Vocabulary Instruction Using the Frayer Model

4-Part Analysis

WHAT: The Frayer Model was developed by Dorothy Frayer and her colleagues at the University of Wisconsin. It is designed to support students in gaining a deep understanding of new vocabulary words.

WHY USE THE FRAYER MODEL:
This model, in use for many decades, supports students by helping them:
• Define the word using kid friendly words
• Describe characteristics of the word
• Provide examples of the word
• Provide non-examples of the word
Each of these components is powerful in creating a deep understanding. For example, knowing what a thing is NOT can help us understand what it IS.

MATERIALS FOR THE FRAYER MODEL:
A quick internet search will find templates for using the Frayer Model in various formats, including Word, PDF, and Inspiration, such as the images shown below.

HOW TO COMPLETE A FRAYER MODEL WEB
Be sure to complete the web with the student. To help build knowledge of the word, you can: discuss the word, watch brief videos, look at pictures, read short texts and talk to others. For students who are learning to use AAC, this is a perfect time for them to contribute some words for the web.

SAMPLE FRAYER MODELS:
The sample to the right shows use of the Frayer Model with Inspiration software for the word ‘trust’ as used in The Diary of Anne Frank. Items shown in red were contributed by Marcus, using his AAC device.


Dr. Gretchen Hanser & Dr. Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite
Tip # 5, 2017 www.aacintervention.com