



**Andrell Education**  
Raising Standards in Education

*presents*

# **Big Write<sup>®</sup> & VCOP<sup>®</sup>**

**Professional Development Conference**

**Enhancing Talk in the  
classroom and at home.**

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## Extra Notes:

## Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

Andrell Education's

# Big Write & VCOP

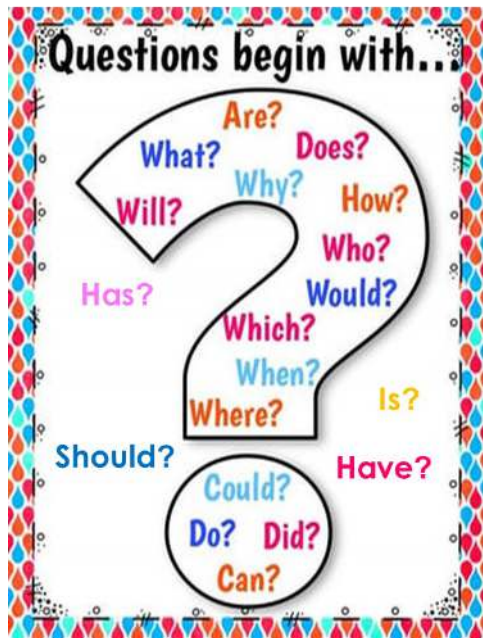
Enhancing Talk in the  
classroom and at home.

*A Method for Raising Standards in Writing*

The aim of this session to help enhance  
oral language in both the classroom,  
and in the home environment.

Oral language plays a massive part in  
writing development, that we need to  
target and model, in order to raise  
standards.

## Hi, how are you?



**Hi, How are you?** is a great get to know you game for the start of the year, for coming back from any school holidays, or even just a weekend recap.

Students write down a question stem on a post it note. They all stand up, are given a topic and are prompted to pair up.

They then need to mentally create a question to ask their partner starting with their question stem.

They ask their question, have it answered, and swap question stems.

They find a new partner and repeat this 2 more times.

**Topic 1: a question about holidays/vacations.**

**Topic 2: a question about hobbies.**

**Topic 3: a question about family/friends.**

# Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

## Start Your Day With Talk

- Take a moment to reflect on your classroom experiences- either as a teacher or as a student.
- How often do you start your day, start Literacies, with talk?
- Next class you run, start the first two minutes of whole class time with a talk based game or activity.
- Pairs or threes, or you'll have dominance in the group and we want everyone communicating.

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## The Need

There has not been a writing program that raises the standards of writing for all learners.

More and more children are coming to school with poor language skills. (If they can't say it, they can't write it).

Children's oral language development is on the decline across the world.

*In Australia, more than one in every five children entering primary school lacks the oral language skills necessary for successful school learning, particularly in literacy and numeracy.*

Teaching Oral Language: Building a new foundation using K-12 ALL in the early primary years by Dr John Murre, Head of Studies in Exceptional Learning and Gifted Education in the Melbourne Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne

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## Game- 'Shout'



Frog

### Game 1: Shout

Take turns to give clues to try and get your partner to guess your picture card.

### Game 2: Adaptation of Game 1

Set a timer and have 1 player at a time try and give as many clues as they can, to get through as many cards as they can before the time runs out.

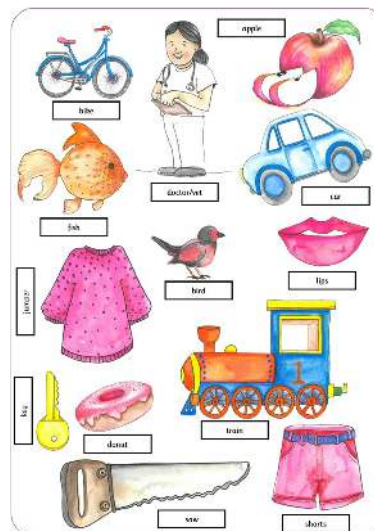
### Game 3: Give me a clue

In pairs, person A tells person B what the picture is.  
i.e. Frog

Person B has to be as detailed as possible in giving a clue as their answer.  
i.e. A green animal that lives in a pond and croaks?



Apple



## Game- 'Shout'

### Game 1: Shout Online Play

Using the collage of pictures on the left, take turns giving clues to get your partner to guess the picture you are referring too.

*Having everyone see all the cards and labels is a good support tool for ESL students as there are limited responses.*

Bigger pictures on the next page.

