



Observation Tool for Explicit Vocabulary Instruction

Critical Component	Observed	Notes
Establishes a clear purpose of the lesson, including what success looks like.	Yes No	
Selects 2-3 words that are high-utility and/or critical for understanding the text/concept.	Yes No	
Uses context and non-linguistic representations (e.g., pictures, gestures, objects) to introduce the word.	Yes No	
Draws attention to the phonological and morphological parts of the word (e.g., syllables, spelling, cognates, affixes, word origin).	Yes No	
Uses a student-friendly definition while introducing the word.	Yes No	
Provides multiple opportunities for students to see, say, and use the words in context.	Yes No	
Provides practice opportunities for students to engage with examples and non-examples of the word in use.	Yes No	
Models and engages students in partner or small group activities to share sentences using the new words.	Yes No	
Revisits the established purpose and checks student understanding of the new words.	Yes No	
Reviews vocabulary words across the week and during/after the lesson.	Yes No	
Uses an instructional routine that is familiar to the students and efficient.	Yes No	