Academic Language Questions for Lesson Planning

Mathematical Vocabulary & Representations

1. What are the key mathematical words and phrases my students will need to understand and use in my learning segment?
   a. Which of these words/phrases will be new to my students?
   b. Which of these words/phrases have different meanings in informal/non-mathematical conversations?
   c. What are “kid-friendly” ways of describing each of these?

2. Which new mathematical representations (including notation) will students need to learn to “read” and use in my learning segment?

3. What “non-mathematical” words or phrases will my students need to understand in order to make sense of the task scenarios in my learning segment.

Genre (i.e., Purpose) and Linguistic Features

1. How (i.e., for what purpose) will students be using language in your learning segment?
   a. Which key words/phrases will my students need to understand in order to follow directions during this learning segment, and which of these will be new to my students?
   b. Write some sentences (to develop into sentence frames) that capture how you expect students to be using academic language to achieve a particular purpose during the learning segment.