THE
CALLA ™
HANDBOOK

Implementing the Cognitive Academic Language Learning Approach

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Table 3.1
Academic Language Functions

Academic Language Function	Student Uses Language to:	Examples
1. Seek Information	observe and explore the environment; acquire information; inquire	Use *who, what, when, where,* and *how* to gather information
2. Inform	identify, report, or describe information	Recount information presented by teacher or text, retell a story or personal experience
3. Compare	describe similarities and differences in objects or ideas	Make/explain a graphic organizer to show similarities and contrasts
4. Order	sequence objects, ideas, or events	Describe/make a timeline, continuum, cycle, or narrative sequence
5. Classify	group objects or ideas according to their characteristics	Describe organizing principle(s), explain why A is an example and B is not
6. Analyze	separate whole into parts; identify relationships and patterns	Describe parts, features, or main idea of information presented by teacher or text
7. Infer	make inferences; predict implications; hypothesize	Describe reasoning process (inductive or deductive) or generate hypothesis to suggest causes or outcomes
8. Justify and Persuade	give reasons for an action, decision, point of view; convince others	Tell why A is important and give evidence in support of a position
9. Solve Problems	define and represent a problem; determine solution	Describe problem-solving procedures; apply to real life problems and describe
10. Synthesize	combine or integrate ideas to form a new whole	Summarize information cohesively; incorporate new information into prior knowledge
11. Evaluate	assess and verify the worth of an object, idea, or decision	Identify criteria, explain priorities, indicate reasons for judgement, confirm truth