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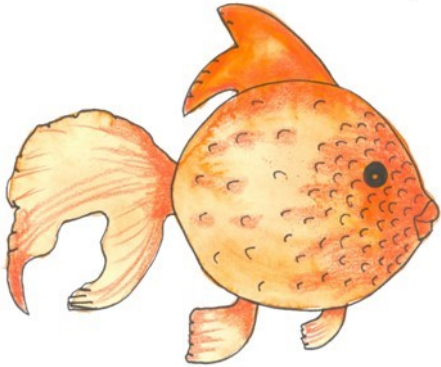
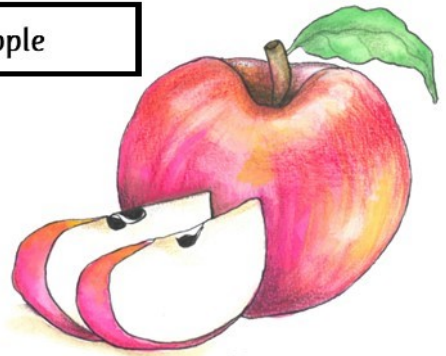


bike

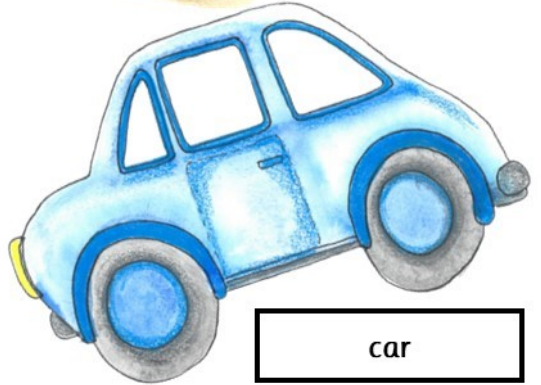


doctor/vet

apple



fish



car



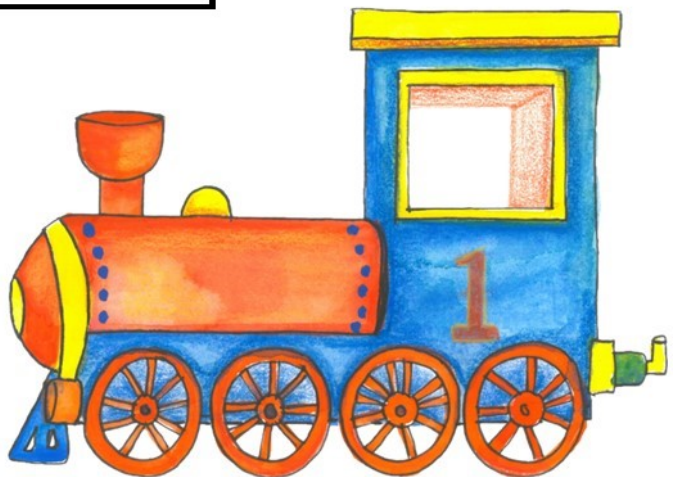
bird



lips



jumper



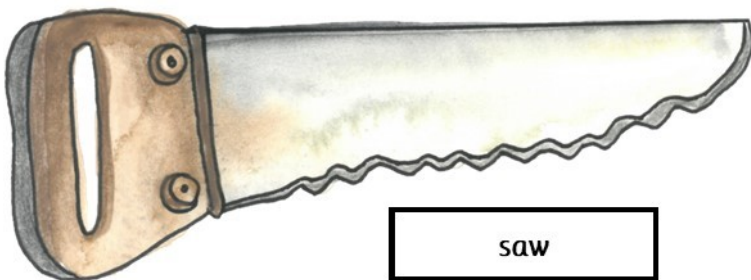
train



key



donut



saw



shorts

## Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

### John Hattie- Language or Learning

| WHAT EXPERT TEACHERS DO                                                                    | SO THAT PUPILS                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear learning intentions</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand learning intentions</li> </ul>         |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenging success criteria</li> </ul>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenged by success criteria</li> </ul>         |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Range of learning strategies</li> </ul>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a range of learning strategies</li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know when students are not progressing</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Know when they are not progressing</li> </ul>     |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing feedback</li> </ul>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seek feedback</li> </ul>                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibly learns themselves</li> </ul>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibly teach themselves</li> </ul>               |

Language of Learning – Horrie & Lorraine 2016




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## The Importance of Home Talk

In July 2019, the Herald Sun published an article surveying 1000 adults and the results were appalling.

Almost half of them struggle to find things to talk about with their family; 80% sit in silence; And 92% say devices and screens stop them from having proper conversations.

However, 95% want this to change and would prefer meals where they can laugh, connect, tell stories and share food.

ALL parents surveyed said that they would like a tool like conversation cards to help improve communication.

*Chatty family dinners are at risk of extinction as work and technology takes over. Sue O'Brien Herald Sun*

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## Writing without talking

In a moment you are going to write about a family memory that makes you smile.

Don't forget how important your grammar and punctuation to ensure your story is clear.

Use emotive language to help the reader feel why the memory makes you smile.

You should aim for about ½ a page of writing- so add detail and description.

