Effective Communication Objectives

An effective communication objective has:

- Direct correlation to standards and content objective
- Tier 2 vocabulary that can be used across content areas
- Active verbs that describe the task students are asked to complete
- Specific grammar usage necessary to complete the task
- May be oral, written, or both

Sample Communication Objective Frame

Students will ____ (task) ___ using/citing (grammar/usage) and/or (academic vocabulary).

Some examples of active verbs to name the task:

articulate	defend	express	narrate	share
ask	define	identify	predict	state
compose	describe	justify	react to	summarize
compare	discuss	label	read	rephrase
contrast	elaborate	list	recite	revise
debate	explain	name	respond	write

Specific grammar usage:

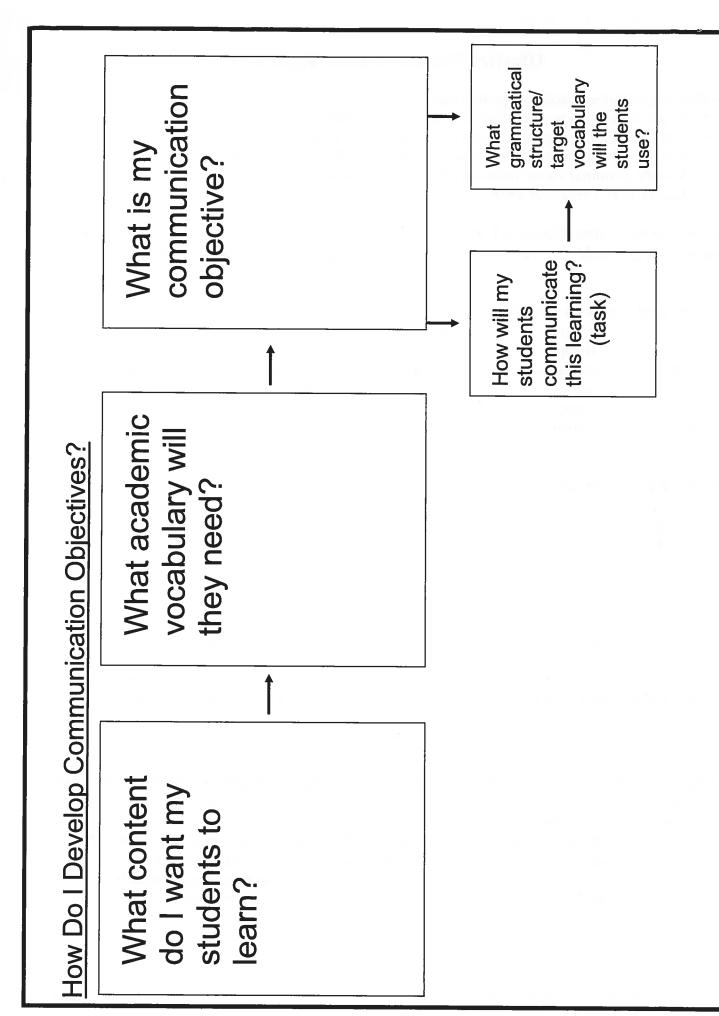
academic vocabulary	complete sentences	subject/verb agreement
precise adjectives	complex sentences	personal pronouns
citation verbs	clarifying questions	past-tense verbs
noun phrases	prepositional phrases	gerunds (verb + ing)

Communication objectives are most effectively communicated with verb phrases such as:

Students will **point out similarities between...**Students will **articulate events in sequence...**Students will **state opinions about...**Students will **state opinions about...**

Examples of effective communication objectives in reading, writing or classroom discussions:

- Students will articulate main idea and details using target vocabulary, main idea, detail
- Students will describe a character's emotions using precise adjectives
- Students will revise a persuasive paragraph using correct present and conditional verbs
- Students will justify a position using relevant details and complete sentences
- Students will report a group consensus using citation verbs: determined, concluded
- Students will restate a partner's response using paraphrasing expressions



Misty Campos, Raeanne Little, Sept 2012