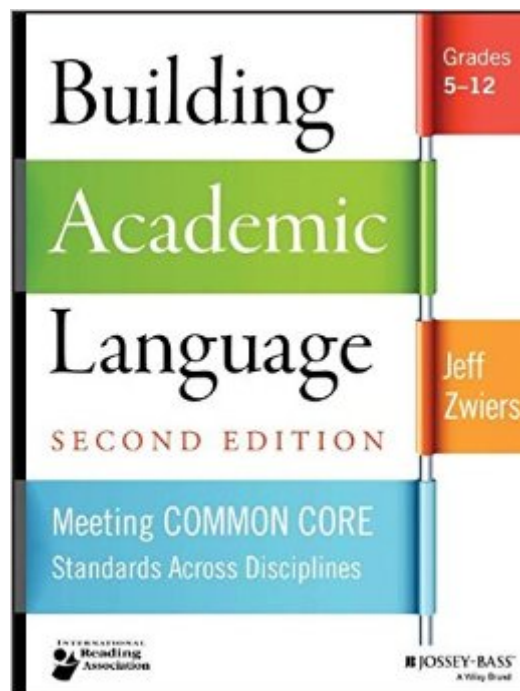


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# Building Academic Language: Meeting Common Core Standards Across Disciplines, Grades 5-12 (Jossey-Bass Education Series)



## Synopsis

Of the over one hundred new publications on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), this one truly stands out! In the second edition of *Building Academic Language*, Jeff Zwiers presents a much-needed, comprehensive roadmap to cultivating academic language development across all disciplines, this time placing the rigor and challenges of the CCSS front and center. A must-have resource!

• "Andrea Honigsfeld, EdD, Molloy College "Language is critical to the development of content learning as students delve more deeply into specific disciplines. When students possess strong academic language, they are better able to critically analyze and synthesize complex ideas and abstract concepts. In this second edition of *Building Academic Language*, Jeff Zwiers successfully builds the connections between the Common Core State Standards and academic language. This is the "go to" resource for content teachers as they transition to the expectations for college and career readiness.

• "Katherine S. McKnight, PhD, National Louis University With the adoption of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) by most of the United States, students need help developing their understanding and use of language within the academic context. This is crucially important throughout middle school and high school, as the subjects discussed and concepts taught require a firm grasp of language in order to understand the greater complexity of the subject matter. *Building Academic Language* shows teachers what they can do to help their students grasp language principles and develop the language skills they need to reach their highest levels of academic achievement. The Second Edition of *Building Academic Language* includes new strategies for addressing specific Common Core standards and also provides answers to the most important questions across various content areas, including: What is academic language and how does it differ by content area? How can language-building activities support content understanding for students? How can teachers assist students in using language more effectively, especially in the academic context? How can academic language usage be modeled routinely in the classroom? How can lesson planning and assessment support academic language development? An essential resource for teaching all students, this book explains what every teacher needs to know about language for supporting reading, writing, and academic learning.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I liked the emphasis on understanding how other language speakers process the academic English language. This book might be primarily for those who teach ELL's but any child who's prior experiences have left them with a gap in the processing of content in academic terms would benefit from the same strategies if employed correctly. Fantastic book!

One of two books with a "Common Core" label that I have liked, this book balances theory and strategies to engage students in developing their academic language. This book is useful beyond the CCS and is congruent with sheltered instruction. This is a great resource for working with ELLs.

I highly recommend this book for all future and current teachers. I had to buy this for a class and I'm so glad it was on the required text list. Zwiers writes with humor that keeps your attention-- or reels you back in when your focus is fading. He presents teaching literacy in a way that is easily applied to teaching. Future students will benefit from teachers who have read this book.

As an EAL (ESL) teacher, this book is essential. It has become my bible for the classroom. It's loaded with practical information for teaching academic language, as well as strategies and activities. It's also a great resource for content-area teachers looking to provide more support for language learners. Very little theory, all application-- highly recommended.

Overall I enjoyed Zwiers ideas, suggestions and strategies. As a current teacher I felt a couple of the activities might not be practical for my students. There certainly is something for everyone's

teaching toolkit!

Jeff Zwiers packs this book so incredibly full of helpful information that I find myself reading and rereading chapters. I love the references added to the common core, and the fact that there are so many examples of classroom talk as well as charts, lesson ideas and suggestions for building in opportunities for students to produce academic language in speaking and writing. Definitely a book I'd recommend.

A lot of the information in this book was interesting and useful in the ELL class I took for my Master's in Teaching program. It's not a difficult book to understand and I learned a lot from it.

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