

Innovating with the Multimodalities-Entextualization Cycle in Language Across the Curriculum (LAC) to Improve ESL Junior Secondary Students' English Literacy

Materials tried out in teachers' lessons:

**Using Urban Space Wisely:
An LAC Collaboration [Teacher Version]**

The following materials are designed by

Dr Yiqi Liu

Assistant Professor, Department of English Language Education, The Education University of Hong Kong

Miss Yi Cui

Senior Research Assistant, Department of English Language Education, The Education University of Hong Kong
and

Ms. Kit Ying Li

NLSI Lui Kwok Pat Fong College

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Unit Overview

Target Level	Form 1
Topic	Using urban space wisely
Suggestions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The structure of comparison-contrast texts (Orientation[^]Comparison by subject or by dimension) and Cause-Effect texts (Orientation[^]Cause[^]Effect) should be highlighted when teaching the texts; - A mind map or a table should be used for students to brainstorm and organize their ideas for the 'reading to writing' task (Task 3/Task 6); - Some IT suggestions are given alongside the tasks for online teaching contexts.
Learning Objectives	<p>Content: Students can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) tell the differences between rural and urban areas in three dimensions: the number of people, how land is used, and economic activities (2) tell examples of land use conflict (3) explain causes and problems of residential areas near industrial areas in Hong Kong Language: Students can: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Identify the structure of compare-contrast texts (2) Write compare-contrast texts in stages of Orientation[^] Comparisons in different dimensions[^] Conclusion (optional) (3) use the following language of compare and contrast: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) comparative & superlative adjectives (b) phrases or sentence patterns indicating comparison (e.g. on the contrary) (4) use the following language of cause and effect <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To-infinitive phrases to tell purpose (b) Causal connectives </p>

Content

Part 1: What are the differences between rural and urban areas?

Task 1 (Pre-reading) Identification of urban areas and rural areas

Task 2 (Reading) Differences between urban areas and rural areas

Language Support 1 Structure of compare and contrast texts

Language Support 2 language of compare and contrast texts

Task 3 (Writing) Compare and contrast where you live and where your partner lives

Part 2: Causes and problems of land use conflict

Task 4 (Pre-reading) What do you consider when choosing where to live?

Task 5 (Reading) Causes and problems of residential areas located near industrial areas

Language Support 3 Structure of cause and effect texts

Language Support 4 language of cause and effect texts

Task 6 (writing) Causes and effects of COVID 19

Part 3: My vocabulary bank and learning record

Task 7 Finding useful expressions for “using urban space wisely”

Task 8 My choice of the most useful words and expressions

Task 9 My learning record of “using urban space wisely”

Part 1 What are the differences between rural and urban areas?

Task 1

Below are the pictures of either urban areas (城區) or rural areas (鄉郊). Put them into the correct category.

(IT Note: This task can be done with Nearpod for online teaching contexts)



Urban areas	Rural areas
a,b,c,d	e

With the pictures above, write down any words that come to your mind when you think of urban areas and rural areas. Examples have been provided. Be ready to share your answers with the class.

Urban areas	Rural Areas
Shopping malls, restaurants, city, fast, transportation, white-collar workers, industry	Farmland, nature, agriculture, animal, slow

Task 2

Read the text about the differences between urban areas and rural areas and fill in the table below.

<p>Differences between urban areas and rural areas</p> <p>(Easy version)</p> <p>Urban and rural areas are different from each other in terms of the number of people, how land is used, and economic activities.</p> <p>An urban area is a built-up area with shops, offices, factories and housing blocks. It houses many people and forms a large settlement. People earn their living by commercial, service and industrial activities. Hong Kong Island, Kowloon peninsula and new towns are the major urban areas in Hong Kong.</p> <p>On the contrary, rural areas are taken up by farmland, fish ponds, woodland and country parks. These places house fewer people and form a smaller settlement. Rural areas in Hong Kong are mainly found in the New Territories and the outlying islands.</p>	<p>words in red: subject-specific vocabulary words in blue: General academic vocabulary words in green: language of compare and contrast</p> <p>Text type: Compare and Contrast</p> <p>Orientation: identify the subjects to be compared and different dimensions for comparison</p> <p>Subject 1 in different dimensions: urban areas</p> <p>Subject 2 in different dimensions: rural areas</p>
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Different aspects	Urban areas	Rural areas
The number of people	many	fewer
How land is used	Shops, offices, factories, housing blocks	Farmland, fish ponds, woodland, country parks
Economic activities	Not available in the text	

