

A

Abbreviation

a shortened form of a word or phrase used in writing in place of the whole word or phrase (e.g., *Mr.* for *Mister* or *Dr.* for *doctor*)

Academic English words

words used in the learning of academic subject matter in a formal educational context that are associated with literacy and academic achievement, including specific academic terms, technical language, and speech registers related to each field of study

Accent shift

in speech, when emphasis moves from one syllable to another in different forms of the word (e.g., *politics* has the accent on the first syllable, but when *politics* becomes *political*, the accent moves to the second syllable)

Acronym

a type of abbreviation formed from the first letter of multiple words that does not require periods after each letter and is pronounced as a new word phonetically or by its individual letters (called initialisms)

Act

one of the main divisions of a play

An act may consist of several scenes and can run for brief or long periods of time in a performance

Active voice

verb form in which the subject performs the action of the verb (e.g., “The dog bit the boy.”) rather than being acted upon (e.g., “The boy was bitten by the dog.”)

Adage

a concise, well-known saying (often utilizing figurative meaning rather than literal meaning) that expresses a common truth or general observation (e.g., “The early bird catches the worm.”)

Adapted text

text that has been changed from its original format, often to make it shorter or more accessible for student

Adjective

a word that describes or modifies a noun or pronoun (e.g., *good* in *a good book*)

Advantage and disadvantage

an organizational pattern in which an author objectively explores the pros and cons of an issue

Adventure story

a subdivision of fiction that includes stories told as an event or a series of events that are interesting or out of the ordinary course of the protagonist’s life

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Adverb

a word or phrase that modifies an adjective, verb, or other adverb by conveying place, time, frequency, manner, or degree (e.g., *quickly* in *run quickly*)

Affix

a word element that occurs before (prefix) or after (suffix) a base word or root to modify its meaning (e.g., the prefix *un-* and the suffix *-able* in *unbelievable*)

Alliteration

the repetition of the same consonant sounds at the beginning of two or more adjacent words or stressed syllables (e.g., “Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.”)

Alphabetize

arrange words or phrases in alphabetical order

Analogy

rhetorical device that compares two dissimilar ideas or objects for the purpose of explaining or clarifying an idea; by making an analogy, a writer is able to explain one element by comparing it to another that is more familiar (e.g., “The effect of pollution in our environment is like that of a cancer in the body.”)

Analyze

to detect how the component parts of a passage or text relate to one another and aid understanding. This may include identifying the parts, studying the relationship among parts, and recognizing the organizational principles involved. Learning outcomes present a higher intellectual level than comprehension and application because they require an understanding of both the content and structural form of the material.

Anecdote

a short narrative or story that relates a relevant incident to make or support a larger point

Annotate

the process of interacting with a text by adding notes or comments in the margins of the text in order to record significant features and/or personal commentary/reactions that may enhance one’s understanding of the text while reading

Antecedent

the noun to which a pronoun refers (e.g., Iris is the antecedent of she in “Iris tried, but she couldn’t find the book.”)

Antonym

a word opposite in meaning to another word (e.g., *hot/cold*, *big/little*)

Apostrophe

the orthographic symbol (‘) used to show possession (e.g., *Henry’s shirt*) or omission in contractions (e.g., *doesn’t*)

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Appeal

in rhetoric or argumentation, a strategy used to convince a person (also known as rhetorical appeals, the art of persuasion, and the art of rhetoric): reason (logic), credibility (ethos), and emotion (pathos)

Apply

carry out or use a procedure in a given situation; to use or demonstrate an understanding of how something works

Argument

a position on a topic or issue developed through rhetorical appeals and largely based upon logic, reasoning, and evidence

Argumentative text

a text written to demonstrate to an audience that a certain position or idea is valid and that others are not. The writer appeals to reason, develops, defends, or debates the topic, connecting a series of statements in an orderly way so they lead to a logical conclusion.

Article

a grammatical marker of a noun that signals whether the noun is specific/definite or general/indefinite (e.g., the definite article *the* and the indefinite articles *a* and *an*)

Assonance

when two or more words, close to one another within a phrase or sentence, repeat the same vowel sound but start with different consonant sounds (e.g., *high, sight, lie*)

Audience

the intended target group for a message, regardless of the medium

Author's craft (also referred to as craft)

the intentional and deliberate use of organizational patterns, text and graphic features, sentence structures, devices, and language to create an effective written work.

Author's craft may vary by genre.

Author's message

the underlying idea explored or expressed by an author in a piece of writing

Author's purpose (also referred to as purpose)

the author's primary goal in a piece of writing, such as to narrate, to argue, to review, to explain, or to examine

B

Bandwagon appeal

a rhetorical fallacy that indicates a form of faulty reasoning used to appeal to the “everyone is doing it” mentality

Base word

a linguistic unit, or word, that can stand on its own and have meaning and can be modified by adding prefixes and/or suffixes to form related words (e.g., *teach* in *teacher*; *mark* in *marking*)

Bias

an inclination or prejudice shown for or against someone or something

Bibliography

a list of all resources used in research arranged in alphabetical, chronological, or classified order

Blending

the process of hearing phonemes and putting them together to hear a word (e.g., /m/ /a/ /n/ to make *man*; /h/ /ou/ /s/ to make *house*) or the process of looking at graphemes and putting them together to decode a word (e.g., c-l-a-sh makes *clash*; b-oa-t makes *boat*)

Brainstorming

a technique in which many ideas are generated quickly and without judgment or evaluation, usually as part of a problem-solving process or to inspire creative thinking

Brainstorming may happen in a classroom, with a small group, or individually.

C

Capitalization

the use of a written or printed letter, larger and often differently shaped than other letters, to begin the first word of a sentence, a proper noun, or certain abbreviations

Cause and effect

an organizational pattern that explains reasons why something happens or has happened and/or the consequences of something happening

Central idea (also referred to as controlling idea)

the main focus or message of a text that is supported by the author’s purpose and ties together all the other elements

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Character's external response

a response demonstrated by the character through speech or action

Character's external traits

aspects of a character's personality and physical appearance

Character's internal response

a response demonstrated by the character through thoughts or emotions

Character's internal traits

traits that describe the qualities and behaviors of a character

Children's literature

material written and produced to inform or entertain children and young adults

Chronological order

an organizational pattern that describes events in the order that they happened

Circular reasoning

a logical fallacy in which an assumption is made in a definition or argument that includes the very point that one is trying to prove (e.g., "I love Mr. Johnson's class because I'm always happy in there.")

