

Teaching Cognitive Verbs

Boosts Complement Clause Input

Teaching Cognitive Verbs as Vocabulary Words Implicitly Increases Complement Clause Use by Head Start Teachers

Action Verbs

Simple Bias

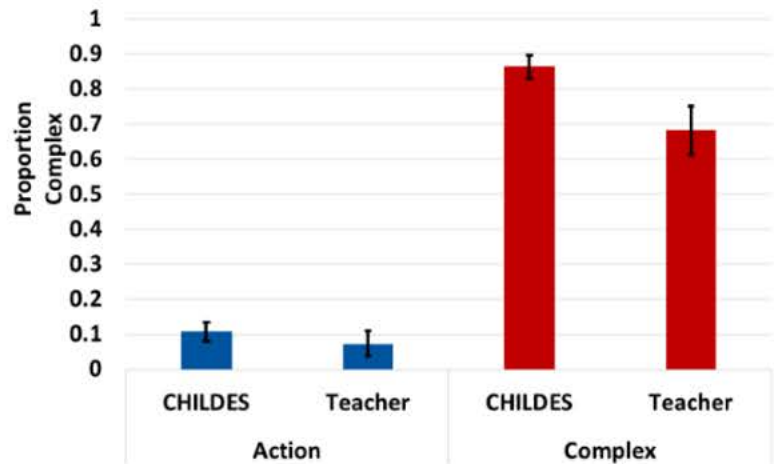
Verb	Log Freq
Identify	0.6
Observe	1
Forgive	1.04
Describe	1.11
Compare	1.34
Measure	1.71
Practice	1.82
Record	2.7
Feel	3.02
Write	3.13

Cognitive Verbs

Complex Bias

Verb	Log Freq
Predict	0
Attempt	0.6
Intend	1.04
Assume	1.15
Allow	2.16
Decide	2.27
Wish	2.33
Pretend	2.47
Wonder	2.65
Try	3.4

Proportion of times each verb is used in a complex sentence in classroom interactions



Owen Van Horne, Curran, & Hall, 2017, CLTT

Verb Bias is when a verb TENDS TO show up often in one syntactic frame.

Think	Smell	Say
Remember	Taste	Tell
Forget	Discover	Ask
Know	Notice	Explain
Pretend	Want	Describe
Imagine	Wish	Persuade
Wonder	Hope	Announce
Understand	Need	Inform
See	Prefer	Decide
Hear	Suggest	Predict

Verbs of cognition, desire, perception & communication are **BIASED** to show up with complement clauses.

Teachers were asked to teach the word... Sample materials for 'try'

- **Definition** - To work hard at something even if you aren't able to do something
- **Book** - *Excuse me, I'm **Trying** to Read*, by Mary Jo Amani
- **Large Group** - **Try to do this!** Kids **try** to perform gross motor actions without falling off a line on the floor.
- **Small Group** - **Cotton ball Tong Craft**- Craft where children **try** to pick up cotton balls with tongs to place on glue
- **Independent** - **Memory game** - **Try** to find a match