<p>Differences between urban areas and rural areas</p> <p>(Challenging version)</p> <p>Based on the density of population, development, amenities, employment opportunities, education, etc. human settlement is majorly divided into two categories: urban areas and rural areas. Urban area refers to a human settlement where the rate of urbanisation and industrialisation is high. On the other hand, a rural settlement is one where the rate of urbanisation is quite low.</p> <p>The fundamental differences between urban and rural are discussed in the following points:</p> <p>The urban settlement includes cities and towns. On the other hand, the rural settlement includes villages and hamlets.</p> <p>Life in urban areas is fast and complicated, whereas rural life is simple and relaxed.</p> <p>There is greater isolation from nature in urban areas, due to the existence of the built environment. Conversely, rural areas are in direct contact with nature, as natural elements influence them.</p> <p>Urban people are engaged in non-agricultural work, i.e. trade, commerce or service industry. In contrast, the primary occupation of rural people is agriculture and animal husbandry.</p> <p>Population wise, urban areas are densely populated, which is based on the urbanisation, i.e. the higher the urbanisation, the higher is the population. On the contrary, the rural population is sparse, which has an inverse relationship with agriculturism.</p> <p>Urban areas are developed in a planned and systematic way, according to the process of urbanisation and industrialisation. Development in rural areas is seldom, based on the availability of natural vegetation and fauna in the region.</p> <p>When it comes to social mobilisation, urban people are highly intensive as they change their occupation or residence frequently in search of</p>	<p>words in red: subject-specific vocabulary words in blue: General academic vocabulary words in green: language of compare and contrast</p> <p>Text type: Compare and Contrast</p> <p>Orientation: identify the subjects to be compared, give the definition of the subjects and different dimensions for comparison</p> <p>Compare and Contrast in different dimensions</p> <p>Opposites expressing compare and contrast: fast and complicated <-> simple and relaxed Cities and towns <-> villages and hamlets Isolation <-> in direct contact Non-agricultural <-> agriculture Densely populated <-> sparse highly intensive <-> relatively less intensive</p> <p>Introducing a new dimension: [Dimension A] wise, When it comes to [Dimension B] Regarding [Dimension C]</p>
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<p>better opportunities. However, in rural areas occupational or territorial mobility of the people is relatively less intensive.</p> <p>Division of labour and specialisation is always present in the urban settlement at the time of job allotment. As opposed to rural areas, there is no division of labour.</p> <p>With the given discussion, it is easily understood that these two human settlements are very different, regarding the density of human structures and the residents of that area.</p>	<p>Summary</p>
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Different aspects for comparison	Urban areas	Rural areas
Definition	a human settlement where the rate of urbanisation and industrialisation is high	a human settlement where the rate of urbanisation is low
Includes	Cities and towns	Villages and hamlet
Life	Fast and complicated	Simple and relaxed
Environment	Greater isolation from nature	Direct contact with nature
Associated with	Non-agricultural work, i.e. trade, commerce or provision of services	Agriculture and livestock
Populated size	Densely populated	Sparsely populated
Development	Planned and systematic, according to the process of urbanization and industrialization.	Developed randomly, based on availability of natural vegetation and fauna in the area.
Social mobility	Highly intensive	Less intensive
Division of labor	Always present at the time of job allotment	No such division

(The above table can be provided for students. Or leave some blanks for students to fill in.)