Cite

to acknowledge a person, author or work as a source of information in order to provide an example or proof and/or to establish authority and credibility

Claim

an assertion, position, or arguable statement about a topic or issue

Classical text

text that is widely acknowledged for its outstanding and enduring qualities

Classification

the process of organizing facts, objects, or information into sets of categories with common features, as dates by centuries or houses by type of construction

Clause

a grouping of words that contains both a subject and a predicate

A clause is the smallest grammatical unit that can express a complete thought.

Climax

the highest point in the plot where the problem/conflict reaches its peak

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Closed syllable

a syllable that ends with a consonant (e.g., the words *tan*, *am*, and *left*)

Cognate

a word in one language that has the same origin as a word in a different language

Coherent

having a clear and tightly connected relationship among all the parts in an effective speech or piece of writing achieved by ordering ideas, sentences, and paragraphs logically

Collective noun

a noun that refers to a group of people or things (e.g., *family*, *crew*, *team*, *collection*)

Colon

a punctuation mark used to introduce a list of items, to separate two independent clauses when the second clause explains the first, or to create emphasis; colons are also used in time, ratios, and correspondence formatting

Comma

a punctuation mark used to separate two or more distinct but related ideas such as a series, (e.g., *nuts*, *bolts*, or *screws*) or to enclose a word, phrase, or clause within a sentence (e.g. “Sonya, who is from Alaska, missed the snow.”)

Commas are also used with transitions and in dates.

Communicate

to convey or engage in the exchange of information or ideas

Comparative form

the form of an adjective (or adverb) used to compare two or more things (or actions)

Comparatives are formed using -er (e.g., *taller*, *faster*), -ier (e.g., *happier*), or the word *more* (e.g., *more traditional*).

Compare and contrast

a way of organizing text that explores similarities and differences between two or more people, places, events, or concepts

Complete sentence

an independent clause that begins with a capital letter, contains at least a verb (such as in a command), and ends with a punctuation mark (period, question mark, or exclamation point)

Complex sentence

a sentence with an independent clause and at least one dependent clause (e.g., “I cleaned the room when the guests left.”)

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Compose

to create a piece of writing such as a speech or a story

Composition

a piece of written work that brings together ideas in a coherent manner

Compound predicate

occurs when the subject in the sentence is performing more than one action and is shared by two or more verbs that are joined by a conjunction or a connecting word such as *and*, *or*, *but*, etc. (e.g., “Sally laughed and played.”)

Compound sentence

a sentence composed of at least two independent clauses linked with a conjunction or semicolon (e.g., “Emma talked, and Javier listened.”)

Compound subject

the complete subject, or noun phrase, formed by two or more simple subjects (e.g., “Gemma and Mike played.”)

Compound word

word formed by combining two complete words (e.g., *lunchtime*, *football*, *airplane*)

Comprehension

the part of reading that involves constructing meaning by interacting with text

Conclusion

the closing of a text or speech that reinforces and summarizes the message

Conflict

an element of plot when the opposition of persons or forces brings about dramatic tension central to the narrative that may be internal as a psychological conflict within a character (e.g., man versus himself) or external as a physical or outward conflict between the character and something/someone else (e.g., man versus man, man versus nature, or man versus society)

Conjunctive adverb

an adverb (e.g., *however*, *nonetheless*, *therefore*) that introduces or connects independent clauses and that shows cause and effect, comparison, contrast, or some other relationship between clauses

Consistent verb tense

the use of the same verb tense throughout a sentence, paragraph, or essay (Note: Shifting from one verb tense to another should be done only when demonstrating a shift in time.)

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Consonant

a speech sound in which the flow of breath is constricted or stopped by the tongue, teeth, lips, or some combination of these; an alphabet letter except for a, e, i, o, and u

Consonant blend

a sequence of two or three consonant sounds that are clustered together in a word or syllable, before or after a vowel, where all consonants are heard (e.g., *bl-* in *black*; *str-* in *strong*; *gr-* in *grass*)

Constructive feedback

verbal or written feedback that builds on the strengths found in the original piece and provides suggestions for changes that could improve it

Contemporary text

a text that is set near the present time, typically post-World War II

Context

the words, sentences, or paragraphs that precede or follow a specific word or sentence and contribute to the inference of its meaning; the set of circumstances that surround a particular event, situation, and/or character

Contraction

word formed by combining two or more words or sounds by omitting a letter or letters (e.g., *I'd* for *I would*, *he'll* for *he will*)

Conventions of language (also referred to as conventions)

the rules broadly agreed upon as standard for communicating in written or oral form (e.g., *is not* or *are not* rather than *ain't*)

Coordinating conjunction

a connective word (*and*, *but*, *or*, *so*, *for*, *nor*, *yet*) that links words, phrases, or clauses of equal importance

Correlative conjunction

a type of conjunction comprised of a pair of words that work together to connect equivalent elements of a sentence and to indicate a relationship between these two parts of the sentence (e.g., *both/and*, *either/or*, etc.)

Correspondence

any written or digital communication exchanged between two or more people in the form of a letter or e-mail

Counterargument

viewpoint or set of reasons in opposition to an argument or thesis

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Create

to produce or make

Credibility

the quality of having reliable and trustworthy characteristics and being accepted as true or real

Critical inquiry

the process of arriving at a judgment of the worth of a text by examining the extent to which its content, form, and style achieve the author's desired purpose

Critique

a detailed evaluation or critical commentary on a problem, subject, or work that explains specific instances of strengths, faults, and/or ambiguities

Cultural setting

the contextual details of the social environment, beliefs, customs, values, and activities of a particular group of people as presented in the particular time and place of the setting

Cursive letter

letters formed using a type of handwriting in which all or most letters are joined together within each word

D

Declarative sentence

a sentence that makes a statement or complete thought and ends in a period (e.g., "Emil likes cake.")

Decode

the process of translating written language into verbal speech sounds by applying knowledge of letter-sound relationships (Note: In reading practice, the term is used primarily to refer to word identification rather than word comprehension.)

