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Lesson 2: Before and After: Prepositional Impact

Type of Lesson: Explore and Hypothesize

Time: 10 minutes

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Long-term partnerships will be looking at a “before and after” set of sentences. They will theorize what a preposition and prepositional phrase does to a sentence.

YOU WILL NEED

- Before and After: Prepositional Impact, projected or printed for each partnership (Handout 5.2)
- Long-term grammar partnerships
- Grammar notebooks
- Pencils or pens



Scan this QR code to access a printable version of Handout 5.2, Before and After: Prepositional Impact.
qrs.ly/3pge0bh

LESSON STEPS

1. Share or project the Before and After: Prepositional Impact handout.
2. Ask students to talk with each other about what they think the impact is on sentences when using prepositions and prepositional phrases.
3. Encourage partners to write down their hypotheses.
4. Listen in to some conversations to gather information that will help you introduce the “explicit teaching” of phrases and clauses.

WHY THIS LESSON?

One of the most common ways of teaching your granny how to use prepositions and prepositional phrases was to memorize as many prepositions as

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possible. Although knowing which words act as prepositions is good, it is much more important to learn how they function in a sentence.

TIPS AND ALTERNATIVE USES

- Even though prepositions and prepositional phrases may be found in the standards in a grade before or after yours, they are super easy to use and highly effective in sentence expansion. Just having a bank of prepositions for students to use as possible ways to expand a sentence helps.
- Use this “before and after” as a template for future grammar studies. Simply choose a grammar concept and show what it looks like when it is not used and then when it is used.
- A great way to trim down sentence length is to notice whether we have included too many prepositional phrases, making it awkward to read. When revising, students can hunt for prepositions (using a bank of prepositions) to see how many they may be using in a single sentence. This exercise helps students look closely at their sentences.

HANDOUT 5.2: BEFORE AND AFTER: PREPOSITIONAL IMPACT

Prepositions! Such a helpful part of speech to expand sentences. Look at the collection of “before and after” sentences below. Look even more closely at the underlined preposition and the prepositional phrase.

Hypothesize (make your best guesses) with your partner answers to these questions:

1. What is the impact of prepositions and prepositional phrases on a sentence? In other words, what happens to a sentence when a prepositional phrase is added?
2. How do prepositions make sentences better? Worse?
3. Come up with as many ideas as you can. Jot your hypotheses (best guesses) in your grammar notebook.

SENTENCE WITHOUT PREPOSITIONS AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES	SENTENCE WITH PREPOSITIONS AND PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES
Take deep breaths.	Take deep breaths into your nose and out of your mouth.
Practice patience.	Practice patience with yourself and others.
I felt strongly.	I felt strongly about my decision.
Celebrate small wins.	Celebrate small wins at every chance.
Welcome mistakes.	Welcome mistakes during times of learning.

Some cool prepositions to know and use:

USE TO SHOW A PLACE	USE TO SHOW TIME	USE TO SHOW DIRECTION
above	after	into
below	before	out of
between	during	through
behind	until	across
under		around