

Comparing written text and visual text

In factual texts information can be conveyed in the written text and in the visual text. Looking closely at the visual text and comparing it to what is written on the page allows students full access to all information included by the author. It also allows students to make judgements about the suitability of the visual text used and connections between the visual and written texts.

Comparing written and visual text

Stage 3

How I used this strategy with my class

I used this strategy with my class to reinforce with students the concept that the visual information provided in texts is linked to written text and carries meaning vital to understanding.

With a copy of a visual from a text, students worked in pairs to:

- discuss the content of the visual
- list understandings about the information contained in the visuals.

The class then:

- combined understandings gained on a jointly constructed class chart or overhead transparency
- listened as the text was read aloud
- cross-referenced information gained from visual and written text forms.

My thoughts on the strategy

This strategy worked well and encouraged students to apply these comparisons in their own written texts to enhance their work.

Information I have learned from observing the visual text:

- lot of men were bandaged and wounded.
- old-fashioned boats in a bad state.
- pictures are black and white.
- men are dirty and look tired.
- some men have hard hats to protect them.

Information I have gained from the written text:

- men were sick from disease
- there was not enough water
- food was poor
- soldiers had to be evacuated? evacuated
- help had to come from the sea
- hundreds of men were sick every day

Did the written text and visual text complement each other?

How?

yes they did.

The pictures helped explain the writing
It means more when you see it rather than
just read it.

I didn't know ^{what} some of the things were in
the pictures.