SFL Webinar June 4 2020

Designing an SFL informed multiliteracies pedagogy for health literacy in an initial teacher education program for the middle years

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with Nicki Brake, Therese Barrington, Rebecca Pagano, Thu Ngo



Our real agenda....

- To start a conversation about how SFL can inform research and pedagogy in health education in school contexts
- to suggest links that might be made between current SFL educational research and school based 'health literacy' (Nutbeam, 2000, 2008)
- To encourage international trans/ multi-disciplinary research collaboration around 'health multiliteracies'

Standing on the shoulders of ...

The multimodal communication of clinical and health promotion information - A report to Family Planning New South Wales

Anna Rose Crane and Theo van Leeuwen

Australian Catholic University

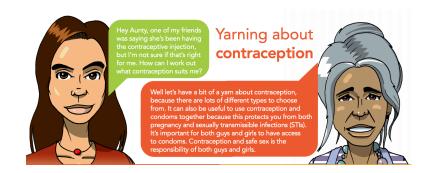
Family Planning NSW

- Focus issue/s: sexual health
- Purposes:
 - Providing information about a sexual health issue
 - Promoting services related to sexual health
- Target Audiences:
 - Under 25s,
 - Culturally and Linguistically Diverse;
 - Disabled people;
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Modes/formats: pamphlet, factsheet, videos

Setting the context for health literacy pedagogy

Digital and print promotional texts





Multimodal information texts



Foundations: SFL & discipline literacies

Supporting students to:

- move to developing genres which build uncommonsense knowledge
- distinguish the ways that meanings are technicalised and distilled to build disciplinary knowledge
- 'see' the often implicit and downplayed values systems underpinning disciplines and the language used to organize them
- Interpret and create representations which integrate multiple semiotic modalities in construing disciplinary knowledge and values

Perspectives of Discipline literacy(e.g. science)

- 1. Disciplinary practice as 'Being a scientist'
- 2. School curriculum as recontextualised science '(In school science)..the process of reproducing scientific knowledge in the school science classroom is often very different to the process of creating scientific knowledge in the laboratory or applying it in industry' (Veel 1997, p.166)

Modelling context: domains of learning (after Macken-Horarik, 1996)

Domains /genres	Field	Tenor	Mode
Everyday Observe/ comment Retell experience	Observed experience, familiar topics, simple logic	Me and You: Personal and subjective composer perspective, solidary relationships	Here and now Spontaneous, simple, close to experience
Academic store and reason about accepted knowledge & values	Disciplinary Describe: disciplinary items, properties and relations (static) Explain: implication activities (dynamic)	Objective and authoritative expert perspective distanced representation of phenomena	Organized, signaled integration of modalities to focus on topic
Reflexive Evaluate, transfer,	transfer of knowledge for	Multiple roles/ perspectives and value	Coordination of multiple

Recontextualising...

Spheres of persuasion..

- Getting people to do things for us
- Bonding around shared views and tastes

Home & friends

The marketplace Getting someone to buy a thing or service

- Debating views in public
- Getting institutions to do things for us

Community (Civic)

Classroom (academic)

Building and showing knowledge by arguing a position on a issue (eg. writing essays)

Crossing boundaries: bioethics

Exposition and narrative in bioethics (Jordens 2008; Martin, 2008)

- expository discourse the unmarked, taken-for-granted means of communicating within the scholarly community. Entails defining, interpreting and using logic to make valid inferences –processes associated with reason and philosophy. ..
- a "turn to narrative" ..Stories are a means of bonding by sharing the feelings of others without going through exactly the same experiences as they have. .. Moral argumentation is qualitatively different if it enables us to bond with others as well as win us over to another opinion with reasons and evidence

...we should understand the difference between these two ways of meaning, and the extra work that one enables in combination with the other.

Potential for 'Boundary crossing' in the Health curriculum (NSW St6)

...The Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion ...provides a framework where **enabling**, **mediating** and advocating for **health** is **acted upon** through the key strategies of:

- building healthy public policy
- strengthening community action
- creating supportive environments
- developing personal skills
- reorienting health services.