Definition

an organizational pattern in which an author explains or describes a topic by listing examples, features, and characteristics of the subject

Demonstrate

show clearly; illustrate and explain especially with many examples

Describe

to provide details orally or in writing to convey an impression of something or the characteristics and qualities of someone or something

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Descriptive language

language that is vivid, specific, and helps the reader imagine what the author is describing

Detail

specifics, ideas, facts, points, included by an author that contribute to the author's purpose and message

Determine

to find out or come to a decision through investigation or reasoning

Develop

create or produce especially through careful effort over time

Development

the depth of thought provided in a work as a whole by incorporating strong details, supportive examples, and thorough commentary

Diagram

a simplified drawing showing the appearance, structure, or workings of something; a schematic representation

Dialogue

the words spoken between characters in a play, film, fictional work, or nonfiction narrative that establish plot, character, and the central message of the work

Differentiate

to demonstrate an awareness of the contrasting qualities and characteristics that distinguish one thing from another (e.g., primary vs. secondary source; paraphrasing vs. plagiarism)

Digital resource

resources in a digital or web-based form (e.g., e-books, online dictionaries)

Digital text

an electronic text read or heard on a computer or other electronic device that may include images, sound, video, and other multimodal interactive and embedded elements

Digraph

two successive letters that represent a single speech sound (e.g., th in *thing*, oo in *moon*, ou in *out*, and ow in *how*); note that there are both vowel and consonant digraphs

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Diphthong

also known as a vowel blend, the combination of two vowels in one syllable where two sounds are heard (e.g., /ou/ in *cloud*, and /oi/ in *boil*)

Note that the ou combination can function as a diphthong or digraph depending on the sound: it is a diphthong in the word *couch* /ou/ and a digraph in the word *cough* /aw/.

Directionality

the way in which print is intended to be read and written (i.e., from top to bottom, left to right with return sweep)

Discipline-based vocabulary

language that is specific to a field of study

Discourse

an extended exchange of ideas (verbal or written) on a subject that deepens meaning and understanding

Discuss

to talk or write about a topic in great detail; debate

Diverse text

texts that represent regional, economic, social, and ethnic differences through subject matter and/or characters

Draft

the product a writer creates in the initial stages of the writing process when the writer organizes thoughts and attempts to create a cohesive text that supports his/her purpose and message

Drama

a literary work written in a stage play format which generally includes dialogue and stage directions and is intended to be performed

Dramatic action

plot action that involves conflict, tension, suspense, uncertainty, and/or fear to entice the audience

Dramatic convention

a set of rules an actor, writer, and/or director employs to create a desired dramatic effect that is understood by the audience (e.g., When a character recites a soliloquy in a play by moving downstage, the audience understands that the other characters on the stage cannot hear him or her.)

E

Editing

a stage in the writing process when a written text is prepared for an audience by attending to and correcting mechanics, grammar, and spelling

Elements of drama

the common components used by playwrights to construct a stage play (e.g., plot, character, theme, language, music, spectacle, etc.)

Elements of plot development (also referred to as plot elements)

the common components of plot (e.g., rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution)

Emotional appeal

a method of persuasion designed to create an emotional response in the audience by connecting to their values, needs, and feelings

End punctuation

the punctuation mark that comes at the end of a sentence (e.g. period, question mark, exclamation point)

Engage

to participate or become actively involved in an activity, such as in the inquiry process

Enunciation

the act of speaking with distinct articulation

Epic poetry

long narrative poems, usually chronicling the deeds of a folk hero and written using both dramatic and narrative literary techniques

Establish

to create or institute (e.g., establish a purpose for reading)

Evaluate

to make a judgement based on criteria and standards, determine, or form an opinion about the significance, quality, or value of something in relation to its intended purpose

Evidence

the available body of supporting, valid, and relevant details, facts, or information that supports an inference, idea, or proposition

Examine

to inspect something closely with the intention of better understanding it

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Exclamatory sentence

a sentence that expresses a strong emotion or feeling and ends with an exclamation point

Explain

to justify or make clear an idea by describing it in detail and/or including relevant facts

Explicit meaning of text

the meaning of a text stated clearly and directly somewhere within in the work

Extended metaphor

a comparison of two unlike things that an author develops in great detail throughout sentences, sections, or the entire work; used both in poetry and prose

Eye contact

the act of looking directly into another's eyes while communicating

F

Fable

a short tale in prose or verse that teaches a moral, especially, a tale using animals and inanimate objects as characters (e.g., The tale of the wolf in sheep's clothing teaches that appearances can be deceiving.)

Fact

a detail or idea that can be shown and verified as true, to exist, or to have happened; a statement that can be proven with data, observations, and reliable sources

Fairy tale

a traditional story that includes extraordinary characters (e.g., magical creatures, princesses and evil queens) and magical events; usually has a happy ending

Falling action

the element of plot structure that takes place after the climax and begins to resolve the conflict(s) of the story by decreasing formerly established tension before the story moves towards its resolution

Fantasy

a subgenre of fiction that includes stories told with unrealistic, mythical, magical, or supernatural elements in the plot, characterization, theme, and/or setting

Faulty reasoning

a logically incorrect argument, or fallacy, that contains a conclusion that is not supported by data, has limited information, or includes opinion or bias

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Fiction

literary works written in prose based on imaginative ideas and storytelling and not presented as fact

Figurative language

language not intended to be taken literally but layered with meaning using imagery, metaphors, and other literary devices

Final consonant blend

a sequence of two or three consonant sounds that are clustered together at the end of a word where all consonants are heard (e.g., *-st* in *fast*)

Final stable syllable

a syllable that occurs in the final position of a word and has an unexpected but reliable pronunciation

First-person point of view

a narrative perspective restricted to that of the author/narrator's thoughts and feelings as the central character and point of view in the story

First-person point of view requires the use of first person pronouns such as *I, me, my, us*.

Flashback

a technique that involves a brief interruption in the plot that describes an earlier event or time in order to provide clarity, background, and context about an event currently taking place in the narrative

Fluency

the ability to read text at an appropriate rate, with accuracy, expression, appropriate phrasing, and without significant word-recognition difficulties

Folktale

a story, tale, or legend of unknown origin that becomes well known through oral tradition and repeated story telling (e.g., the Pied Piper)

Foreshadowing

a literary device used when an author provides important hints about future events in the story to help the reader anticipate the/an outcome

Fragment

an incorrect sentence structure that occurs when a sentence is incomplete, sometimes because it is missing a subject or predicate (e.g., "Some dogs in my house.")

Freewriting

a prewriting technique in which a person writes continuously for a set period of time without regard to spelling, grammar, or topic

Freewriting is similar to brainstorming but written in sentence and paragraph form and produces raw, often unusable material that has the potential to increase the flow of ideas for writers.

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Future tense

a verb tense form that expresses an action that has not yet happened or a state that does not yet exist (e.g., *will pay* in “I will pay the delivery fee.”)

