

### **Description of the target student population**

The target students are in Thailand. They are in an EFL environment, about 40 students per class. They are in a mid-intermediate level of reading. The students have been exposed to a lot of reading, but only reading orally. They are word callers with very minimal comprehension.

### **Instructional objectives for the lesson**

The students will be able to understand and identify the main idea.

### **Review**

From last class, the students were struggling in having discussion about the materials we read. They know many vocabulary, but their comprehension of the whole text was very limited. They show the lack of understanding about the main idea.

### **Overview**

To assist them in increasing their understanding of the texts, I will teach them how to identify the main ideas. They will be taught three types of main ideas that occur in different places, which are beginning, the end, and a type of text where everything is equally important. The students will be able to practice each type with two different paragraphs.

### **Presentation of key instructional point**

1. Introduction of three different places that main idea can occur using the geometric shapes. I will give an explanation along with the pictures to give them some visual support. First type is the inverted triangle which represent the main idea at the beginning.



Second, the triangle represents the main idea at the end.



Last, the square that represents all texts are equally important.



2. After a clear and brief explanation, I will pre-teach a few words that they might not know as they are reading the paragraphs. Those words are compliments and neighbor. Then, I will demonstrate each type with example paragraphs. This will help them to see clearly that main idea can occur in many places.
3. First example: the main idea at the beginning

Speed dating is an activity to meet new people in a short time! You will have five minutes to meet each person and learn about them. After talking to each “date” you may decide to go on an actual date! Come prepared with details about yourself. Where are you from? What do you do? What are your hobbies?

Second example: the main idea at the end

Everyone needs compliments. A good compliment makes a person feel valued. It also gives them energy. Compliments make people to become friendly. It is important to understand how to give compliments. It is also important to know how to receive them.

Third example: all sentences are equally important

Money changes with time. No matter what it looks like, money is an idea. It is the thought that people can trade something they have for something they want. Money makes trading easier.

4. After modeling how to identify the main ideas, I give them an instruction on the activity. The students will each have pictures of all three geometric shapes. Each of the passage that will be read as a class, they will give their answer by showing the pictures that represent the type of main idea. This will help me as a teacher to get a visual check of the understanding of the average of the class.
5. As a class, we read paragraphs that represent each of the type silently. After reading, the students will answer using geometric shapes. The paragraphs that will be included in this first part are

First exercise:

There are many faithful individuals and groups that give service every day. For example, my neighbor is a Christian, and every week he drives an hour away to help children with math. After that, he asks each neighbor if they need help with anything. He is a great example. And here are four examples of faith-based groups that do good around the world.

Second exercise:

America is also known for being at the forefront of freedom and equality. Although our history may be contradictory to these ideals, we have progressed and now live in a land of equal opportunity. Whether you wish to become a doctor, a lawyer, or a librarian, America is the best place to be at to achieve these dreams.

Third exercise:

Best friend is a closet friend. Everyone has at least one best friend in their life. It is a friend that you can always count on. It is a friend that will always be there for you in any situation. A friend that you can talk about anything.

6. Now, in pairs, the students will read together silently and discuss which category the main idea of the passage falls on. The paragraphs that will be used in this part of the activity are First exercise:

Some dogs can see well. Some dogs do not see very well. All dogs can hear well. They can hear sounds that people cannot hear. They can hear high sounds and low sounds. They can hear sound very far away. All dogs can smell very well. They can smell 40 times better than humans!

Second exercise:

Some houses are fancy. They are painted bright colors, and are very decorative. Some houses not fancy — they are plain and simple. Houses look very different in different parts of the world. But, people who live in a house probably all agree that there is no place like home!

7. Individually, the students will do one last paragraph.

There have been many improvements to umbrellas. Now, modern umbrellas are better than the old umbrellas. The old umbrellas were often made of oiled silk. Modern umbrellas are made of cotton or plastic. Old umbrellas had ribbing made of wood. Modern umbrellas have steel ribs. Also, the trunk of the modern umbrella extends like a telescope. It can collapse and become shorter or extend and become longer

8. After all the exercises, I will let the students discuss and ask questions as a class about the main idea. Then, the students will be assessed by doing another exercise to identify the main idea.

### **Assessment of the instructional objectives**

The students will be assessed by completing the worksheet that is treated as an additional exercise. The work sheet as three different types of the main idea, and the students will identify them by circling the right choice for the answer. Each type has one paragraph.

### **Summary**

The whole hour we have been focusing on the main idea. The students had no knowledge of different places main idea can occur before the class today. The students had practiced identifying them with many different examples as a class, in pairs and individually. At the end, they were assessed on their knowledge and the average of the class has good understanding on the main idea. There were common mistakes that occurred in the

assessment. The students could not recognize the text that are equally important. We will revisit on this point in the next lesson.

### **Practice of the instructional point**

#### Passage 1

Speed dating is an activity to meet new people in a short time! You will have five minutes to meet each person and learn about them. After talking to each “date” you may decide to go on an actual date! Come prepared with details about yourself. Where are you from? What do you do? What are your hobbies?

#### Passage 2

Everyone needs compliments. A good compliment makes a person feel valued. It also gives them energy. Compliments make people to become friendly. It is important to understand how to give compliments. It is also important to know how to receive them.

#### Passage 3

Money changes with time. No matter what it looks like, money is an idea. It is the thought that people can trade something they have for something they want. Money makes trading easier.

#### Passage 4

There are many faithful individuals and groups that give service every day. For example, my neighbor is a Christian, and every week he drives an hour away to help children with math. After that, he asks each neighbor if they need help with anything. He is a great example. And here are four examples of faith-based groups that do good around the world.

#### Passage 5

America is also known for being at the forefront of freedom and equality. Although our history may be contradictory to these ideals, we have progressed and now live in a land of equal opportunity. Whether you wish to become a doctor, a lawyer, or a librarian, America is the best place to be at to achieve these dreams.

#### Passage 6

Some dogs can see well. Some dogs do not see very well. All dogs can hear well. They can hear sounds that people cannot hear. They can hear high sounds and low sounds.

They can hear sound very far away. All dogs can smell very well. They can smell 40 times better than humans!

#### Passage 7

Some houses are fancy. They are painted bright colors, and are very decorative. Some houses not fancy — they are plain and simple. Houses look very different in different parts of the world. But, people who live in a house probably all agree that there is no place like home!

#### Passage 8

There have been many improvements to umbrellas. Now, modern umbrellas are better than the old umbrellas. The old umbrellas were often made of oiled silk. Modern umbrellas are made of cotton or plastic. Old umbrellas had ribbing made of wood. Modern umbrellas have steel ribs. Also, the trunk of the modern umbrella extends like a telescope. It can collapse and become shorter or extend and become longer

#### Passage 9 (Written myself)

Best friend is a closet friend. Everyone has at least one best friend in their life. It is a friend that you can always count on. It is a friend that will always be there for you in any situation. A friend that you can talk about anything.

**ER CENTRAL LEVEL 10** (Ignoring neighbor, umbrellas, compliments)

**Rate:** 95.33 %

**Syntactic Analyzer rating** 1.36