'Middle years Health curriculum (Yrs 5-6)

- Evaluate the reliability of health information from different sources before making decisions
- Research websites and places where they can seek help and prioritise those that are reliable and trustworthy
- Analyse health messages and compare interpretations
- Discuss how diversity is recognised when promoting positive health messages and information.

'Academic' writing to evaluate health information

Evaluating The 'Play Safe' Website Andy B. Year 10

The Play Safe Website is a website provided to the NSW citizens by the NSW Government to reduce the rates of sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) in Australia. Although the website has some problems, it has a number of positive features which allow young people to easily access relevant information about sexual health issues.

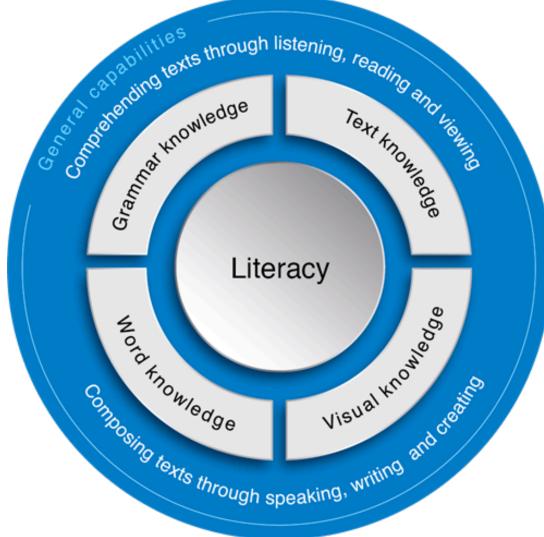
Because the "Play Safe" website is a government site, the information is more likely to be accurate and reliable. The information about common STIs is relevant to young people, particularly about Chlamydia which is the number 1 most reported STI in Australia. The simple & specific information increases the likelihood that young viewers will read and remember the key points. The website design is colourful and interactive with enough images so that people don't get bored and stop reading. The "cool" interactive approach can be seen as an attribute in promoting safe sex. For example, when entering the website, a zip comes up, which the viewer unzips to enter the website. The uncovered text says to always wear a condom. Design features like this make navigation easier for young people who may have reading difficulties.

However there are some negative aspects of the website design which affects its useability. One issue is that the search bar often comes up with blanks or information that does not relate to the questions. The search engine could be improved by adding common search terms for specific pages so that the search bar can link more questions with the right answers. A second issue is that the information provided by the website does not cover all areas that may be of interest to young people.

Overall it is evident that the "Play Safe" website addresses the issues of sexual health well. Although the website could do with a few improvements, the positive aspects outweigh the negative. Young viewers are provided with information they need to know quickly and easily. Hopefully the increased awareness and knowledge will reduce the rates of STI's in Australia.

Supporting literacy in health

1. Literacy as a general capability



2. Health literacy

Health
literacy and
the NSW
Health
syllabus

One of the five propositions of the NSW Health syllabus:

- Focus on educative purposes
- Take a strength-based approach
- Critical inquiry approach
- Develop health literacy
- Value movement

Health literacy: the global context

Individual risk

Strengthbased: community well-being

- The capacity to acquire, understand and use information in ways which promote and maintain good health
- an asset to be built, as an outcome to health education and communication that supports greater empowerment in health decisionmaking.
- Health promotion communication acknowledges and addresses social and environmental influences on lifestyle choices (Ottawa Charter)

Dimensions of Health literacy

Recontextualised from 'mainstream' literacy model (Freebody & Luke, 1990)

- Functional research and apply information relating to knowledge and services to respond to a health-related question
- Interactive develop personal skills such as problem solving, communication and decision making to 'engage with a health issue to apply new information to changing circumstances'
- Critical selectively access and critically analyse health information from a variety of sources to take action to promote health, safety, wellbeing and participation in physical activity for themselves and others

School based applications of health literacy

Inquiry-based: multiple activity types to engage students with authentic health promotion materials and real-life practices of health professionals in the community. (McCuaig & Nelson, 2012)

Challenge: Overcoming knowledge blindness (Maton, 2013)

• focus on **learner engagement** rather than the **learner faced with** distinctive curriculum learning. (Freebody, Martin, Maton 2008)

What are learners faced with?