G

Generate questions

in reading, thinking of questions that require integration of new information and then reading to answer those questions

Genre

the type or class of a work, usually categorized by form, technique, or content

Literary genres include tragedy, comedy, poetry, novel, short story, creative/literary nonfiction, etc. and the sub genres of fantasy, science fiction, mystery, horror, satire, etc.; nonfiction genres include biographies, essays, journalism, memoir, historical texts, scientific texts, academic reports, etc.

Genre characteristics

the form, format, elements, and techniques typically used within a particular genre

Gesture

body movements used to communicate— specifically, movements of the hands and arms that are closely synchronized with the flow and content of one’s speech

Grade-level text

a text with a difficulty level that aligns with a student’s age and grade; text that is written to be accessible to a student at a particular grade

Graph

a graphic feature that represents and shows related data in a visual way (e.g., bar graph, pie graph, or line graph)

Graphic (also referred to as graphic features)

a picture, visual aid, or other image within a text used to support that author’s purpose and message

Graphic elements of poetry

the shape of a poem that includes capital letters, line length, and word position

Greek and Latin roots

roots originating from Greek or Latin that are common in the English language and understanding their meaning can improve vocabulary acquisition (e.g., *mis/mit*, *bene*, *man*, *vac*, *scrib/script*, *jur/jus*)

H

High-frequency words

a group of 300–500 words that account for a large percentage of words in print that are often referred to as sight words because automatic recognition of these words is essential for fluent reading

Historical fiction

a subgenre of fiction which imaginatively reconstructs historical events and time periods in a narrative; includes fictional characters but is based on actual past events

Historical setting

the contextual details of the historical time and place of the setting, including details about the historical events surrounding a time period (even those that occur outside of the story) and information about a place's past

Homograph

a word that is spelled the same as another word but that has a different meaning (e.g., *bow*, *bass*, *fly*, *desert*)

Homophone

words that sound the same but are spelled differently and have completely different meanings (e.g., *right* and *write*)

Humor

a literary genre that has a comic quality intended to induce amusement or laughter

Humorous poetry

poetry that aims to be amusing about both serious and frivolous subjects and often features playful themes, puns, and alliteration; also referred to as light poetry

Hyperbole

an intentional and extreme exaggeration for emphasis or humorous effect (e.g., “This book weighs a ton.” “I waited for an eternity in the dentist’s office.”)

I

Identify

to recognize the characteristics of something or distinguish it from others

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Idiom

an expression that has a different meaning from the literal meaning of its individual words and is often particular to a given language and usually cannot be translated literally (e.g., *have the upper hand* or *under the weather*)

Illustrate

furnish with drawings, pictures, or other artwork intended for explanation, clarification, or adornment

Imagery

the use of language to create mental images and sensory impressions

Imagery can be used for emotional effect and to intensify the impact on the reader.

Implicit meaning of text

an idea that must be inferred through an analysis of details, actions, tone, dialogue, visuals, etc.

Indefinite pronoun

a pronoun that does not refer to any person, amount, or thing in particular (e.g., *anything*, *something*, *anyone*, *everyone*)

Infer

to arrive at a conclusion, a generalization, or prediction based on the examination of various details and pieces of information

Inference

a conclusion, generalization, or prediction that results from examining various details and pieces of information and connecting them with background knowledge to determine meaning; to make a logical guess

Inflectional ending

letters that combine with a base word to express tense, number, mood, or person (e.g., -s, -es, -ed, -ing, and -er)

Informational text

a text that presents information in order to explain, clarify, and/or educate

Initial consonant blend

the joining of two or more consonant sounds, represented by letters, that begin a word without losing the identity of the consonant sounds (e.g., /cl/ in *clip*)

Initial sound

the first phoneme in a word, which may be represented by a single letter or a digraph

Initials

the first letter of a name or word followed by a period that is pronounced by the individual letters

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Inquiry

the act of seeking information by questioning

Inquiry is the process of investigating a topic of interest in order to find out more about it.

Inset

a small graphic inside or next to a larger graphic that magnifies part of the larger graphic

Interact

to act on one another; to deal or work with something; (e.g., readers interact with text to make meaning)

Interpret

determine or provide the meaning or significance of information included in part or all of a written work

Interrogative sentence

a sentence that asks a question and is punctuated with a question mark (e.g. "What time is it?")

Introduction

in a piece of writing, the opening paragraph(s) used by a writer to encourage the audience to read what follows

In informational, persuasive, and argumentative pieces, it indicates what the paper will be about.

Introductory elements

words, phrases, or other clauses that introduce main clauses in sentences

Irregular plural

nouns that are made plural in a way other than by adding an s or es to the end of the word (e.g., *loaf* becomes *loaves*; *cactus* becomes *cacti*.)

Irony

incongruity between the actual result of a sequence of events and the normal or expected result; as a literary device, irony can be used to create meaning that seems to contradict the literal meaning or events and is often used for humorous or emphatic effect (e.g., "I could care less.")

Irregular verb

a verb that does not follow the normal rules of conjugation (e.g., *go*, *went*, and *gone* as forms of *to go*)

Italics

a type style in which the letters are slanted

Italics can be used for emphasis or for distinguishing titles.

J

Juxtaposition

two or more words, phrases, or ideas placed close together in order to compare or contrast them for effect

K

Key idea

an idea that must be understood to fully comprehend the meaning of the larger text

L

Legend

a traditional story that has been passed down and told as a matter of history but cannot be verified and has important significance to the culture from which it originated

Letter sound correspondence

the identification of sounds associated with individual letters and/or letter combinations

Limited point of view

a narrative perspective that is limited to the author or narrator's understanding of only one character's thoughts and feelings and in which the story follows that single character (usually the main character in narratives) using the third-person pronouns (e.g., *he*, *she*, *they*)

Line break

the visual end of a line which may be used to emphasize rhythm and sound, create meaning and visual effects, and substitute punctuation

Line length

in poetry, the width of a block of typeset text, usually measured in units of length like inches or points or in characters per line

Linear plot development

a narrative technique by which a plot begins with exposition, follows the chronological order of events, and ends with the resolution

Literal language

the use of words, phrases, and sentences in their real or actual sense

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Literary device

a specific convention of language or tool (e.g., repetition, alliteration, figurative language, foreshadowing, irony) employed by the author to produce a specific effect or communicate a particular detail or message

Literary element

the basic components of most literary works such as setting, plot, characterization, point of view, theme, tone, etc.

