

# NUA INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY

## Possible Sentences

This pre-reading strategy gives students several words from the text prior to reading and they are asked to create plausible sentences with them, which they share and discuss with a partner or in small groups. It sets a purpose for reading and provides motivation for reading. Researchers found that the discussion of their sentences was the key factor in increasing comprehension of the text – especially for ESL students.

### Instructions for Possible Sentences:

Select 5-6 important words from the text that can be used in different ways. Choose some words that are familiar to students and some that may not be. Each student should write sentences that contain at least two of the words in each sentence.

Share sentences with the whole class. Underline or highlight the provided words in the sentences. Have students read the text and see how the author used the words. Highlight the words in the text and discuss the author's sentences.

After reading the text, ask the students to decide if the sentences they created are a reasonable fit for the text or not. You can ask students to write new sentences, not looking at the text, that help them remember key concepts and ideas from the text using the 5-6 words.