



Texas Wesleyan UNIVERSITY

EDU 6356: Applied Linguistics

Countdown Paper Guidelines and Rubric

Overview:

Approach these countdown activities as (a) an opportunity to reflect upon and apply what you learn each week based on the assigned readings in *Essential Linguistics: What Teachers Need to Know to Teach ESL, Reading, Spelling and Grammar*, (b) an opportunity to reflect and apply the content of the module, and (c) an opportunity to connect what you have learned to your teaching and learning. These countdown papers in this course are graded separately and will be private between you and your instructor.

Module 1: The objective of this assignment is to help you synthesize the information about the study of language and first language acquisition. You will submit a countdown paper for *Essential Linguistics: What Teachers Need to know to Teach ESL, Reading, Spelling and Grammar*, Chapters 1 and 2.

Module 2: The objective of this assignment is to help you synthesize the information about second and written language acquisition. You will submit a countdown paper for *Essential Linguistics: What Teachers Need to Know to Teach ESL, Reading, Spelling and Grammar*, Chapter 3.

Prompt:

Arrange your response in the sequence below with the required sections / subheadings and the content points noted. You will follow this same format for all of the Countdown Papers in this course.

5 Terms: Identifies 5 terms or vocabulary from the textbook that are important, essential, and/or new to you. Define each of the terms and put them in context.

4 Passages: Identify 4 passages or sections from the textbook that you feel are important. Provide the quote each of the 4 passages or section and explain using your own words what the passage or section means. Remember to reference page number for each passage.

3 Main Ideas: In 3-5 sentences explain 3 key concepts or main ideas from the textbook.



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2 Critiques: Explain 2 things that you either agree with or disagree with and justify your response. (Please note you can have 2 agreements or 2 disagreements or 1 of each.)

1 Connection: Explain 1 connection that you have with the content. The connection can be to a resource in this module, something you have read outside of this course, or your own experience in teaching and learning.

Rubric

Guidelines for Submission: Your journal entry must be submitted as a 1-2 page Microsoft Word document with double spacing, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins, and at least one source cited in APA format.

Instructor Feedback: This activity uses an integrated rubric in Blackboard. Students can view instructor feedback in the Grade Center.

Critical Elements	Exemplary (100%)	Proficient (85%)	Needs Improvement (55%)	Not Evident (0%)	Value
Terms	Identifies and defines terms with sophisticated awareness.	Identifies and defines terms.	Identifies and defines terms but response is lacking in clarity, accuracy and/or detail.	Does not identify or define terms.	18
Passages	Explains passages or sections with sophisticated awareness.	Explains passages or sections.	Explains passages or sections but response is lacking in clarity, accuracy and/or detail.	Does not explain passages or sections.	18
Main Ideas	Explains key concepts/ideas with rich, relevant details and examples.	Explains key concepts/ideas with some relevant details and examples.	Explains key concepts/ideas but response is lacking in clarity, accuracy and/or detail.	Does not explain key concepts/ideas.	18



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Critiques	Explains critiques of the reading and justifies response with sophisticated awareness.	Explains critiques of the reading and justifies response.	Explains critiques of the reading and justifies response but response is lacking in clarity, accuracy and/or detail.	Does not explain or justify critiques.	18
Connection	Explains a connection with the content with sophisticated awareness.	Explains a connection with the content.	Explains a connection with the content but response is lacking in clarity, accuracy and/or detail.	Does not explain a connection with the content.	18
Articulation of Response	Submission is free of errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, and organization and is presented in a professional and easy to-read format.	Submission has no major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization.	Submission has major errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that negatively impact readability and articulation of main ideas.	Submission has critical errors related to citations, grammar, spelling, syntax, or organization that prevent understanding of ideas.	10
Comments:					Total
					100 %