Literary genre

a class of creative writing usually categorized by form, technique, or content (e.g., epic, tragedy, comedy, poetry, novel, short story, and creative nonfiction)

Literary text

written works that are generally recognized as having artistic value and have the purpose of entertaining the reader (e.g., prose fiction, drama, poetry, and literary nonfiction)

Loaded language

words, terms, or phrases that have strong emotional overtones or connotations and are meant to influence and appeal to an audience by evoking negative or positive emotional reactions that extend beyond the literal meaning of word or phrase

Logical fallacy

an incorrect or problematic argument that is not based on sound reasoning; also known as faulty reasoning (e.g., sweeping generalization, circular reasoning, red herring, hyperbole, emotional appeals, stereotype, hasty generalization)

Logical order

an organizing structure that presents ideas or information in a logical and rational sequence and is often used in argumentative and informative writing

Long vowel

the vowel sounds in English that are also the names of the alphabet letters a, e, i, o, u, as /ā/ in *halo*, /ē/ in *she*, /ī/ in *bind*, /ō/ in *told*, /ū/ in *unit*; long vowel sounds are those in which the name of the letter is heard

Lowercase letter

the letter form used for letters in the middle of a word and common noun words

Lyric poetry

short poems expressing personal feelings and emotions that may be set to music and often involve the use of regular meter

M

Main event

an event in the plot that is an essential part of the story

Mapping

a structured way to organize thoughts and notes on a topic prior to writing; an organized format for showing important information and relationships among pieces of information by using a series of boxes, circles, or lines (Note: Mapping is different from the unstructured strategy of brainstorming wherein students produce notes in a more random, unrelated manner.)

Mental images

visualizing physical details from a text such as actions, characters, scenes, events, and setting

Metacognitive skills

the ability of a reader to self-assess and know when and how to use strategies for learning when comprehension breaks down (e.g., students will identify and develop new ways to achieve learning goals)

Metaphor

a subtle comparison in which the author describes two seemingly dissimilar things using words that are not meant to be taken literally (e.g., “Time is a dressmaker specializing in alterations.”)

An extended metaphor carries the comparison through several lines, parts, or the whole text.

Meter

the basic rhythmic structure in verse composed of the number of stressed and unstressed syllables per line

Monitor

to observe and evaluate the progress or quality of something over time

Mood

the atmosphere or feeling created by the writer in a literary work that can be expressed through literary elements, language, and genre characteristics such as imagery, word choice, setting, voice, theme, etc. (e.g., The mood evoked in Edgar Allan Poe’s work is often gloomy and ominous which is evident in his dark imagery.)

Morphology

the study of words and their structure, including the relationship between words and their word parts, or morphemes

Multimodal

the strategic integration of two or more modes of communication to create meaning, including written and spoken texts, images, gestures, music, digital texts and media, and live performances

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Multiple-meaning word

a word having more than one meaning. Homonyms, or multiple-meaning words, are words that have the same spelling and usually sound alike, but have different meanings (e.g., *baseball pitcher*, *water pitcher*)

Mystery

a subgenre of fiction that includes stories focused on unexplained or strange events and that have a puzzle (e.g., a crime) that needs to be solved

Myth

a traditional story that provides an explanation for a cultural belief or a mystery of nature

N

Non- linear plot development

a narrative technique by which a plot is portrayed out of chronological order to achieve a particular effect

Nonrestrictive phrases and clauses

details set off by commas that add extra information to the sentence with sentence meaning unchanged if omitted; nonrestrictive words (or appositives) are typically a noun/proper noun or noun phrase; nonrestrictive phrases are typically prepositional phrases; nonrestrictive clauses typically begin with a relative pronoun or adverb (*who*, *whom*, *which*, *whose*, etc.); also known as nonessential words, phrases, or clauses

Non-verbal message

an unspoken signal of body language that accompanies speech

Notetaking

the study skill of outlining and/or summarizing the important ideas of a lecture, book, or other source of information to aid in the organization and retention of ideas

Noun

a part of speech which often names or denotes common and proper persons, places, things, concepts, qualities, or acts, and which may function as a subject or object in a clause and may be singular, referring to one (e.g., *boy*), collective, referring to an unaccountable mass (e.g., *sand*), or plural, referring to more than one (e.g., *girls*, *schools*)

Nursery rhyme

a simple traditional song, poem or rhyme that tells a story intended for very young children (e.g., “Hey Diddle Diddle,” “Humpty Dumpty,” “Itsy Bitsy Spider”)

O

Objective point of view

a narrative perspective that reports from a neutral perspective using third-person pronouns (e.g., *he*, *she*, *they*)

This point of view does not follow any specific character or reveal character thoughts/feelings.

Objective pronoun

a part of speech used as a substitute for a noun or a noun phrase and acts as the object of a sentence and receives the action of the verb (e.g., *her*, *him*, *it*, *me*, *them*, *us*, and *you*)

Omniscient point of view

a narrative perspective that includes the thoughts and feelings of all the characters in a story or text using third-person pronouns (e.g., *he*, *she*, *they*)

This knowledge is not limited by any one character or person's view or behavior as the author/narrator is all knowing.

Onomatopoeia

the formation of a word from a sound (e.g., *buzz* and *purr*); a poetic device to produce this effect

Onset sound

the initial sound of a word (e.g., /c/ in "cat")

Open syllable

a syllable that ends with a vowel (e.g., the words *we* and *go*)

Opinion

a view, judgment, or appraisal about a particular matter

Opinion essay

an essay that describes a position on a particular topic or issue and develops the argument with supporting evidence

Oral language

the system through which we use spoken words to express knowledge, ideas, and feelings

Oral response

a spoken commentary that answers a question or prompt and typically requires detail, description, and/or analysis of a text or topic

Order of importance

an organizational structure in which information is structured from most to least important or least to most important

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Organizational pattern

the pattern or structure an author uses to construct and organize his or her ideas for the audience (e.g., cause and effect, problem and solution, description, order of importance); also referred to as organizational structure

Organizational structure

how the information within a written text is organized

Orthographic pattern

the arrangement of letters that visually represent the correct spelling of a word(s) in a given language

Orthographic rule

the set of conventions that apply to how words are spelled (Note: Not all words follow the orthographic rules of spelling.)

P

Parallel plot structure

a narrative structure wherein the author develops two or more simultaneous plots connected by character, event, and/or theme

Paraphrase

a restatement of something written or said by someone else but that retains the intended meaning of the original quote while using different words than the original author used

Parentheses

a punctuation mark consisting of round brackets used around a word, clause, or sentence that is intended as additional piece of information for the sentence that if omitted allows the sentence to remain grammatically complete

Part of speech

a category assigned to a word based on its syntactical function; the eight primary parts of speech include noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, conjunction, and preposition

Passive voice

the grammatical voice in which the subject of the verb is being acted upon by the verb (e.g., “He was hit by the ball” instead of “The ball hit him.”)

