


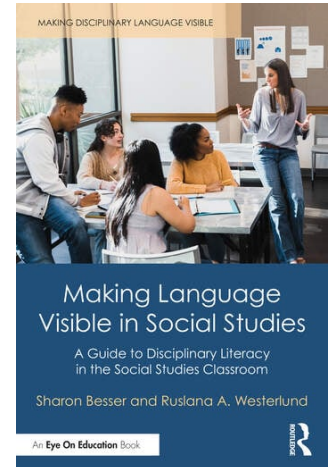


Dr. Ruslana Westerlund's Resources for Teaching with a Functional Approach (as of 11.24.2025)

 [Making Language Visible in a Social Studies Classroom](#) (Video Recordings of the Book Chapters "What this chapter is about")

 [Making Language Visible in Social Studies \(Book\)](#) Although the book focuses on Social Studies, the ideas and language features extend naturally into ELA because they center on how students use language to explain, reason, and build knowledge. The emphasis on causal language in explanations and the language of argumentation supports literacy development across all content areas.

 **START HERE** [How to Create Language Goals with the WIDA Standards](#)



1. Expanding Ideas through Noun Groups

 [Read-Alouds With a Functional Approach](#)

 [Unlocking Noun Groups: Packing Meaning in One Phrase](#)

 [Teaching Students Definitions in the Context of Text](#)

2. Saying Verbs in Realistic Fiction






 [What I Want to Say About "Saying" Verbs](#)

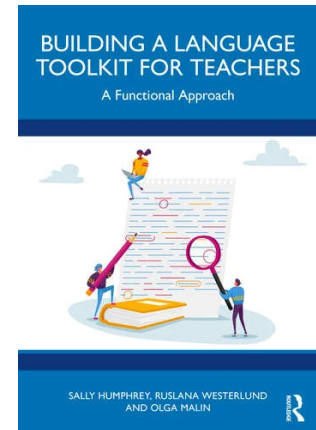
3. Causal Verbs in Science

 [Moving Beyond Because and So: The Language of Causality](#)



 [Choosing a Language Focus: Passive Voice in Sequential Explanations](#)

4. Creating Flow in Texts







-  [Cohesion: the glue that holds the text together](#)
-  [Using Connectives to Argue with Clarity](#)
-  [Teaching Students how to Stay on Topic](#)
-  [Sequencing without Sequencing Words](#)
-  [Condensing Meanings Through Nominalization](#)



5. Understanding Perspective, Stance & Voice

-  [Finding the Language of Perspective in Children's Books](#)
-  [Opening and Closing Doors for Other Voices: Teaching the Language of Rebuttals](#)

7. Understanding Discourse Level

-  [Moving Beyond the Sentence Level](#)
-  [Condensing Meanings Through Nominalization](#)
-  [Turning Language Charts from an Assessment to an Instructional Tool](#)
-  [The Genres of Aurora Borealis](#)
-  [Teaching Students how to Stay on Topic](#)
-  [Slaves or Workers: Teaching Students How to Read Critically](#)

8. Integrating Language + Writing Across Content Areas

-  [Teaching Writing in the Content Areas: Research and Practice](#)

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