Language Support I – Structure of Compare and Contrast Texts			
There are two common ways to structure compare and contrast texts.			
	Structure 1	Structure 2	
Stage 1	Introduction / Orientation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce the background - State what to compare - Introduce in what dimensions to compare 		
Stage 2	Comparison by subject <p>Subject 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dimension 1 - Dimension 2 - Dimension 3 <p>Subject 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dimension 1 - Dimension 2 - Dimension 3 	Comparison by dimension <p>Dimension 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subject 1 - Subject 2 <p>Dimension 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subject 1 - Subject 2 <p>Dimension 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subject 1 - Subject 2 	
Stage 3	Conclusion		
Now go back to the two texts in Task 2, can you tell which structure is adopted by which text? (Only available for those who have read the two texts)			
	Text 1 (Easy version)	Text 2 (Challenging version)	

Language Support II – Language of Compare and Contrast	
Reading the texts in Task 2, you may have noticed that there are different ways to express comparison. Locate them in the texts and then fill in the table below	
Connectives indicating comparison	
Smiliaries	Differences
Both, similarly	But, <u>however</u> , <u>whereas</u> , while, although, <u>conversely</u>

Phrases or Sentence Patterns indicating comparison	
Smilaries	Differences
similar to, (un)like, the same	on one way... <u>on the other (hand)</u> , <u>in contrast</u> , <u>on the contrary</u> , instead of/in lieu of, <u>different from</u> , compared with, <u>as opposed to</u>
Comparative & superlative adjectives	
-er/-est, more/less..., the most, the least (Examples in the text: <u>fewer</u> , <u>smaller</u> , <u>less intensive</u>)	
Other lexical resources	
Smilaries	Differences
Synonyms (近義詞)	Antonyms (反義詞)
Introducing a new dimension	
<p>[A] wise, in terms of [B], when it comes to [C], regarding [D] In relation to [E], with reference to [F], as for [G], speaking of [H]</p>	
Note* Don't overuse them. You can simply start a new dimension with the noun (e.g. Life in urban areas is fast and complicated, whereas ...).	

Task 3

Now that you have learned about how to structure a compare and contrast text and the language features of a compare and contrast text, it is time to write a compare and contrast text yourself. Write about differences and similarities between where you live and where your partner lives.

Fill in the table below to get a rough idea of what you want to include in your writing. The information about your friend, Linda

- Fill in boxes about 'your place' based on your own situation
- Interview your partner about his/her place to fill in boxes about his/her place.

Dimensions to compare	My Place	Linda's place
Assigned by the government or not?		Assigned by the government

Rent		3000 HKD
Flat Size		400 square feet
Near Schools/Workplaces		Near schools
Transportation		Near the MTR station
Living environment		Near the industrial area
Facilities (e.g. club house, gym)		No facilities within the walking distance
Near relatives or friends		Near relatives and friends

Now, choose the structure of your writing and circle it:

Structure 1 Comparison by subject	Structure 2 Comparison by dimension
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Next, complete the writing including stages of a comparison-contrast text and with proper language features:

Orientation		-Simple present: <u>My apartment is located in the busiest area.</u>
Comparison		-Relative clause to define: <u>a public park is a park that is open to the public and usually free.</u>

Sum mary		-est; more; less
		- Phrases telling comparison: <u>On the contrary</u> , <u>instead of</u> , <u>different from</u> , <u>as...as...</u>

Sample writing:
There are both similarities and differences between where I live and where my friend, Linda, lives.
Both of us live in public estates assigned by the government. My apartment is slightly bigger than Linda's, but both of our apartments have three rooms, and thus there is no big difference in the rents.
In terms of the distance between our places to our school, Linda lives nearer to our school and she walks to school, whereas I have to take the MTR to school everyday.
Transportation wise, both of our places are convenient. It is within walking distance from where we live to the respective closest MTR stations.
The living environment around my place is nice, surrounded by many trees and near a built lake. The public swimming pool is next to my door. However, according to Linda, endless buildings are the only things she can see through her window, and there is no facility in her neighborhood.
The only thing that makes me jealous about Linda's place is that her relatives and many of our friends also live nearby. I wish I could also live closer to my relatives and friends so that we can hang out together easily!