Past tense

a verb tense form that indicates past or completed action (e.g., *parked* in “We parked the car.”)

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Personal connections to text

connections that a reader makes between a piece of reading material and the reader's own experiences or life

Personal narrative

an expressive literary piece written in first person that centers on a particular event in the author's life and may contain vivid description as well as personal commentary and observations

Personification

figurative language in which nonhuman things or abstractions are represented as having human qualities or abilities (e.g., "The parched sun crawled across the sand.")

Persuasive text

a text written with the intent of convincing the audience to adopt a belief and to move to action by appealing to emotions, reason, or ethics

Phoneme

the smallest meaningful unit of sound in speech (e.g., the /s//ă//d/ are the phonemes of *sad*; the /ch//i//p/ are the phonemes of *chip*)

Phonics

a method of reading instruction that helps students build understanding of sound—symbol relationships and spelling patterns

Phonological awareness

the ability to detect and manipulate the sound structures of spoken language, including recognizing differently sized sound parts (i.e., phrases, words, syllables, phonemes) and manipulating those parts (i.e., blend, segment, delete, add, and change)

Pictorial

any representation of ideas or words by pictures

Picture dictionary

a dictionary where the definition of a word is displayed in the form of a drawing or photograph

Plagiarism

the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the original source

Plan

to formulate or design a roadmap beforehand to achieve an objective

Plot (also referred to as plot elements)

the basic sequence of events in a story that includes the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Poetry

literary works focused on the expression of feelings and ideas through the use of a distinctive style that is often rhythmic and may have elements such as meter, rhyme, and stanzas

Point of view

the perspective from which the events in the story are told

Position

a person's point of view or attitude toward a particular topic, subject, or idea; one's position on one side of an argument or another

Possessive

a word indicating ownership or possession (e.g., *cat's* in *cat's claws*, and *his* in *his shoes*)

Possessive pronoun

a part of speech used as a substitute for a noun or a noun phrase to show who owns something (e.g., *hers*, *his*, *its*, *mine*, *ours*, *theirs*, and *yours*)

Prediction

a form of inference in which the reader examines details surrounding the title, illustrations, subtitles, etc. of a text before reading it in order to anticipate and foresee forthcoming events and information

Prefix

a word element added to the beginning of a base word or root that forms a new word with changed meaning (e.g., *un* added to the adjective *happy* to make the word *unhappy*)

Preposition

a class of function words that are followed by nouns or pronouns, creating a prepositional phrase (e.g., *by* in *by the river* and *at* with *at school*)

Prepositional phrase

a phrase that begins with a preposition, is followed by an object, and shows a relation to another word or element in the clause (e.g., *on the road* and *by her*)

Presentation

a visual, oral, and/or multimodal display that communicates a message and may serve a variety of purposes

Present tense

a verb form that indicates an action or state that is currently happening or happens regularly (e.g., *enjoys* in "Martin enjoys pepperoni pizza.")

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Primary source

an original source of information about a topic from the time when the event occurred or the individual lived (e.g., letters, speeches, diaries, surveys, field work, or personal interviews)

Print awareness

in emergent literacy, the understanding of the characteristics, nature, and uses of print, including the following print concepts:

- Environmental print conveys meaning.
- Books have a front cover, back cover, and title page.
- Books are held right side up and read from front to back.
- Print is read from top to bottom and left to right with return sweep.
- Sentences are comprised of words separated by spaces.
- Words consist of letters. Students are expected to recognize the difference between a letter and a printed word.
- There are uppercase and lowercase letters. Students are expected to be able to identify all uppercase and lowercase letters.

Print concept

in reading, the ability of a reader to know and recognize how text works (e.g., know what a book is, and understand print directionality, the difference between words and sentences, and that printed text conveys a message)

Print feature

the use of words to explain something in the text (e.g., titles, bold print, captions)

Problem

the situation or conflict in a narrative that needs to be corrected or resolved

Problem and solution organizational pattern

an organizational structure in which the author introduces the situation or conflict and then proceeds to explain how to correct the situation or resolve the conflict

Procedural text

a type of informational text that is written with the intent to explain the steps in a procedure or process (e.g., recipes, how-to guides, etc.)

Produce

to create something for a specific purpose

Pronoun

a part of speech used as a substitute for a noun or noun phrase (e.g., *she* in “Jane drove to the store because she needed to buy some milk.”)

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Pronoun-antecedent agreement

a grammatical state that occurs when a pronoun and its antecedent match in number, gender, and person

Pronunciation guide

the set of graphic symbols used to accurately represent the phonetic sounds of a language

Proper noun

a noun that names a specific person, place, or thing and begins with a capital letter (e.g., *Jim*, *Dallas*, *Monday*)

Prosody

the vocal intonation and meter of spoken language

Publish

the final stage in the writing process, involving two steps

When they publish, students make a final copy and put their written work in a format to share with others.

Pun

a play on words that produces a humorous effect by using a word that suggests two or more meanings or by exploiting similar sounding words that have different meanings

Punctuation

the set of graphic marks used in writing phrases and sentences; intended to clarify the meaning of sentences and to give speech characteristics to written materials; also referred to as punctuation marks

Q

Quotation mark

the punctuation marks used to enclose a direct quote

R

R-controlled syllable

a syllable that includes a vowel followed by the consonant r so its pronunciation is influenced by the /r/ and is neither a long or short vowel sound (e.g., *farm*, *her*, *first*)

Realistic fiction

a subgenre of fiction consisting of stories that present believable settings and situations that could actually occur and in which fictional characters react similarly to real people

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Recursive

the repeated application of a rule, definition, or procedure

Reflexive pronoun

a pronoun object that refers back to the subject of the sentence or clause (e.g., *himself* referring to Bob in “Bob drove himself to the store.”)

Register

the degree of formality in language (e.g., formal, informal, academic, etc.)

Regular plural

the vast majority of nouns that are made plural by adding an *s* or *es* to the end of the word (e.g., *cat* becomes *cats*, *brush* becomes *brushes*)

Relative pronoun

a pronoun that refers to an antecedent (e.g., *whom* in “The man whom you were talking to is the regional manager.”); relative pronouns serve to link a dependent clause to a main clause in a sentence

Reliable source

a source that is accurate, based on fact, current, logically sound and written by a qualified author

Repetition

a literary device that repeats the same word or phrase in order to emphasize an idea, detail, or point and may contribute to an author’s style and tone

Report

a text that provides an account on a particular issue or topic after observation, reading, experimentation, or formal research

Resolution

the element of plot structure that contains the conclusion or final outcome in a story and, in some capacity, resolves all problems and conflicts
Not all stories have clear resolutions.

