

30-Minute Sentence Analysis Checklist

This printable checklist supports English teachers in guiding students through sentence-level reading comprehension. Use it before, during, and after reading to focus on information structure and focus alignment.

Stage	Key Questions	Teacher Focus
Before Reading	What information is likely familiar? What seems new? Predict where the sentence might focus.	Guide students to anticipate information flow and possible focus points.
While Reading	Where does new information enter? Which part of the sentence carries the main stress (focus)?	Highlight prosody and punctuation as cues for focus and information flow.
After Reading	How has the sentence moved from given → new? How would meaning change if the focus moved?	Encourage reflection and short rewriting to test understanding.

Mini-Rubric (60-second Response)

Criteria	Description	Score (0–2)
Accuracy	Correctly identifies given/new and focus.	
Clarity	Explains the 'so-what' clearly.	
Delivery	Reads aloud with appropriate prosody and stress.	