Part 2: Causes and problems of land use conflict

Task 4

(IT Note: This task can be done with Nearpod for online teaching contexts)

People consider many factors when choosing where to live. The following table shows some factors. Which are your top 3 factors? Mark the most important factor as '1', the second as '2' and so on. Be ready to share your answers in your group.

Low rent	
Large flat size	
Near schools/workplaces	
Nice living environment	
Good facilities, e.g. club house, gym	

Near relatives or friends	
Assigned by the government	
Others: e.g. _____	



In your group, are there any common factors? Discuss why? Be ready to share with the class.

Task 5

There are many examples of land use conflict. Residential areas located near industrial areas is one of them. Let's read a text to learn about the causes and problems of it and fill in the table below.

<p>Cause and problems of residential areas near industrial areas</p>	<p>words in red: subject-specific vocabulary words in blue: General academic vocabulary words in green: language of cause and effect words in yellow: linking words</p>
<p>[1] When one type of land use has a bad effect on the land users in nearby</p>	<p>Text type: Cause and effect Orientation</p>

<p>areas, it creates a land use conflict. Having an industrial area close to a residential area is an example of land use conflict.</p> <p>[2] In the past, industries in Hong Kong needed a lot of workers. It was easier to find workers if factories were located near residential areas. Also, urban planning was not as good as it is now. Therefore in some places in old urban areas, residential units and factories are close together.</p> <p>[3] It is mostly the low-income residential areas that are near industrial areas. People prefer to live in places with a good environment and away from industrial areas. Rents in these places will be high as a result of competition to live here, which can only be afforded by high-income residents. This leaves low-income residents no choice but to live near industrial areas.</p> <p>[4] Many problems may occur if a residential area and an industrial area are close together. Environmental concerns will begin to surface as chemicals and other such by-products stream into bodies of water, affect the quality of air, and/or cause significant damage to soil. There is also a high risk of fire. Another form of pollution which may threaten the locality is noise due to the constant operation of heavy machinery and the volume of workers congregated in the surrounding area. What's more, many lorries often cause traffic congestion when transporting goods to factories.</p> <p>[5] In the end, governments must take serious consideration before planning to build factories next to residential areas. Economically, they add value to a region. However, their environmental impact undoubtedly can create long-term problems that will affect a community's life and longevity.</p>	<p>Define the topic</p> <p>Cause of residential areas near industrial areas 'Also': introducing another cause</p> <p>Cause of low-income residential areas near industrial areas 'which' refers to 'rents in these places' As a result of [Cause]</p> <p>Problems of residential areas near industrial areas -As [cause] -Relative clause led by 'which' to elaborate on the 'effect' - 'Also', 'another', 'what's more': introducing a new effect</p> <p>Suggestions</p>
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Paragraph No.	Stage	Content	
1	Orientation	Definition of land use conflict One example of land use conflict --- Residential areas near industrial areas	
2		Residential areas near industrial areas in Hong	-Great demand of workers in the past -Easier to find workers if factories were located near residential areas

		Kong	Urban planning was not as good as it is now
3	Causes of	<u>Low-income</u> residential areas near industrial areas	<p>People prefer to live in places with a good environment</p> <p>Rents in these places will be high</p> <p>Only high-income residents can pay the high rents and live in good places.</p> <p>Low-income residents live near industrial areas</p>
4	Problems of	Residential areas near industrial areas in Hong Kong	<p>Polluting the bodies of water</p> <p>Affecting the quality of air</p> <p>Damage to soil</p> <p>A high risk of fire</p> <p>Traffic congestion</p>
5	Conclusion	Careful consideration about residential areas near industrial areas is needed	

(The above table can be provided for students. Or leave some blanks for students to fill in.)