Respond

providing a verbal or written reaction to something that is read, viewed, written, or heard

Retell

recalling something read including story elements, main ideas, and/or important details in the order they were presented

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Revision

a stage in the writing process when a text is examined holistically and changes are made to improve the focus, content, organization, sentence structure, and word choice in order to clarify the intended message, create flow, and more successfully engage the audience

Rhetorical device

a technique that an author or speaker uses to influence or persuade an audience (e.g., rhetorical questions, repetition, analogies, juxtaposition, parallelism, rhetorical shifts, antithesis, etc.)

Rhetorical question

questions asked to create dramatic effect or to make a point meant to be considered by the audience and not actually answered by the audience

Rhyme

identical or very similar recurring sounds in verse

Rhyme scheme

the pattern of rhyming lines (e.g., ABAB, ABBA)

Rhythm

a metrical (or metered) pattern of accented and unaccented syllables in poetry

Rime

the letters that follow the onset; it is the vowel in a word and any consonant sounds that follow (e.g., the /ă/ in *cat* and *fat*)

Rising action

the element of plot structure that develops the conflict through a series of events to build interest, suspense, and tension that propels a story to the climax

Root

a grammatical unit from which other words are derived

They cannot stand alone and must be attached to another morpheme to form a word (e.g. *fer* in *refer*, *confer*, *defer*); they are usually derived from another language.

Run-on sentence

a grammatically incorrect sentence structure that occurs when two or more independent clauses are joined without an appropriate conjunction or punctuation (e.g., "They went to the store we were out of milk.")

S

Salutation

a word or phrase that acts as the greeting or opening address of a letter (e.g., *Dear Jessica*,)

Scene

a subdivision of an act in a play with continuous action in the same setting

Science fiction

a subgenre of fiction based on real or imaginary technology and science which impacts the plot of the story

Secondary source

a source that is a step removed from the original accounts of an event or experience (e.g., scholarly articles, journalism, reference books such as encyclopedias, history books, textbooks, reviews, or criticisms)

Segmenting

the process of hearing a spoken word and being able to divide it into separate parts and identify those parts; a word may be segmented (broken up) into phonemes, onset-rime, or syllables. (e.g., *dog* is /d/ /o/ /g/ when segmented by phoneme, *house* is /h/ /ouse/ when segmented by onset-rime, *under* is /un/ /der/ when segmented by syllable)

Self-selected text

a text that a student identifies and chooses to read for independent reading

Semicolon

a punctuation mark used chiefly to coordinate major sentence elements such as the independent clauses of a compound sentence

Sentence structure

the grammatical arrangement of words in a sentence; how a sentence is constructed

Sentence variety

the practice of varying the length and structure of sentences to avoid monotony, to provide appropriate emphasis and inflection, and to enhance the rhythm and flow of the written or oral text

Sequence

order of succession

Sequence of events

the order of things that happened in a story arranged as they occur from the beginning to end

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Setting

the time, place, and circumstances in which something occurs or develops

Short story

a brief fictional text that is shorter than a novel, usually deals with only a few characters, and focuses on a single problem or conflict

Short vowel

the common sound correspondence associated with a vowel; it is the sound produced when a vowel is followed by a consonant

Sidebar

additional text that provides supplementary information but is not part of the main body of a piece of writing

A sidebar is separated from the rest of the text by a border and is usually located on the side of a page.

Silent letter

a letter which is used in the spelling of a word but seemingly represents no sound in that word (e.g., *h* in *ghost*)

Simile

a figure of speech in which two things that are essentially different are likened to each other, usually using the words *like* or *as* (e.g., “O my love is like a red, red rose”)

Simple sentence

a sentence consisting of one independent clause (e.g., “The chicken crossed the road.”)

Social communication

verbal and non-verbal language used in social situations and interactions

Society

a community of people living in a particular country or region and having common traditions, laws, and interests; a distinguishable section or part of a community of people

Sound device

a device used by poets to convey and reinforce the meaning or experience of poetry through the skillful use of sound (e.g., alliteration, rhyme, rhythm, meter,)

Source (also referred to as source material)

any communication medium, such as a book, person, or an electronic device that supplies information

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Speaker

in poetry, the speaker is the voice behind the scene in a poem

The speaker is not the same as the poet, as the poet may be writing from a different perspective altogether.

Speaker's message

the overall argument, information, or theme that a presenter shares with an audience

Speaking rate

how fast or slow a person speaks

Speaking rate may vary based on emotions or the message being conveyed.

Spell

to write/form words from letters

Spelling pattern

the basis for many common syllables (e.g., CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) which are often present in the first words students learn to spell, such as *dog*, *cat*, and *mom*)

Splice

a grammatically incorrect sentence structure that occurs when a comma alone without a conjunction is used to join two independent clauses (e.g., “The class is going to the museum, I plan to join them.”)

These are commonly referred to as comma splices and are a subset of run-on sentences.

Stage direction

descriptions or instructions in a play that provide information about characters’ dialogue, actions, and tone, the setting, including sound effects, and details regarding the set, such as lighting that are usually presented in italics, brackets, or parentheses before a section of dialogue

Staging

the process of selecting, designing, adapting to, or modifying the performance space for a play

Stance

a strong personal opinion on a matter that does not necessarily oppose someone else’s

Standard English conventions

standard rules of the English language, including written mechanics such as punctuation, capitalization, spelling, paragraphing, etc. and written/oral grammar such as parts of speech, word order, subject-verb agreement, and sentence structure

Stanza

a visual grouping or division (with space) of any number of lines within of a poem

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Stereotype

oversimplified image or idea of a particular type of person or thing

Structure

how text is constructed or put together

Style

the unique/distinct way a writer uses language; diction, syntax, sentence fluency, figurative language, and voice all contribute to a writer's style (e.g., one poet's writing style may be terse, blunt, and conversational while another poet's writing style may be soft and informal)

Subjective point of view

a narrative perspective that includes the thoughts and feelings of one or more of the characters in a story and uses third-person pronouns (e.g., *he*, *she*, *they*)

Subjective pronoun

a pronoun that is the subject of the sentence as a substitute for a noun or noun phrase and performs the action of the verb (e.g., *I*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *it*, *we*, *they*)

Subject-verb agreement

the grammatical state of a sentence when the subject and verb match in number (singular or plural) and/or person (first person, second person, third person)

Subordinating conjunction

a conjunction that introduces a dependent clause and connects it to an independent clause and shows the relationship between two ideas in a sentence by indicating time, place, or cause/effect (e.g., *although* in "Although I love ketchup, I do not care for tomatoes.")

