

Vocabulary

Use the vocabulary words and definitions below as a reference for this unit.

adjective a word that tells something about a noun or pronoun

adverb a word that tells something about a verb, adjective, or another adverb

connotation meaning that comes from the emotions or ideas readers associate with particular words
Example: The word *home* means the place where one lives, but its connotation may suggest family, love, and comfort.

context clues surrounding words or sentences that identify the meaning of an unfamiliar word

figurative language uses words in such a way that the reader sees something special or feels a particular way; uses words to describe and create images

Examples:

simile—makes comparisons using *like* and *as*

metaphor—describes one thing as being or *is* another

personification—describes an animal, object, or idea as having *human characteristics*

Vocabulary

- literal language** uses words for their exact meaning—the meaning found in the dictionary
- main idea** the most important idea or point in a paragraph or piece of writing
- metaphor** a comparison between two different or unlike things without using *like* or *as* in the comparison
Example: Each day *is* a blank sheet of paper.
- onomatopoeia** the use of words that sound like their meanings
Example: ooze, slurp, or thud
- paragraph** a group of related sentences that present and develop one main idea
- personification** an expression that gives a human characteristic or action to an animal, object, or idea
Example: The *sun smiled* down on the hikers.
- prefix** a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning
- preview** to look at in advance to get an idea of what is to come
- root or base word** the word to which a prefix or suffix is added

Vocabulary

- simile** a comparison between two different or unlike things using *like* or *as* in the comparison
Example: My mind is as sharp *as* a tack.
- suffix** a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to change its meaning
- summary** a brief restatement of the main points of a piece of writing
- table of contents** a listing of the information contained in a book located at the front of a book; shows how the book is organized and gives page numbers of chapters and subtopics within those chapters
- topic** the subject of written material; what the material is about
- topic sentence** the sentence that tells the focus or main point of a paragraph
- visual references** information presented in graphic form to summarize and supplement written information, including sources such as diagrams, tables, graphs, pictures, maps, or signs