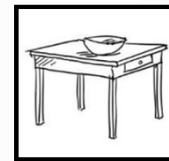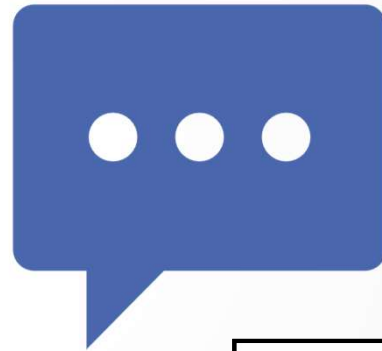# Lexis and chunks

Theresa Summer

table

Overview

1. Important terms
2. Teaching words: general aspects
3. Explicit vocabulary teaching
4. Implicit vocabulary teaching
5. Four phases of teaching words

References

1. Important terms

- **Chunk** (lexical chunk/multiword unit) = a group of words that commonly occur together
- **Corpus** = large electronic collection of written/spoken text
- **Explicit learning** = focused, deliberate study
- **Implicit learning** = incidentally learning through exposure and use
- **Word family** = a word and its main inflections and derivations (all share a common meaning)

(Hestetraeet, 2018, p. 220)

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* LehrplanPLUS Grundschule – Englisch
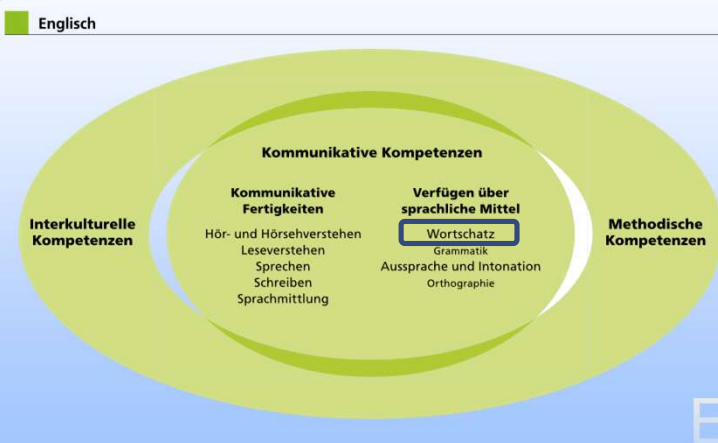
Kompetenzstrukturmodell (p. 61)

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Example

(Büchling, 2018)

Discuss

Which aspects are important for teaching words and chunks?

2. Teaching words: general aspects

Words should…
- be presented in relation to topics (weather, clothes, zoo…)
- connect to learners' prior knowledge
- connect to their interests
- have affective/ emotional meaning
- Involve learning with all senses
- have active involvement
- include authentic material

Important: "a varied and balanced approach" (implicit & explicit teaching)
(Hestetraeet, 2018, p. 226)

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3. Explicit vocabulary teaching

- Useful for high-frequency words (children need to learn those first!)
- Rich instruction: meaning, form, use, context
- Using pictures, objects, actions
- Example: **word cards** (+ spaced retrieval)
  - One side: word in form, spelling
  - Other side: meaning (translation/picture)

table

(Hestetraeet, 2018, p. 227)

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4. Implicit vocabulary teaching

- Graded readers (= simplified books)
- Picturebooks (include many repetitions, rich in chunks)
  - e.g. https://pepelt21.com/mini-lessons/ (picturebooks, videos for homeschooling)
- Oral storytelling
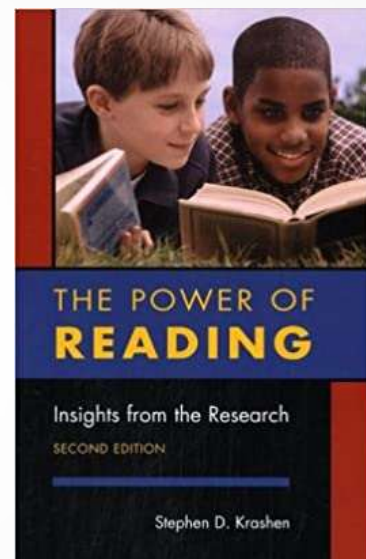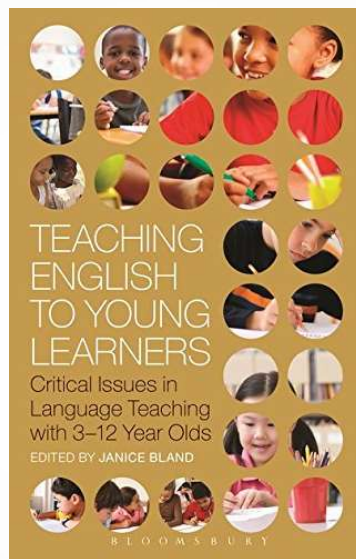- Readers Theatre

(Hestetraeet, 2018, p. 227)

Resources

4. Implicit vocabulary teaching

- Important researchers:
  - **Janice Bland** (picturebooks, multimodal literature)

  - **Stephen Krashen** (extensive/pleasure reading, SLA)

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5. Four phases of teaching words

- 1. Introduction
  - Realia, material (flashcards, drawings, gesture, guessing from context)
- 2. Consolidation
  - Working with new words (games, speaking, listening)
- 3. Practice
  - Role plays, songs, poster-presentations, exhibitions
- 4. Assessment
  - Listening tasks (tick the correct answer, TPR, find the right order)

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