

Lesson Plan for a Mathematics Class

Morphemic Analysis

(Note: See *Literacy and Learning, Vocabulary Self-Collection and Morphemic Analysis* video lesson for an illustration of this lesson in action.)

Topic: Geometry

Objectives: The student will ... (to be completed by the classroom teacher)

Set Induction: The teacher asks the students if they can think of any words in mathematics that they find difficult to understand. Tell them that in this lesson they will study many words and break them down into parts so that they can better understand difficult vocabulary.

Activities:

1. Students generate all the important mathematics words in a chapter. This can be constructed through the use of the Vocabulary Self-Collection Strategy (see the other lesson plan in this chapter), teacher selection, or an existing vocabulary list.
2. Small groups of students are directed to select one word from the list and identify a morpheme of that word. They are to generate two or three mathematical words with that same morpheme and two or three general usage words with the same morpheme.
3. As a whole class, a display chart is constructed with the student findings. The teacher asks one group at a time to enter their morpheme, write its definition, list the mathematics words with the morpheme, and finally, list the general usage words they identified. A small discussion follows each entry.



Closure:

Students are asked to identify any pairs of words having the same morphemes and related meanings.

Evaluation Suggestions:

The teacher and students should assess the chart entries for correctness. Regular and/or mathematics dictionaries can be utilized for clarification. Students can be assessed formally or informally by asking them to give a morpheme and its meaning as used in specific mathematics terms.

Resources and Materials:

Dictionaries, possibly a mathematics dictionary, chart paper, and a marker

Other Applications:

Morphemic Analysis can be applied whenever a new or difficult term is encountered during mathematics instruction or any other instruction. Because much of the English language has evolved from Latin, a Latin translation dictionary should be available in the classroom at all times. A bulletin board with morphemes and their definitions can be continuously extended throughout the school year. An awareness of morphemes and their meanings can enhance vocabulary development for lifelong, independent vocabulary learning.



Reaction Guide

Reaction Guide		
	Agree	Disagree
1. Students should not be asked to select the vocabulary words they are to study.		
2. Applying morphemic analysis to mathematical terms can enhance learning mathematics.		
3. Working in cooperative groups will not meet the vocabulary development needs of individual students.		