- multimodal texts that are produced for a greater range of audiences than texts found in school curriculum contexts
- multiple ways of using these texts: e.g. interpret and extract information; assess sources of information; create promotional texts ..(ACARA..).

Augmenting inquiry-based health literacy pedagogies

Experience-based inquiry needs to be augmented by 'text-based inquiry' (Feez & Quinn, 2017)

Multiliteracies approaches (Cope & Kalantzis, 2015; Unsworth, 2001)

- integrate visible teaching practices with those of critical and creative inquiry
- emphasise the benefit of a metalanguage to enable teachers to talk with students about how and why meanings are made in multimodal text-making.

Investigating

health

multiliteracies

in the middle

Goal

To support health teachers' understandings of multimodal texts and multiple ways of using these texts for middle years health literacy

years Research team

Health education: Nicki Brake, Rebecca Pagano

English literacy/ educational semiotics:

Sally Humphrey, Therese Barrington, Thu Ngo, Tingjia Wang

Curriculum context

LEARNING EXPERIENCE (STAGES 3 & 4)

How does a healthy, safe and active lifestyle enhance connection with others? (Stage 3)

- Evaluate the reliability of health information and messages from different sources before making decisions
- Devise questions to analyse health campaigns and initiatives
- Research websites and places where they can seek help and prioritise those that are reliable and trustworthy
- Analyse health messages and compare their interpretations
- Discuss how diversity is recognised when promoting positive health messages and information.

Connecting with literacy in the middle years English curriculum

English Curriculum: Yr 6 Literacy Strand

Comprehension:

Use comprehension strategies to interpret and analyse information and ideas, comparing content from a variety of textual sources including media and digital texts (ACELY1713)

Analysing and evaluating texts

Analyse strategies authors use to influence readers (ACELY1801)

Creating texts

Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive texts, choosing and experimenting with text structures, language features, images and digital resources appropriate to purpose and audience (ACELY1714)

Use a range of software, including word processing programs, learning new functions as required to create texts (ACELY1717)

multiliteracies framework for curriculum literacies (Humphrey & Vidal Lizama in press)

The Why

- unsettling of assumptions of EL's and other learners' semiotic deficit
- awareness of effects of 'invisible' pedagogies
- •fostering of a visible pedagogy emerging from an understanding of teaching and learning as a semiotic process

The What

- context: knowledge genres for highstakes assessment
- disciplinary fields, values and attitudes
- shared metalanguage: 'top-down' perspective (from genre, through field and to discourse semantic and grammatical resources)

The How

- integrating comprehension, interpretation and composition of disciplinary knowledgebuilding
- selection of coherent curriculum genres
- integration of knowledge processes oriented to experiencing, conceptualising critical analysis and application



curriculum literacies

The what? A social semiotic metalanguage for talking about...

Health:

 health information that is aimed at assisting young people to address health issues (St 4 HPE)

English:

 content from a variety of textual sources including media and digital texts (ACELY1713)

Metalanguage as mediating tools for use in shifting and disrupting normative scenarios which marginalise many learners from successful participation in specialised discourses

building a metalanguage 'toolkit' for multimodal health literacies

A metalanguage toolkit for:

Interpreting and composing health materials in the community

Multimodal print and digital health information designed by health professionals to:

- Promote services to different target groups
- Provide information and advice to different target groups

Composing evaluative texts in the academic domain

Written essays and short answer responses to evaluate health information for school assessment

Foundational knowledge for developing a metalanguage

Multimodal Disciplinary Literacies

- builds on SFL linguistic and social semiotic research to reveal how multiple representative resources construe complex meaning in school and university disciplines
- extends the discourse-oriented metalanguage of systemic functional linguistics to make more direct links to meanings across modes

What is 'discourse-oriented' metalanguage?

