

Vocabulary

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

- action verb** a verb that shows physical or mental action
Examples:
The gardener *mows* the grass. (physical action)
The gardener *enjoys* looking at the flowers. (mental action)
- antecedent** the word a pronoun replaces or refers to
- capitalization** the use of uppercase letters in writing
Example: On a Saturday in April, Max was born in Tallahassee, Florida.
- closing sentence or clincher** the final sentence of a paragraph
- common nouns** nouns that name a general class of persons (*boys, children*), places (*playgrounds, schools*), things (*apples, bicycles*), or ideas (*love, truth*)
- declarative sentence** a sentence that makes a statement and ends with a period (.)
Example: These are new books.
- details** the added information about a topic
- edit** the second step in the process of fine-tuning your writing; to check the grammar, punctuation, and spelling of your writing

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end marks the punctuation marks that come after a sentence: period (.), question mark (?), exclamation point (!)

exclamatory sentence a sentence that expresses a strong feeling and ends with an exclamation point (!)
Example: I got lost!

expository writing writing that explains something or informs readers

fragment a group of words that does *not* express a complete thought

homophones words that sound the same but have different meanings and different spellings
Example:
ant—an insect
aunt—a female relative

imperative sentence a sentence that gives a command or makes a request and ends with a period (.) or an exclamation point (!)
Example: Call home. Don't panic!

interrogative sentence a sentence that asks a question and ends with a question mark (?)
Example: Where are you going?

linking verb a verb that expresses a state of being
Examples:
George *is* the gardener's boss.
The gardener *has been* very helpful.

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- noun** a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea
- noun-pronoun agreement** making pronouns match the nouns they refer to; pronouns must match their nouns in case, gender, and number
Example: Juanita jumped for joy after she won her first state tennis tournament.
- paragraph** a group of related sentences that present and develop one main idea
- persuasive writing** writing that focuses on convincing readers of an opinion or claim, or to take a particular action
- preposition** a word that shows the relationship between a noun or a pronoun and another word in the sentence
Example:
Your ring is *on* the dresser.
Your ring is *in* the dresser.
Your ring is *under* the dresser.
Your ring is *behind* the dresser.
- prepositional phrase** a group of words that begins with a preposition and usually ends with a noun or pronoun called the object of the preposition
Example:
- The diagram shows the sentence "The road led to the town." with brackets and labels. A bracket above "to the town" is labeled "object of the preposition to". A larger bracket below "to the town" is labeled "prepositional phrase".
- pronoun** a word that is used instead of a noun to refer to a person, place, thing, or idea

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- proofread** the third step in the process of fine-tuning your writing; to check for typos, omitted words, and other errors
- proper nouns** nouns that name specific persons (*John Steinbeck*), places (*Florida*), things (*Model T Ford*)
- punctuation** symbols or marks that help readers understand the meaning of a sentence
Example: Juanita asked, “John, can’t you even make toast without needing directions?”
- revise** the first step in the process of fine-tuning your writing; to improve the content and language of your writing
- run-on sentence** two or more sentences that are joined together with commas or without any punctuation marks to separate them
Example: John ran to the store Juanita stayed to watch the football game.
- sentence** a group of words that expresses a complete thought and contains a subject and a verb
- subject** whom or what a sentence is about
- subject-verb agreement** making the verb of a sentence match its subject in number
Examples:
The *dog plays* outside. (singular subject and verb)
The *dogs play* outside. (plural subject and verb)

Vocabulary

- 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
- transitions** words or phrases that link ideas, sentences, and paragraphs together
- verb** a word that expresses physical action, mental action, or a state of being; tells what the subject of the sentence is, has, does, or feels; also called a *simple predicate*