Language Support III – Structure of Cause and Effect Texts

There are two common ways to structure cause and effect texts.

	Structure 1	Structure 2
Stage 1	<p>Introduction / Orientation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce the background - State the topic - 	
Stage 2	<p>Causes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cause 1 - Cause 2 - Cause 3 <p>Effects</p>	<p>If one cause corresponds to multiple effects, use this:</p> <p>Cause 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effect 1 - Effect 2 - Effect 3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effect 1 - Effect 2 - Effect 3 	<p>Cause 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effect 1 - Effect 2 - Effect 3 <p>If one effect corresponds to multiple causes, use this:</p> <p>Effect 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cause 1 - Cause 2 - Cause 3 <p>Effect 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cause 1 - Cause 2 - Cause 3
Stage 3	Conclusion	

Language Support IV – Language of Cause and Effect Texts

Cause and effect can be expressed through:

- nouns – cause of/reason for/source of
- verbs – to cause/lead to/result in/affect
- prepositional phrases – because of/due to/on account of/as a result of/owing to/in view of
- linking words – because, thus, therefore, so, consequently, as a result, as a consequence.

Expressing cause	Expressing effect
because owing to the fact that due to the fact that given the fact that for this reason on the grounds that since, as, In view of, Because of Seeing that...	Thus Therefore so consequently as a result as a consequence

Task 6

It has been more than a year since COVID19 emerged. Our lives have been greatly changed.

Let's write about possible causes and effects of COVID 19 to our lives. Firstly, think about what you want to include in your writing.

Stage	Content	
Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is COVID19? 	
	Cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Origin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coronavirus are common in certain species of animals; - The earliest cases can be traced back to the seafood market in Wuhan - Spread <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - through close contact with someone who has the infection - through touching surfaces or objects where droplets containing the virus land on
Causes and effects	Effect at individual level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wear facial masks and wash hands frequently - Practice physical distancing / Avoid gathering - Go through compulsory quarantine / tests - Work from home
	Effect at community level (Optional, for more able students)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suspension of work, school, and other production activities - Reduce of international trades - Economic growth being slowed down - Unemployment rate increased - Boost of medicine industry

Next, complete your writing including stages of an information report and proper language features:

Orientation		Simple present for general facts: <u>People get infected by touching objects with live virus.</u>
Cause and effect		Simple past for facts in the past: <u>A few people in Wuhan were</u>

		<i>among the first to be identified with Covid.</i>
		-Relative clause to define or to elaborate points: <i>Be careful when you visit places that have high population density.</i>
		-Passive voice to provide impersonal, factual information: <i>Those who were tested positive should stay away from the public.</i>
		-nouns/verbs/prepositional phrases to express causes and effects: <i>leading to, result in, due to the fact that...</i>

Sample writing:

It has been more than a year since COVID19 emerged, and people are constantly updating their knowledge of it. The known causes and effects of it are discussed below.

Coronaviruses are common in certain species of animals. Although the transmission of coronaviruses from animals to humans is rare, this new strain likely came from bats. However, it remains unclear exactly how the virus first spread to humans. Some reports trace the earliest cases back to a seafood and animal market in Wuhan where the outbreak originated.

COVID19 spreads from person to person through close communities. The most common way that this illness spreads is through close contact with someone who has the infection. Another way is through touching surfaces or objects where droplets containing the virus land on. Infection is likely if the person then touches their nose, eyes, or mouth.

The spread of COVID19 has made a significant impact to people's lives at both individual level and society level.

In terms of the individual level, people are required to take precautionary measures, including wearing facial masks and washing their hands frequently, practicing physical distancing in public, changing their workplaces to home, and going through compulsory quarantine.