Examples:

Verbal meanings in early years science reports (Hao & Humphrey, 2019)

Strata	Resources for revealing genre stages and phases
School Discipline	Science in early years: Collecting, analysing and presenting scientific data (e.g. about living things)
Genre and stages Describing and classifying scientific phenomena	 (Information) report – construct and store bodies of accepted knowledge, focus on items, properties & their relation Descriptive report: classify a phenomenon and then describe its features through stages of Classification ^ Description
Phases	Configurations of: Ideational meanings related to 'parts', 'types', 'behaviours', 'appearance' of phenomenon textual meanings to organize information as pulses of information

Strata	Verbal resources across language strata in report genres		
Scientific field	Discourse semantics	Grammatical functions & structures	
	(beyond clause)	(within clauses)	
	IDEATION	TRANSITIVITY	
technical: Scientific/ biological	 Entities: various entity types name scientific phenomena (e.g. generic, non-human) 	 Entities realised through noun groups (e.g. Classifier ^ Thing) in Participant or Circumstance role. 	
Activities	 Lexical relations between entities (e.g. whole-part; class- member) 	 Relational processes. e.g. attributive external connection realised 	
	EXTERNAL CONNECTION relationships that realise unfolding of field, comparison (e.g. whereas)	congruently through conjunction (between clauses in sentences)	

Scientific tenor	Discourse semantics (beyond clause)	Grammatical functions & structures (within clauses)
'objective' and impersonal Low affiliation Relatively large social distance	 NEGOTIATION: statements giving information APPRAISAL Attitude (types of evaluative vocabulary) Appreciation – 'objective' assessments of significance and importance etc , Graduation – quantification may flag significance and precision Engagement – monogloss (single voiced) consensus viewpoint 	 MOOD: Indicative (Subject ^ Finite) clause pattern Attitudinal lexis Inscribed Attitude values can be represented across grammatical categories Graduation can be realized across grammatical categories

Scientific	Discourse semantics	Grammatical functions &
Mode	(beyond clause)	structures (within clauses)
organized,	INTERNAL CONNECTION	THEME:
multimodal	(comparison, cause etc between	 Repeated 'topic' as choice
organization	parts of discourse e.g. In contrast	of departure of a clause
of verbal	PERIODICITY: pulse of information	(Topical Theme)
elements	organized as waves of	 Identification realized
focus on	prominence. Peaks of prominence	through pronouns and
topic under	through macroTheme,	determiners etc.
investigation	hyperTheme and Theme.	
	IDENTIFICATION: presenting &	
	tracking meanings in the	
	discourse	31



Text 1: Min's story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3 TwhTL6BjX0&feature=youtu.be

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- Modes/formats: pamphlet, factsheet, digital video

What community resources can I use to explore health promotion?





What metalanguage do I need to talk about these resources with my students?

A toolkit for:

Interpreting and composing health materials in the community

Multimodal print and digital health information designed by health professionals to:

- Promote services to different target groups
- Provide information and advice to different target groups

Behind the scenes.....

Building a multimodal metalanguage toolkit for health literacy

VERBAL METALANGUAGE TOOLKIT: COMMUNITY TEXTS

TEXTS	Promotional posters, brochures, videos	Information 'factsheets', pamphlets, videos
VERBAL LANGUAGE & CONTEXT	 How is the text structured to create a story or a description of people's experience? E.g through stages such as 'orientation' and 'events' (story) How does the language make the characters relatable for the target group? e.g. through selected descriptions, activities and settings How does the language build close interaction with the target audience/s? e.g. through personal pronouns such as 'you' and 'we'; 'in-group' terms such as 'guys', 'yarning' How does the text build rapport with target audiences? e.g. through subjective evaluative vocabulary such as Changing emotions of the character from negative to positive as the story unfolds 	 How is the text structured as a report or explanation of a health topic? e.g. through stages such as classification, description, explanation How does the text present generalized medical information about the topics? e.g. through: classifying topics with category terms such as 'methods of', 'types of; defining and describing technical terms making compare/contrast or cause/effect relationships How does the text interact with the target audience to give information? (e.g. less closely through monologue; or more closely through question/answer?) How does the text give advice and instructions e.g. through direct commands such as 'Be flexible'; statements with modality such as 'Both partners must say yes') How does the text make information seem credible? E.g. through objective evaluative vocabulary such as

