**Text

Description automatically generatedDefinition Presentation**

**ESL 389T**

**Goal:** Give a comprehensible 2- to 3-minute presentation of a term from your field to a non-specialist audience.

**Preparation:**

**Part 1: Choose One Term**

Choose ONE term and identify why it is important. Be sure to choose a term that you often use and/or NEED to be able to verbally explain.

* 1. Look back at Task 1. Consider which terms you most frequently use, and perhaps choose a term that you use often and have trouble pronouncing or often find yourself having to explain.

**Part 2: Consider your Audience**

1. Why does my audience need to know the definition of this term?
2. How much does my audience already know about this term and about the subject in general?
3. What related ideas does my audience already know that I can incorporate in my definition to help them understand this unfamiliar term?

**Part 3: Write a Preparation Outline**

*Include the following in your preparation outline. Bring 2 copies of your script to our next class:*

1. **Overview**
2. **Basic Definition:** Start your definition by following the 3-part formal definition pattern.
3. **Discourse Markers:** Look through the discourse markers for use of functional phrases and connectors.
4. **Strategies:** Choose a strategy for your brief explanation (practical example, personal example, analogy, comparison/contrast, word origin, visual means) and write the explanation in your own words that will clearly express the meaning of the term.
5. **Restatement/Summary:** Restate your main point(s) near the end.
6. **Invitation for Questions:** See if your audience members have questions.

**Part 4: Feedback**

Ask a friend or classmate who is not familiar with the term to read and/or listen to your explanation to see if they understand it. Remember you are talking to people that are not in your field or with low background knowledge, so really try to use language to make the information clear!

**Part 5: Practice**

Practice your definitions aloud several times. Note your timing.

**Sample Definition Presentations:**

1. **Overview** Hi, everyone. Today I'd like to introduce the term **enzyme**.
2. **Basic Definition** An enzyme is a group of special proteins that can accelerate the chemical transformation from substrate A to the product B by altering the path and lowering the energy barriers.
3. **Example** Let me describe an example situation.Imagine you have a fiber, and you want to break it into the glucose unit. If you put it here and wait for the natural decomposition, I guess it will take millions of years. However, if you choose an appropriate enzyme, this process will be finished in just several seconds. This is the advantage of enzymes.
4. **Discourse Marker** You may ask, "Why can an enzyme work so quickly?" The answer is altering the path and then lowering the energy required.
5. **Analogy**
6. Discourse Marker: To explain this process, let me make an analogy.
7. You want to walk from point A to B. There are two paths. For the first one, you need to go over a very high peak. And for the second one, you just need to pass through a small, tiny hillside. The answer is clear: the second one would be the faster one.
8. This is also why enzymes can enable the transformation so fast. Because they are smart enough to discover the best path requiring the minimal energy.
9. **Summary and invitation for questions**
10. So in summary . . . .
11. I’m happy to answer any questions you may have.

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**More Sample Definitions** (created by Alison McGregor, PhD):

1. ***Overview*** The first term I’d like to introduce is *comprehensibility.*
2. ***Basic definition*** *Comprehensibility* is a speech term that describes when non-native speakers’ speech is understandable to a native speaking listener.
3. ***Discourse marker*** Let me describe an example situation.
4. ***Practical example*** Imagine you have an interaction with a non-native speaker of your language and you walk away thinking, “Wow, I only understood about 50% of what that guy said.” This is a judgment of how much you think you understood, i.e., how comprehensible that person was to you. Fifty percent would be your perception of that person’s comprehensibility level.
5. ***Restatement*** Remember that comprehensibility is a judgment made by a listener about a non-native English speaker’s speech, and it can be influenced by a lot of factors including how they sound, how they behave, or even unconscious stereotypes about people from specific countries.
6. ***Overview*** The second term I’d like to introduce is *intelligibility.*
7. ***Basic definition*** Intelligibility is how much a listener understands and is measured in research by how much speech a listener can write down. Let’s say that a speaker said, “My favorite drink at Starbucks in a Mocha Frapuccino,” but what the listener wrote was, “My favorite drink at blah-blah is a mocha blah-blah-blah.”
8. ***Contrast*** Intelligibility is sometimes confused with the other term I just explained, comprehensibility. Remember that comprehensibility is a person’s perception or judgment. Intelligibility, on the other hand, is a measurement of what someone can actually write down.
9. ***Emphasizing a point*** So, intelligibility is measured in writing rather than being a perception.
10. ***Summary and invitation for questions*** 
    1. In summary, . . . .
    2. I’d be happy to answer any questions.

