' BACKGROUNDS
8. LINKS BETWEEN PAST LEARNING AND NEW LEARNING
9. DEVELOPING KEY VOCABULARY: ACADEMIC LANGUAGE
3. Comprehensible Input ————— 10. APPROPRIATE SPEECH
11. CLEAR EXPLANATIONS OF ACADEMIC TASKS
12. A VARIETY OF TECHNIQUES USED
4. Strategies ————— 13. LEARNING STRATEGIES
14. SCAFFOLDING TECHNIQUES
15. HIGHER-ORDER QUESTIONING
5. Interaction ————— 16. FREQUENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERACTION
17. GROUPING CONFIGURATIONS
18. SUFFICIENT WAIT TIME
19. CLARIFY CONCEPTS IN L1
6. Practice/Application ————— 20. HANDS-ON PRACTICE WITH NEW KNOWLEDGE
21. APPLICATION OF CONTENT/LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE
IN NEW WAYS
22. INTEGRATION OF ALL LANGUAGE SKILLS
7. Lesson Delivery ————— 23. & 24. SUPPORT CONTENT AND LANGUAGE
OBJECTIVES DURING LESSONS
25. PROMOTE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
26. PACE LESSON APPROPRIATELY
8. Review/Assessment ————— 27. KEY VOCABULARY
28. KEY CONTENT CONCEPTS
29. REGULAR FEEDBACK ON STUDENT OUTPUT
30. ASSESS STUDENT COMPREHENSION OF OBJECTIVES

Sheltered Instruction (SI) can apply to many classroom situations: classes composed entirely of ELLs, mixed classes or entirely native learners. It also caters for the wide range of learners and learner abilities.

Full implementation of the SIOP model takes time and is challenging for teachers. Not all the features will necessarily be observed to a high degree in the initial stages.