VISUAL METALANGUAGE TOOLKIT: COMMUNITY TEXTS

TEXTS IMAGE with language

Promotional posters, brochures & videos

'Story' images (still and moving images)

- How do images make the experience of the characters relatable to the target audience? e.g. through
 - showing authentic characters, settings and activities which build a group identity in terms of age, ethnicity etc..
- How do images show realistic characteristics and activities e.g. through photos or realistic drawings with depth and colour variation
- How do images build **close interaction** with the target viewer? e.g. through
 - direct gaze with viewer or between characters
 - close-up shots
 - speech bubbles or voice-over in moving images
- How do images **build rapport with target audiences** e.g. *through:*
 - facial expressions such as smiling
 - aestures such as nodding at the doctor: hugging

'Scientific' images (mainly still images)

Information 'factsheets', pamphlets & videos

- How do images **give generalised information** about the topic or issue? e.g. through:
 - Analytical relations which describe structures such as body parts
 - Classifying relations which group things through colour contrast, arrangement, size, framing.
 - Dynamic relations which show activities
 - How are images made more or less realistic for target audiences? E.g through:
 - photos or drawings with depth and variation of colour
 - abstract symbols and simplified drawings which are generalised with less detail and colour
- How do the images show more **distant interaction** with the viewer to focus on the topic? E.g.

Domains of health literacy

Domains	Personal	Community \leftarrow	Academic
Purposes	Sharing experience	Promoting behaviour, products and services advising –-describing – explaining -evaluating	Describing explaining evaluating

How?

Conducting a health literacy inquiry processes

Experiencing:

- Reflect on health information you have accessed over the past month.
- Use a community website to find information related to a health issue.

Conceptualising:

 Build knowledge of the multimodal resources used for health communication

Analysing functionally and critically

 Analyse and evaluate choices of multimodal resources in real life health promotion

Applying:

 Design health promotion materials to promote and apply health messages for a particular group of young people

Recontextualising again...

How do I use the toolkit to analyse and evaluate a promotional video story?

Text 1: Min's story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3
TwhTL6BjX0&feature=youtu.be

PROBE QUESTIONS FOR A HEALTH LITERACY FOCUS: A TOP DOWN PERSPECTIVE

- 1. What are the three main things you learned from this video?
- 2. How does the narrative serve the promotional purpose?
- 3. How do the images and language make the experience relatable and realistic for the target audience?
- 4. How do the images and language build rapport with the target viewer?
 - 5. How does Min's identity connect with the community identity?

Sample responses: meaning making resources of a promotional story

3. Making the experiences relatable and realistic through..

Min's Identity.

- image and language build authentic descriptions, activities, settings: e.g. 'responsible, articulate, young, studious, Asian, who is in a relationship but boyfriend is not a main character'
- · Language 'pronoun' I
- 5. Connecting I with You(community) Real life actors as target group characters



Text 1: Min's story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=3TwhTL6BjX0&feature=youtu.be

- 4. Building Rapport with target audience through...
- Change in feelings shown in image and language: Journey from negative concern, e.g. 'pretty nervous' to positive, e.g. 'comfortable'; smiling
- Positive judgement of staff explicit in language, e.g. 'non-judgemental' and inferred in image through nodding etc..
- direct gaze between character and staff, nodding (staff)
- 1. Giving information about the service through...
- shot to shot relations showing generalised steps in using the service

Community identity: Visual 'You' -direct gaze to audience and close up (at beginning and end) -

Intertextually – web-page- organization (CALD tab)..

Setting a context for health communication in the academic domain An Evaluative text

Link to Syllabus learning activities (examples)

- Evaluate the reliability of health information and messages from different sources before making decisions (Stage 3)
- Research and appraise the effectiveness of health information and support services available in the community (Stage 5 PD5-2)
- ...

2. PDHPE Inquiry (Year 10)

Research a health service (e.g. a website) and evaluate it as a source for young people to gain positive health messages and information.

