



STOP SAYING “USE ACADEMIC LANGUAGE”

Be specific, show what you mean.



THE IDEA

“Use academic language” is too vague.

Students need to know exactly which words and structures to use.

Be specific, model it and give them a chance to try.



IN THE CLASSROOM

- Identify 5–10 key words and phrases.
- Show examples in context.
- Provide sentence frames.
- Give time to practise.
- Revisit and recycle.

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BE SPECIFIC

Choose the key language.

Instead of:

“Use academic language.”

Try:

- 5–10 key words
- Useful phrases
- Important structures

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MODEL IT

Show how to use it.

Example: Explain a result

The results suggest ...

This could be because ...

A possible explanation is ...

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PRACTISE AND APPLY

Let students try it.



Talk in pairs



Write a short explanation



Share and give feedback



WHY IT WORKS

- Clearer expectations.
- Builds confidence.
- Improves the quality of spoken and written work.
- Works in every subject.



EAL UPGRADE

Build a subject word bank with key phrases and sentence frames.



TRY IT TOMORROW

Pick one task. Identify 5 key words. Give a simple sentence frame. Let students try it.



TEACHER LANGUAGE

“For this task, use these words.”
“You can start with this sentence.”
“Try using one of these phrases in your answer.”