

Essential Elements of Instruction

From Madeline Hunter

AKA, “Direct Instruction”

A practical lesson-design framework that moves learning from teacher explanation and modeling to guided practice and successful independent application.

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| 1 Anticipatory Set | Gain students' attention, activate prior knowledge, and prepare them for the lesson. |
| 2 Objective and Purpose | Clearly communicate what students will learn and why the learning matters. |
| 3 Input | Provide the information, concepts, skills, vocabulary, and experiences students need. |
| 4 Modeling | Demonstrate the desired learning or skill and show what successful performance looks like. |
| 5 Checking for Understanding | Frequently determine whether all students understand before moving forward. |
| 6 Guided Practice | Provide practice with teacher guidance, prompting, feedback, and correction. |
| 7 Independent Practice | Students apply the learning independently after demonstrating sufficient understanding. |
| 8 Closure | Bring the learning together by reviewing, summarizing, connecting, or having students articulate what they learned. |

Teach → Check → Support → Release