- Focus issue: effective communication of sexual health issue
- Purpose:
- Evaluating health information analytically
- Target audiences: teachers
- Mode: written essay

Metalanguage Toolkit: Academic evaluation of health communication (Verbal text and context)

FOCUS TEXTS

Concession to present position as balanced

Generalised features, through category terms (features, problems, issues, the rates of, a number of..)

Noun groups condense information

Classification according to positive properties of specific features: information; design

Topic sentence 1 introduces main feature, (information), and criteria for evaluation (accurate, reliable)

- Objective evaluative vocabulary assesses features:
 - Directly as adjectives the information is <u>accurate</u> and <u>reliable</u>; and adverbs make it <u>easier</u>
 - o Indirectly (e.g. (it has) enough images so that people don't get bored and stop reading
- Evaluation appears balanced through modality (eg.can be seen; increases the likelihood)
- Text connective signals contrastive relationship (However)
- o noun groups, including attitude and category terms (e.g. some negative aspects of the website design).
- o Technical terms (e.g. portal, search bar) and some medical terms (e.g. Chlamydia)
- Text connective signals conclusion (Overall)

VERBAL LANGUAGE & CONTEXT:

Expressing and developing ideas (The What)

Interacting with audiences and evaluating (The Who)

Structure (Phases)	Empowering Individuals & Communities	Key Language Features
Classification of service to be evaluated Preview of Position	The Play Safe Website is a website provided to the NSW citizens by the NSW Government to reduce the rates of sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) in Australia. Although the website has some problems, it has a number of positive features which allow young people to easily access relevant information about sexual health issues.	Concession to present position as balanced Generalised features, through category terms (features, problems, issues, the rates of, a number of) Noun groups condense information
Analysis of Positive features point/elaboration cycles including examples	Because the "Play Safe" website is a government site, the information is more likely to be accurate and reliable. The information about common STIs is relevant to young people, particularly about Chlamydia which is the number 1 most reported STI in Australia. The simple & specific information increases the likelihood that young viewers will read and remember the key points. The website design is colourful and interactive with enough images so that people don't get bored and stop reading. The "cool" interactive approach can be seen as an attribute in promoting safe sex. For example, when entering the website, a zip comes up, which the viewer unzips to enter the website. The uncovered text says to always wear a condom. Design features like this make navigation easier for young people who may have reading difficulties.	Classification according to positive properties of specific features: information; design Topic sentence 1 introduces main feature, (information), and criteria for evaluation (accurate, reliable) Objective evaluative vocabulary assesses features: Directly as adjectives the information is accurate and reliable; and adverbs make it easier Indirectly (e.g. (it has) enough images so that people don't get bored and stop reading Evaluation appears balanced through modality (eg.can be seen; increases the likelihood)
Analysis of Negative features and recommendations	However there are some negative aspects of the website design which affects its useability. One issue is that the search bar often comes up with blanks or information that does not relate to the questions. The search engine could be improved by adding common search terms for specific pages so that the search bar can link more questions with the right answers. A second issue is that the information provided by the website does not cover all areas that may be of interest to young people.	 Text connective signals contrastive relationship (However) noun groups, including attitude and <u>category</u> terms (e.g. some negative aspects of the website design). Technical terms (e.g. portal, search bar) and some medical terms (e.g. Chlamydia)
Final position	Overall it is evident that the "Play Safe" website addresses the issues of sexual health well. Although the website could do with a few improvements, the positive aspects outweigh the negative. Young viewers are provided with information they need to know quickly and easily. Hopefully the increased	 Text connective signals conclusion (Overall) Concession and modality present position as balanced noun groups, including attitude and category terms (e.g.

Analysing and applying

Tutorial activity

Analysing functionally and critically

- Analyse the choices of image, verbal text, layout and navigational pathways in a print and digital resource.
- Evaluate <u>how</u> the designers achieve different purposes, on different topics and for different audiences?

Applying:

- Create a scenario to promote and apply credible health messages and information to positively influence the decisions of a particular group of young people
- Design health promotion materials for this group, using ICT tools as appropriate,

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