

Starting the School Year with Kognity

Topic: 1 Connections

Lesson: Ready for Action Lesson Plan

Subject: IGCSE First Language English



What can I use this lesson plan for?

This is a great lesson plan for introducing students to both the First Language English (FLE) curriculum and Kognity's digital textbook features in the beginning of the school year. The activities in this lesson work well with remote or in person learning. As the year progresses, you can use these activities with different topics in the FLE digital textbooks.

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to apply Kognity's digital textbook features to classroom learning in IGCSE First Language English.

Time Allotment:

Recommended time is *one hour*, however the revision activity provides opportunities for extension.

Materials:

[1.1.1](#) (Explicit Meaning: Learn),
[1.1.1](#) (Explicit Meaning: Apply)

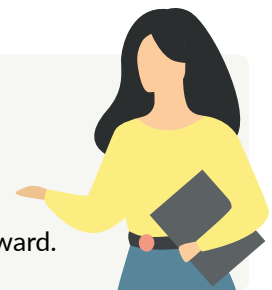
Activities with Kognity

Hook

Put students in pairs. Tell them they need to teach their partner something they know well. They should do this in three steps. Provide the following as an example:

Example: how to ride a bike:

- Step 1: sit on the saddle facing forward.
- Step 2: push off from the ground so that you start moving forward.
- Step 3: begin pedaling the wheels so that the bike continues to move forward.



Give each pair 2 minutes (1 minute of teaching time for each student). Once finished, discuss the learning process using the following questions:

- How did you approach teaching your partner?
- Do you think your partner learned well?
- How do you know they learned well?

Support: give students a specific learning process to teach to another. This could be something that they would all know well (e.g. how to get to school) or something that you have learned recently.

Challenge: set an extension for students to consider what makes really good learning.

Introduction Activity

1. Following this discussion, introduce students to the three step learning process used by the Kognity digital textbook. Explain that each section breaks down a skill into three manageable steps. The aim of the textbook is to learn (and eventually revise) the process for each skill.
2. Continue the introduction of Kognity's FLE textbook by explaining that:
 - The content in each section of the book incorporates features such as **videos, external links, practice questions** and **activities** to enhance students' learning.
 - The **practice centre** has exam style questions, strength tests and battles for all topics that allow students to check their knowledge and understanding of each topic. As they engage with the **strength test and battles**, their **strength bar** (on the overview page) will increase, allowing them to keep track of their strong content areas and areas they need to work on.
 - Teachers can assign readings and questions and can keep track of student progress.

Group Activity

Direct students to [1.1.0](#) 'Big Picture' and read it together as a class. Ask students to identify and highlight the following using their [Kognity notebook](#):

- What is the theme of this topic?
- What skills will be learned in this topic?
- Why are these skills important?

Share thoughts and identify the correct answers from the text. Tell students that this information will be present in every big picture, and they should take care to notice it when reading it.

Then direct students to section 1.1.1. Read the **introduction** to the section together. Ask students to identify:

- The skill being taught in this particular section and,
- Which exam question it is most relevant to.

Inform students that the introduction will always include this information.

Independent Activity

Give students the following tasks to complete independently. As they work through them, ask them to pay attention to what they are learning and how they are learning it.

Task 1: read the stimulus extract, *From Warriors to Elders*, and answer the exercise questions.

Task 2: skim over the 'build the skills' section and read the subtitle for each one. Note down the three main things that the section focuses on.

Task 3: read the first section and complete the first activity.

After these tasks are complete, lead a short discussion on the following questions:

- What did you learn?
- How did you learn it?

Draw students attention to the following features. Again, these will be present in each section:

- Comprehension questions that check how well they have understood the extract.
- Subtitles that illustrate the different parts of the skill.
- Activities that get students to demonstrate their learning.

Revision Activity

Give students a choice of any of the following activities to complete to consolidate their knowledge of this section. Draw attention to the fact that all of these activities can be used for revision to prepare for the exam:

- Guide students to the 'apply' page of section [1.1.1](#). Introduce them to the practice questions that will be present in each section. Students may wish to consider if they are able to answer this question and how they might do it.
- Create a poster of the steps needed to master this skill.
- Create a mindmap of how to approach this skill.
- Create 5 revision questions for this section and then test another student on them.