At the community level, economic growth is slowed down due to the suspension of production activities and the decrease of both intra-national and international trades. This is reflected in the increased employment rate. Medicine industry is one of the few that is experiencing significant growth in this tough period, with the urgent need of vaccines and intervention measures around the world.

Part 3: My vocabulary bank and learning record

In this part, you will revise the topic vocabulary and assess your learning.

Task 7 My Vocabulary Bank



My Vocabulary Bank

Do you want to write better answers to questions in geography?

Good writing comes from well-written paragraphs and sentences, and well-written paragraphs and sentences are built with proper English vocabulary. Generally, English vocabulary can be sorted into three groups: **subject-specific** (專科的) **vocabulary**, **general academic vocabulary**, and **logical connectors** (linking words).

- **Subject-specific vocabulary:** key concepts specific to a subject, namely Life and Society or Integrated Humanities.
- **General academic vocabulary:** Words that are used more often in written texts rather than informal conversations. They help us express ideas more precisely.
- **Logical connectors (linking words):** conjunctions and phrases that connect ideas.

Differences between urban areas and rural areas

Subject-specific vocabulary	General academic vocabulary	Linking words
urban areas (n. ph.) rural areas (n. ph.) urbanisation (n.) industrialization (n.)	density of population (n. ph.) development (n.) amenities (n.) employment opportunities (n. ph.)	Expressing Contrast: On the other hand

natural vegetation (n. ph.) fauna (n.) social mobilization (n. ph.)	human settlement (n. ph.) fundamental (adj.) complicated (adj.) isolation (n.) existence (n.) built environment (n. ph.) in direct contact with (prep. ph.) elements (n.) be engaged in ... (v. ph.) non-agricultural (adj.) trade (n.) commerce (n.) service industry (n. ph.) primary occupation (n. ph.) animal husbandry (n. ph.) densely populated (adj.) sparse (adj.) inverse (adj.) agriculturalism (n.) systematic region (n.) intensive (adj.) occupation (n.) residence (n.) frequently (adv.) occupational (adj.) territorial mobility (n. ph.) division of labour (n. ph.) specialisation (n.) job allotment (n. ph.)	whereas conversely on the contrary In contrast However As opposed to
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Causes and problems of land use conflict		
Subject-specific vocabulary	General academic vocabulary	Linking words
residential areas (n. ph.) industrial areas (n. ph.) land use conflict (n. ph.) urban planning (n. ph.) low-income residential areas (n. ph.) high-income residents (n. ph.)	residential units (n. ph.) Mostly (adv.) Environmental concerns (n. ph.) surface (v.) Chemicals (n.) By-products (n.) stream into (v. ph.) significant damage (n. ph.) Threaten (v.) Locality (n.) constant operation (n. ph.) heavy machinery (n. ph.) Volume (n.) Congregated (v.) surrounding area (n. ph.) traffic congestion (n. ph.)	Expressing comparison As ... as ... Expressing contrast However Expressing cause As.. As the result of ... Expressing effect Therefore

	Consideration (n.) Economically (adv.) add value to (v. ph.) Region (n.) environmental impact (n. ph.) Undoubtedly (adv.) long-term problems (n. ph.) Longevity (n.)	Expressing additional points What's more Also Giving a conclusion In the end
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Task 8. My choice of the most useful words and expressions

In the space below, write:

- FIVE top most useful subject-specific words,
- FIVE general academic words, and
- THREE linking words you have learnt in this unit.

Compare your choice with your neighbouring classmate; see if there are similarities and differences and discuss.

Subject-specific words	General academic words	Linking words

Task 9. My learning record

Put a tick (✓) if you think you can manage the item in this unit.

Do I know ...



	Item:	Yes (✓) / No (X)
1.	Differences between urban and rural areas	
2.	Causes and problems of residential areas located near industrial areas	
3.	the structure (結構) of a compare and contrast text	
4.	the structure (結構) of a cause and effect text	
5.	how to use language of compare and contrast	

6	how to use language of cause and effect	
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