

DIRECT STRATEGIES: WRITING

STRATEGY GROUP: Metecognitive
STRATEGY SET: Creating your learning
STRATEGY: Overviewing and linking with already known material

This strategy involves previewing the basis principles and/or materials for an upcoming language activity, and linking these with what the learners already know. Getting ready to do a writing assignment, Saskia does 10 minutes of "non-stop writing", a kind of written brainstorming in which ideas are not censored. At other times, she brainstorms out aloud with a small group in debates to generate ideas for writing. Such activities help her bring out her own existing ideas and starts expanding them as preparation for the future writing task. In any of the skills areas, vocabulary building can be an important part of the overviewing/linking strategy. Students can help each other create and expand lists of relevant vocabulary for an upcoming language task, putting those expressions into a context and considering similar expressions in the native language.