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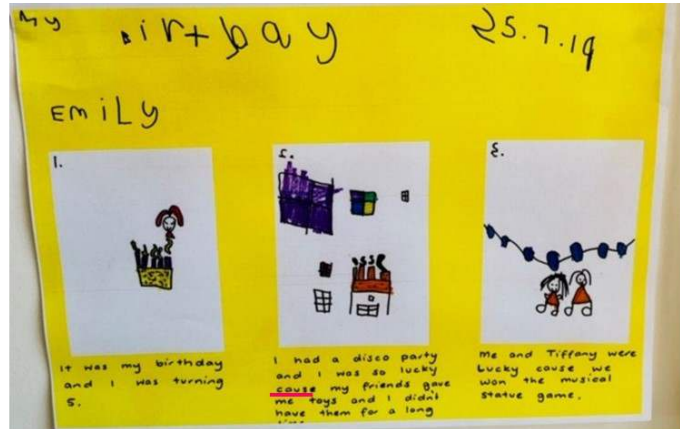
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## Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes



Correcting speech helps with grammar, reading, writing and spelling. (cause)

Highlighting verbal success to allow transfer to occur easily.



She wanted friends because she wanted to put them in her evil potion. She made an evil sound to hypnotise them.

## Think Quick- 3 By Me



Available as a card pack, or as an app.



In pairs, nominate someone to be person A and the other person is B.

I will read out a category card and Person A will have 5 seconds to try and come up with 3 answers. Put your hands on your heads as soon as you have finished.

**Example: A part of a building**  
**Answer: Door, Wall, Window**

Then I will read a new card for Person B to answer. And so on.

I will ring a bell in between when 5 seconds is up.

[www.facebook.com/bluejayeducation](http://www.facebook.com/bluejayeducation)

## Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

### Share a Memory

Close your eyes and picture your family.

Think about a time recently where they made you smile or laugh.

Where were you? Who else was there?

What happened?

Turn to the person next to you and take turns sharing your family memory.

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### Tips for Home Talk

**Students are more relaxed and prepared when they have had a chance to discuss their thoughts and ideas. They can achieve more and teachers can see a clear difference in their between those who has completed home talk and who hasn't.**

Talk in your first language for word and communication strength. We have some fabulous parents helping to convey topics into first languages to support each other.

With your child, pick some strong words or phrases for them to write in English and look up their meaning. They can try and use these in their Big Writes if they fit.

Watch the Andrell tip videos to see how quick and easy it can be. But make it enjoyable, not a chore.

Encourage as much independence as possible. It's not about completing a first draft at home. It's about discussing ideas, and understanding that ideas can change or morph as we begin to write.

Home talk tip videos for parents on the Andrell website at the bottom of the tips and pics page - <https://www.andrell.education.com.au/tips-and-pics.html/>

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### Posh Talk

I challenge you to introduce Frightfully Posh Friday, or Terribly Posh Tuesday to practise; conversations skills, speaking in full sentences, clarity of speech, listening and responding skills, improv drama...and a some manners practise never goes a stray.

Designate a specific 10 min block for Posh Talk. Use conversation cards or questions to help start the talk.



### Posh Time Talk

**Rules: Everyone has a chance to answer. No talking when someone else is answering. There are no wrong answers. Have fun!**

- What do you like to dream about?
- What is your best memory this school year?
- Who is your hero? Why?
- How would you describe your family?
- If you could change anything about yourself, what would it be?
- What are you most proud of yourself for?
- Who is the kindest person you know? Why?
- What do you like most about your best friend?
- What is one thing you would like to learn to do well?
- If you were an animal what one would you be and why?
- When is the last time someone hurt your feelings? How did you react?
- Do you know someone who is going through a hard time? How can you help them?
- What is the scariest thing that happened this year?
- If you could keep only one thing, out of everything you have, what would it be?
- Who do you think is really successful? Why?
- What's the best thing about your teacher this year?
- When do you feel misunderstood by grown-ups?
- What three words best describe you?
- What's something that makes you angry?
- What's the best compliment you ever received?

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## Big Write & VCOP PowerPoint Notes

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Who is the kindest person you know? Why?

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Do you know someone who is going through a hard time? How can you help them?

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If you could keep only one thing, out of everything you have, what would it be?

Who do you think is really successful? Why?

What's the best thing about your teacher this year?

When do you feel misunderstood by grown-ups?

What three words best describe you?

What's something that makes you angry?

What's the best compliment you ever received?

### Pull up a chair!

I have included a selection of conversation cards from the internet - ones I really liked. But not all of them are appropriate, they are ideas. Some of them are, or include templates.

- Create your own set as a class for students to take home.
- Send one home via electronic communications asking parents to ask their child, once or twice a week.
- Set it as a home talk task that they come back to school to share.
- Use them to create a class set for Posh Talk time.
- Invite parents/grandparents in for a High Tea and Posh talk.



# Pull Up A Chair

Conversation cards to encourage oral language development.

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## Pull Up A Chair

CONVERSATION CARDS

Do you have a talent  
not many people  
know about?

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## Pull Up A Chair

CONVERSATION CARDS

What are you most  
proud of this year?

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## Pull Up A Chair

CONVERSATION CARDS

What do you like to  
dream about?

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## *Pull Up A Chair*

CONVERSATION CARDS

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