Final Word Discussion Protocol

This protocol is designed to help participants understand the meaning of a text, and particularly to see how meaning can be constructed and supported by the ideas of others. This protocol is especially helpful when people struggle to understand their reading.

Roles: Timekeeper, Facilitator, Rotating presenters

The Steps:

1. Preview the 3 research articles: “Flooding Vocabulary Gaps,” “Why Teach Vocabulary,” and “A Review of Current Research on Vocabulary Instruction.” Divide them up as evenly as possible amongst research team members, keeping in mind reading pace preferences of the team.
2. Silently read and text-code your article(s) looking for **3 Very Important Points** (VIPs) to share with the team and defining/describing any of our key vocabulary on the **Vocabulary Terms Organizer** that you come across in the reading. Mark passages for discussion clearly in your article(s) or place on cards so you can quickly present them and others can quickly locate them. (15 minutes)
3. The first presenter shares one VIP (if others selected the same one, they will share a different VIP when they present), quoting or paraphrasing the passage directly, and sharing his or her thinking about it. Also share any key vocabulary you came across in your reading. Group members add information on their **Vocabulary Terms Organizer.** (3-4 min)
4. Each participant comments on what was shared in less than 1 minute per person. (5 min)
5. Presenter gets the Last Word, sharing how his or her thinking evolved after listening to others or re-emphasizing what was originally shared. (1-2 min)

Follow steps 1-5 with each additional participant taking the role of presenter. Then briefly review the vocabulary terms clarified or deepened from your reading. (Each presenter has a total of 10 minutes for his/her sharing and discussion round.)

**Debrief The Process:**

1. Discuss how hearing from others impacted your ideas. How did your thinking change throughout the protocol? What worked in our discussion? What were some challenges? How can we improve next time (consider the norms here)? (5 min)