

The Language of Instruction

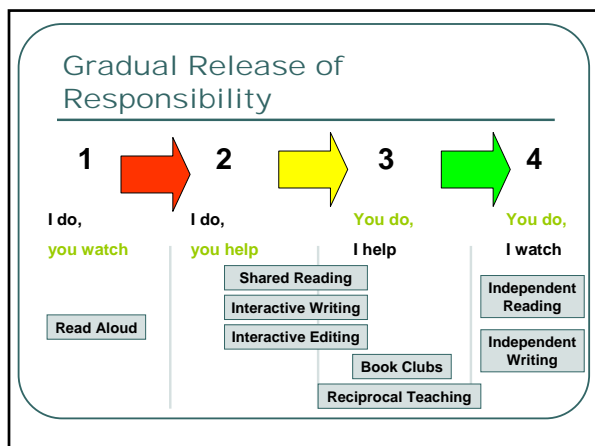
How to Foster Complex Thinking by All Students

Five Standards for Effective Pedagogy and Student Outcomes

- **Standard #1:** Teachers and Students Producing Together
 - **Standard #2:** Developing Language and Literacy Across the Curriculum
 - **Standard #3:** Making Meaning – Connecting School and Students' Lives
 - **Standard #4:** Teaching Complex Thinking
 - **Standard #5:** Teaching Through Conversation
- Roland Tharp, 2000

Standard I: Teachers and Students Producing Together

- Expert and novices working toward a common product or outcome
- Connecting “schooled” concepts and everyday concepts
- Teachers conversing with students as they work on joint activity



Standard II: Developing Language and Literacy Across the Curriculum

- Develop competence in the “specialized” language and literacy of all disciplines
- Provide opportunities to practice “specialized” oral and written language
- Move beyond everyday talk to express understanding of concepts through instructional conversations

Standard III: Making Meaning: Connecting School to Students’ Lives

- Contextualize teaching and curriculum
- Create a bridge from students’ known to the “to-be-known”
- Provide instructional activities valued by students and their cultures

Standard IV: Teaching Complex Thinking

- Challenge students toward cognitive complexity
- Encourage students to review and question beliefs and rationales
- Expand class discussion and promote alternative solutions or perspectives

Standard V: Teaching Through Conversation

- Engage students through dialogue
- Transform classrooms into a “community of learners”
- Develop the language of instruction

“If he (the teacher) only lectures, he will never see the images of his pupils’ minds, projected on the screen of their language.”



Tharp and Gallimore
