

CLIL Lesson Plan: Statement of Purpose (SOP)

Teacher: Dr. B. Spoorthi

Grade Level: B.Tech 1st Year – CSE/BT/MME

Course: English for Technical Communication

Subject: Statement of Purpose (SOP)

Duration: 120 minutes

Objectives:

Content Objective:

- By the end of this lesson, students will understand the purpose, structure, and key components of a Statement of Purpose (SOP).

Language Objective:

- By the end of this lesson, students will be able to draft an SOP that effectively conveys their academic and career goals.
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Materials:

- Projector and screen
 - PowerPoint presentation on SOP (Purpose, Structure, Tips & Tricks)
 - University websites for research
 - Handouts with sample SOPs
 - Notebooks or digital devices for note-taking
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Preparation:

- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation covering SOP writing techniques, purpose, and structure.
- Compile a list of university websites for students to browse.
- Provide handouts with sample SOPs and guidelines for drafting their own.
- Arrange classroom seating to facilitate group discussions and collaborative activities.

Procedure:

1. Group Discussion: Choosing a University (20 minutes)

- Divide students into small groups.
- Ask each group to decide on a university they would like to apply to for a master's program.
- Each group writes down three reasons why they chose that university.

2. Researching the University (20 minutes)

- Groups browse the university's website to find three key aspects about the institution (e.g., faculty, research opportunities, curriculum, alumni network).
- Each group notes down their findings to be included in their SOP.

3. Defining Short-Term and Long-Term Goals (20 minutes)

- Ask students to individually write down three short-term and three long-term academic/career goals.
- Students then match their goals to a relevant course and university that aligns with their aspirations.

4. Personal Reflection: The One Wish Activity (15 minutes)

- Pose the question: "If God granted you one wish related to your academic or professional journey, what would it be?"
- Students reflect on their aspirations and how this wish connects to their academic and career path.

5. PPT Presentation on SOP Writing (30 minutes)

- Explain the purpose of an SOP and why universities require it.
- Discuss structure, including:
 - Introduction (personal motivation)
 - Academic background
 - Professional experience (if applicable)
 - Short-term and long-term goals
 - Why this university and course?
 - Conclusion
- Share tips and common mistakes to avoid.

6. Class Discussion & Q&A (10 minutes)

- Open the floor for student questions on SOP writing.

- Provide clarification and additional insights based on their queries.
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Conclusion (5 minutes)

- Summarize key takeaways from the session.
 - Ask students to reflect on how an SOP helps shape their academic and professional journey.
 - Thank students for their participation.
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Assessment:

- Evaluation of students' participation in group discussions and research tasks.
 - Observation of logical alignment between goals and university/course selection.
 - Review of students' reflections and engagement in activities.
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Homework/Extension:

- Assign students to draft their own SOP based on the choices they made in the classroom activities.
 - Encourage students to review sample SOPs and refine their drafts accordingly.
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Note: This CLIL lesson plan integrates research, self-reflection, and structured writing exercises, helping engineering students craft a compelling SOP for their future academic and professional endeavors.