

## Gouin Series

With this strategy, the teacher prepares a series of six to eight short statements describing a logical sequence of actions which takes place in a specific context-getting up in the morning, cooking a meal, using the library, making a phone call. These statements should all include action verbs and use the same tense and the same person throughout. The teacher presents the statements to the class orally, accompanying them with pantomime of the actions involved. The class responds first through pantomime and later by imitating the statements while doing the actions. In preparing a Gouin series, it is useful to have simple props and visuals for at least some of the activities. (Adapted from Constance K. Knop, University of Wisconsin-Madison).

### Sequence of Teaching

1. Teacher presents series to the class orally, accompanying words with pantomime, props.
2. Teacher repeats series orally and class joins in with pantomime, not with words.
3. Class pantomimes series as teacher repeats orally but does not model actions.
4. Individuals pantomime the series as teacher repeats orally.
5. Class imitates series orally as well as physically, first together and then as individual volunteers.

### Sample Gouin Series

#### The Telephone

I pick up the phone.  
I dial six, two, six,  
seven, four, three.  
I say "hello".  
I talk to my friend.  
I say "Ciao".  
I hang up the phone.

#### Making Fondue

I take the fondue pot.  
I plug it in.  
I pour the chocolate.  
I put in some cream.  
I stir it.  
I smell it.  
I taste it.  
I say: "Yum, yum it's good!"

#### A Visit to the Doctor

I feel sick.  
I go to the doctor.  
I sit on the table.  
I open my mouth.  
I stick out my tongue.  
I breathe deeply.  
I take aspirin.

#### Going to Class

I look for my materials.  
I go to class.  
I take off my hat.  
I take out my gum.  
I greet the teacher.  
I sit down.  
I take out my homework.  
I hear the bell.  
I learn Spanish.

#### Eating a Sandwich the German Way

"Oh, I'm really hungry!!!"  
I lay my hands on the table.  
I say "Guten Appetit".  
I take my fork in the left hand.  
I take my knife in the right hand.  
I stick my fork in the sandwich.  
I cut (a piece of) the sandwich with the knife.  
I eat the sandwich.  
I say, "That tastes good!"

#### Tengo Hambre