



Word Wise and Content Rich, Grades 7-12: Five Essential Steps to Teaching Academic Vocabulary

By Douglas Fisher, Nancy Frey

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This book is a natural for a teacher study group. It is well worth the time spent reading and discussing with colleagues because the ideas it holds are basic to rethinking and transforming vocabulary teaching.

-Karen Bromley
Binghamton University, SUNY

How do you teach students the words that are crucial to unlocking the concepts in your content area? Until now "assign, define, test" has been the default strategy. But with *Word Wise and Content Rich*, Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey bring vocabulary in out of the cold and into the heart of daily classroom practice in English, math, science, and history.

Word Wise and Content Rich offers a five-part framework for teaching vocabulary that's tailored to the needs of adolescent learners yet mindful of the demands on content-area teachers. Grounded in current research, this framework gives students the multiple encounters necessary to lock in the meaning of new words forever. Fisher and Frey's five-step model shows you how to:

- **Make it intentional:** select words for instruction and use word lists and up-to-date website lists wisely
- **Make it transparent:** model word-solving and word-learning strategies for students
- **Make it useable:** offer learners the collaborative work and oral practice essential to understanding concepts
- **Make it personal:** give and monitor independent practice so students own words
- **Make it a priority:** create a schoolwide program for word learning.

Use *Word Wise and Content Rich*, and close the word gap between low-achieving and high-achieving students. With its strategies, every student in your class-in your school-can access the textbook and develop the vocabulary needed for success in content-area reading.

Read *Word Wise and Content Rich* and get the last word on great vocabulary

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Douglas Fisher's latest book with Heinemann is *Background Knowledge*, coauthored with Nancy Frey. It continues their exploration of the connection between language and learning. Their previous two Heinemann titles, *Word Wise & Content Rich, Grades 7-12* and *Learning Words Inside & Out, Grades 1-6*, have helped teachers nationwide implement a five-part framework for building students' vocabulary. With word learning so important to comprehension, *Background Knowledge* takes the next step toward deeper understanding. In fact, Doug and Nancy are long-time collaborators, and they have focused on supporting deep understanding and improved literacy across the content areas in three other books: *Checking for Understanding*, *Better Learning Through Structured Teaching*, and *Improving Adolescent Literacy*. They are both classroom teachers and faculty members at San Diego State University and Health Sciences High & Middle College.

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