

Knowledge Rating Lesson

Purpose: To ascertain how well students know key words in a unit of study.

Preparation: Make copies of the *Knowledge Rating* graphic organizer. Fill in *Key Terms* column with vocabulary words.

Procedure: Read the list aloud, one word at a time. Ask students to put an X in the appropriate box to indicate whether they know the word well, have heard or seen it but are unsure of the meaning, or don't know it at all. As a class, discuss meaning of words. Ask students to suggest educated guesses, break down the word into parts and analyze, and read sentences with the word used in context in order to extract clues.

Extension Activities:

- Divide the class into mixed-ability pairs. Call out the words again, giving students a minute to share their responses on their charts and what they know about the terms.
- Call on pairs to offer definitions of words they think they know. Ask students to write the best definition of each word on the back of their charts.

Example:

Knowledge Rating Preteaching Vocabulary

Topic: U.S. History

Key Term	Know It	Unsure	Don't Know
Inflation	X		
Indigenous		X	
Indulgence			X
Interdependence		X	

Source: Blachowicz, C. (1986) *Making Connections: Alternatives to the Vocabulary Notebook*. *Journal of Reading*, 29, 543-549.