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**Definition Presentation – Power Factor**

1. ***Overview*** Today I’d like to introduce the term **power factor**.
2. ***Basic definition*** Power factor is an electrical engineering term that stands for *(Say this slowly)* the ratio of **ac**tual power (kW) over ap**par**ent power (kVA).
3. ***Discourse marker*** Let me make it easier to understand by giving you an everyday example.
4. ***Everyday example*** When you buy potatoes, the supplier bags them in pounds, the shop sells them in pounds and you pay for them in pounds. It’s so simple! However, when you buy electricity, it’s more complicated! When you buy electricity, the supplier makes it in **apparent** power (kVA) BUT you pay for it in with a different kind of power called **actual** power (kW).
5. ***Restatement*** The point is that, when electricity is generated, the unit of the suppliers, which are generators, is different from that of consumers because of the [unde**sir**able but una**voi**dable ac**quain**tanc](https://endic.naver.com/enkrIdiom.nhn?idiomId=583f714293fc4e64b84e9cbcc8675674&query=%EB%B0%98%EA%B0%91%EC%A7%80+%EC%95%8A%EC%9D%80)e, which is reactive power (kVAR).
6. ***Discourse marker*** Now there are three terms that are used for explanation of power factor: **actual** power (kW), **reactive** power (kVAR), and **apparent** power (kVA).
7. ***Contrasting term’s definition*** Reactive power is a type of power which does not do any useful work on the load, but it works as a lubricant in the power system by moving back and forth between the source and the load of the power system while the active power does the useful work to consumers in the system. Then, the sum of these two powers is apparent power.
8. ***Discourse marker*** Let me give you another example to better understand and get the feel of the concept.
9. ***Explanation*** Let’s say it’s Friday evening, and you are with your friends at your favorite pub after a really hot day. You order a big mug of your favorite beer for you and for your friends. The thirst-quenching portion of your beer represents actual power (kW). Unfortunately, life isn’t perfect. Along with your ale comes a little bit of foam. In fact, this foam stands for reactive power (kVAR), which is an in**e**vitable loss. Even if the foam just doesn’t quench your thirst, it would make your beer look better and enrich the taste. In this case, the total contents of your mug, apparent power (kVA), are the sum of the beer and the foam which is actual power (kW) and reactive power (kVAR) respectively. Therefore, power factor is the ratio of the beer over the mug.
10. ***Closing*** To summarize, in my field of electrical engineering, power factor is used to m**ea**sure how efficiently electricity is being converted into useful work output. **More particularly**, it is a good indicator of the effect of electricity on **the power system efficiency**.
11. ***Restatement*** Keep in mind that the higher power factor is, the more efficient the electricity is. Thank you for listening to my speech.
12. ***Invite questions*** I’d be happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Self-Evaluation Form: Definition Presentation**  Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***After giving your definitions, watch your video and comment on the following:***

*Presentation Skills Evaluation Key:*

*2 = yes! 1= somewhat 0=missing*

**Organization**

\_\_\_\_ Intro: **I used my voice to highlight the term** and gestures to support the term.

\_\_\_\_ The **formal definition** was clear.

\_\_\_\_ My strategies were clear to my audience.

**Other categories to comment on:**

**Timing:** too long 2-3 minutes too short

**Communicative Competence:** Eye Contact? Gestures?

**Grammar Comments:**

**Pronunciation Comments (e.g., sounds, word stress, phrase stress):**

**Overall Strengths:**

**Overall Things to improve:**