

Draw the Inference Chain

Connect observation, concept and conclusion with arrows; learners explain each link aloud.

5 min preparation | Science, Maths and Humanities

Before the lesson

Choose an observation and the subject knowledge needed to interpret it.

Teach it in four steps

1. Connect observation, concept and conclusion with arrows; learners explain each link aloud.
2. Name the concept or rule used to interpret that observation.
3. Draw and explain each observation → concept → conclusion link.
4. Consider an alternative interpretation and identify what evidence would distinguish it.

Worked example: Draw the Inference Chain

Draw arrows from an observation to the concept used to interpret it and then to the conclusion. A rising temperature is an observation; an energy-transfer explanation needs an explicit conceptual link.

Teacher prompt: "Show the relationship and explain the choice you made."

Check understanding

Give a new observation and ask learners to name the knowledge used to reach a conclusion and a possible alternative.

Fade the support

Remove the supplied arrows and ask for the reasoning chain in the learner's own wording.

Adapt it across subjects

Maths: link given information to a justified conclusion. Humanities: distinguish a source detail from the interpretation built from it.

Adjust the language support

A1-A2 access: keep the subject goal; use visuals, a small word bank, pointing or drawing and partner rehearsal. Use a home language to establish meaning where helpful.

B1-B2 extension: ask for fuller explanations, precise subject vocabulary and qualifications. Reduce sentence openings when learners can organise the response independently.

These are starting points, not placement rules. Judge support from the learner's response to this task; proficiency can differ across skills.