

Technique: The Frame

“The Framing Routine contributes to increased classroom learning for several reasons. First, the Frame helps students understand and learn the information because it is a concrete representation of abstract ideas. Second, it helps students focus on studying the most essential information. Third, it serves as an effective device for helping students focus on the relationships between main ideas and details as well as among several main ideas.” (Ellis, 2004, p. 2)

The diagram illustrates the 'The Frame' technique. It features a central 'Key Topic:' box at the top, which is connected to a large 'is about...' box. Below this are three 'Sub Topic' boxes, each with a corresponding 'Details' box underneath. At the bottom of the frame is a large box labeled 'So What? (What's important to understand about this?)'.

The following steps outline the process when using the Framing Routine:

1. **F**ocus on the Topic
2. **R**eveal Main Ideas
3. **A**nalyze Details
4. **M**ake a "So What" Statement
5. **E**xtend Understanding