

:harmon hall

TAKE A MOMENT TO IDENTIFY AND REFLECT ON YOUR AIMS. PART 2

THE SYLLABUS

(The Touchstone, Passages, Kid's Box or Connect program),

and the ILP will give you the general direction for planning your classes. Beyond that, to clarify the lesson's main aims for yourself and Ss you need to think about your group's needs and the stage they are in their learning development.



AIMS ARE NOT THE SAME AS PROCEDURES! PROCEDURES ARE WHAT SS AND TEACHERS DO IN EVERY STEP OF A LESSON



(PLAY AN AUDIO OF A CONVERSATION BETWEEN 2 PEOPLE GETTING INTERRUPTED / HAVE SS LISTEN FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND FILL THEIR CHART)

This is not an aim because it doesn't tell us what Ss will learn or what they will be able to do with the language.

AIMS LIKE "TEACH PRESENT CONTINUOUS" OR "PRACTICE READING" ARE TOO GENERAL.

Try to narrow down the scope of what will be achieved as they do not tell enough about the purpose of the lesson.

A more precise aim can be "To introduce and practice the present continuous for talking about accidents" or "To give Ss practice in predicting content and scanning for specific information".

ONCE YOU HAVE FULLY IDENTIFIED THE DIFFERENT AIMS OF THE LESSON,

making decisions about the selection of materials, extra activities, visuals, interaction patterns in the virtual classroom, procedure and timing of each stage will become much easier.



SOMETIMES, THERE'S A GOOD REASON FOR NOT ANNOUNCING A LESSON AIM RIGHT AWAY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CLASS.

You may want to guide your Ss to discover something about language during the lesson, or to generate the need for the new language without knowing the aim of the lesson in advance.

Regardless, it will be important to announce or elicit the aim at the end of the lesson. That way, you can be sure your Ss know what they have done, learned and why.

TRY IT OUT!

Think about the last lesson you taught. Was the aim of the lesson the one in your coursebook or ILP, or did you adjust it? Make notes on why the aims were / weren't appropriate for your Ss.

List your main aims, subsidiary aims, and stage aims for the last lesson you taught and the next one you're preparing. Can you improve them?

