

Frayer Model

The Frayer Model is a categorization strategy that helps students understand new concepts. In the first example (below), students provide a definition, list of characteristics, and provide examples and non-examples of the concept. In the second example (below), students analyze a word's essential and nonessential characteristics and refine their understanding by choosing examples and non-examples of the concept.

There are many concepts or key vocabulary terms in the content areas that can be confusing. This strategy provides students with the opportunity to understand what a concept is and what it is not. It gives students an opportunity to explain their understanding and to elaborate by providing examples and non-examples from their own lives.

Procedure:

- Assign a concept or key vocabulary term that might be confusing or new to students.
- Explain the Frayer model diagram below.
- Have the students read text material.
- Identify evidence of examples and non-examples from the text.

Definition (in own words)	Characteristics
Examples	Non-examples

Adapted from: *Teaching Reading in Science*, Mary Lee Barton and Deborah L. Jordan, McREL (Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning, 2001, p. 53