Subplot

a secondary story in a narrative that adds complexity and depth and connects to the main plot in the contexts of setting, characters, or theme

Suffix

a word element added to the end of a base word or root that forms a new word with changed meaning or grammatical function (e.g., –or added to the verb *instruct* to make the noun *instructor*)

Summarize

recapping the key elements or main ideas of a text

Superlative form

the form of an adjective indicating the greatest or least degree of three or more things or people compared
Superlatives are usually formed by adding –est, (e.g., *funniest*, *brightest*, *smartest*), but superlative adjectives sometimes take an irregular form (e.g., *most*, *best*, *worst*)

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Support

evidence from a text used to justify or corroborate a conclusion or assertion

Suspense

feeling of anxiety or anticipation as readers wait for outcome of an event

Sweeping generalization

a writer or speaker's use of a general statement meant to apply to many cases when some cases may include specific or unique details that make the assertion invalid

Syllabication

in speech or writing, the division of words into syllables

Syllable

a unit of oral language in which a vowel sound is heard; it may or may not contain a consonant sound

Syllable division pattern

rules regarding the division of words into syllables (e.g., split doubled letters as in *but-ter*) such as VC, CVC, CCVC, CVCC, VCCV, VCV, and VCCCV patterns

Note that there are exceptions to the rules regarding syllable division.

Synonym

one of two or more words in a language that have very similar meanings (e.g., *comical*, *funny*, *humorous*)

Synthesize

the process of combining multiple details and parts of a text or multiple texts to form a new coherent and unified idea

T

Table

a graphic text feature that includes related facts or numbers arranged in columns and rows

Tall tale

a story about impossible or exaggerated happenings related in a realistic, matter-of-fact, and often humorous way (e.g., the tale of Paul Bunyan)

Text evidence

paraphrased or directly quoted information from a source that supports an inference, thesis, claim, or analysis

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Text feature

all the components of a text that help convey meaning but are not the main body of text (e.g., sections, tables, graphs, timelines, bullets, numbers, bold and italicized font, pronunciation guide, diagram, insets, timeline, sidebar, introduction, foreword, preface, references, acknowledgements, footnotes, endnotes, citations)

Text structure

the organizational pattern or structure authors use to construct and organize ideas for their audience (e.g., cause and effect, problem and solution, description, order of importance)

Theme

the explicit or implied central or universal idea of a literary work that often speaks to the human experience/condition

Thesis

in a speech or piece of writing, the premise or main idea that is supported by details and commentary

Third-person point of view

a narrative perspective that includes the thoughts and feelings of one (third person limited) or more of the characters/people (third person omniscient) in a story or text and uses the third-person pronouns *he*, *she*, or *they*

Timeline

a graphic feature that represents dates and events in chronological order

Tone

the reflection of an author's or speaker's particular attitude, either stated or implied, toward the subject

Topic

a word or phrase that identifies the subject matter of a text or speech

Traditional text

stories derived from the oldest records of oral and written narratives throughout history (e.g., tales, legends, fairytales, fables, myths, religious texts)

Transition

words or phrases purposefully used to help sustain a thought or idea, linking sentences and paragraphs together smoothly so that there are no abrupt jumps or breaks between ideas

Translation

the process of converting the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences from one language to another

Trigraph

a cluster of three letters representing a single phoneme (e.g., tch in *match*)

U

Understand

to be thoroughly familiar with; to comprehend clearly the character, nature, or subtleties of something

Understanding

having knowledge about a subject, word, or task

V

Variant vowel

various corresponding spelling patterns for a vowel sound or a variety of spelling patterns for one vowel sound (e.g., long a spelled a, a_e, ai_, _ay). Other examples include (aw, au, al, all), (oi/oy), (oo, ou, ui, u, ew, ue), (oa, oe).

VCe syllable

a syllable that includes a vowel followed by a consonant followed by a silent *e*; in this type of syllable, the first vowel is usually long

Verb

a part of speech that describes a past, present, or future action or state of being, is the grammatical center of the predicate, and shows agreement with the subject and/or object

Verbal message

words and sounds that convey meaning, especially as opposed to gestures or mannerisms

Visual cue

a distinctive sight feature that triggers a response, especially, a distinctive shape that aids identification of a letter, letter group, or word

Vocabulary

a familiar set of words within a person's written and oral language; usually developed over time and serves as a tool to communicate and acquire new knowledge

Voice

the distinctive way the writer expresses ideas with respect to style, form, content, purpose, etc.; the distinctive features of a person's writing or speech patterns

Vowel

a speech sound in which the flow of breath is relatively unobstructed; an alphabet letter representing such sounds (a, e, i, o, u); two types of vowel teams are vowel digraphs and vowel diphthongs

Glossary

English Language Arts and Reading

Vowel sound

the sound created by A, E, I, O, and U in the English alphabet; unlike consonants, each vowel has more than one type of sound it can make, and these sounds are described as long or short (long a, short u, etc.); can also be silent depending on how the vowel appears within a word; every syllable has a vowel sound

Vowel team

two vowels that together represent one phoneme or sound (e.g., *ea*, *ai*, *oa*, *ou*)

Two types of vowel teams are vowel digraphs and diphthongs.

VV syllable

a syllable division between two vowels that creates two separate vowel sounds; often considered the most difficult syllable pattern because typically when two vowels are together, they are in the same syllable (e.g., *lion*, *fuel*, *piano*, etc.)

W

Word boundary

the boundary or division between two words, also known as the space between words

Word choice

the writer or speaker's selection of words that is derived from their style, purpose, and need to communicate accurately, appropriately, and understandably to a specific audience; also known as diction

Word origin

the initial place(s) and historical era(s) in which a word was derived and developed

Word structure knowledge

understanding how words are made up of smaller component parts

Work collaboratively

two or more people working together to create or produce something; the ability to work productively with others for a particular purpose

Works cited page

a page that appears at the end of a research paper that lists all sources referenced in the body of the paper that follows a specified style guide format such as MLA, APA, Chicago (Note: A bibliography is a list of all sources used in the research whether cited in the research paper or not.)

Written response

a written sentence, paragraph, or essay that answers a question or prompt and typically requires detail, description, and/or analysis of a text or topic