

LIST-GROUP-LABEL VOCABULARY STRATEGY

BUD, NOT BUDDY

PART I

PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY

When used at the beginning of this particular novel unit, this activity can help to activate student schema by providing an opportunity for students to share their knowledge about The Great Depression, the era during which Bud, Not Buddy is set. This strategy will help students to organize their thoughts as well as teach each other new vocabulary that is essential for an understanding of the historical setting of the novel.

DIRECTIONS

1. **ACTIVATE SCHEMA** – Show students some nonfiction books about The Great Depression. You can either pass them around or set up a display and introduce the texts individually. These should prompt students to make some associations about this era.
2. **TOPIC** – Write “The Great Depression” on the board or on an overhead. Ask students to think of all words they can think of that are associated with the topic.
3. **LIST** – Students will each write 3 words on post-it notes to place on the blackboard (or overhead screen). The words must relate somehow to the topic, “The Great Depression.” No duplicate words may be placed up on the board.
Example: President Hoover, soup kitchens, Dust Bowl, Grapes of Wrath, Hooverville, shanty towns, migration, CCC, President Roosevelt
4. **GROUP** – Categorize all the vocabulary words that are up on the board by having students determine the groupings and explain where to place the word. For example, the words “jazz” and “rhythm” might go in a “music group.” Discuss with the students the possible reasons for placing words into particular groups. They must be able to analyze and support their groupings. Once the groups are decided upon, box the categories on the board.

Example:

LIVING

Hooverville
Shanty towns
Soup kitchens

MIDWEST

Dust Bowl
Grapes of Wrath
Migration

GOVERNMENT

President Hoover
President Roosevelt
CCC

5. **LABEL** – To refine the categorization skills of students, assign labels as a class to the various categories that have been developed. This completes the activity. (In the above example, the labels are underlined).

