

# Structural Indexing

**Focus:** Vocabulary  
Thinking  
Integration  
Assessment

**Procedures:** Take some index cards and write a major concept or idea on each card – an idea found within a body of an academic discipline. Try the index section of a book for some examples. Lay the cards out to form a grid. Try doing this with nine cards. Study the random arrangement you made and create true statements (generalizations) from the words provided. Do this with the words appearing horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

As an example, look at the grid below representing concepts drawn from social studies:

politics	resources	culture
change	process	structure
leadership	society	system

Taking the concepts that appear horizontally, these generalizations can be made:

Politics can affect the resources within a culture.

Change a process and a structure may be changed.

Leadership in a society can create or destroy a system.

Taking the concepts that appear vertically, these generalizations can be made:

Politics can create change in leadership.

Resources can create a process for the development of a society.

Culture determines the structure of a system.

Taking the concepts that appear diagonally, these generalizations can be made:

Politics can create a process for governing a system.

Culture can create a process for developing leadership.