

Vocabulary

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

adjectivea word that tells something about a noun or pronoun

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

biasa strong feeling toward or against something

body paragraphsthe sentences between the topic sentence and the ending sentence that develop the main idea of the paragraph

connotationmeaning 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 cluessurrounding words or sentences that identify the meaning of an unfamiliar word

denotationmeaning that comes from the exact definition of a word

expository writingwriting that explains something or informs readers

Vocabulary

figurative languageuses 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*

literal languageuses words for their exact meaning—the meaning found in the dictionary

main ideathe most important idea or point in a paragraph or piece of writing

metaphora comparison between two different or unlike things without using *like* or *as* in the comparison

Example: Each day *is* a blank sheet of paper.

nouna word that names a person, place, thing, or idea

onomatopoeiathe use of words that sound like their meanings

Example: ooze, slurp, or thud

paragrapha group of related sentences that present and develop one main idea

Vocabulary

- personification**an expression that gives a human characteristic or action to an animal, object, or idea
Example: The sun smiled down on the hikers.
- persuasive writing**writing that focuses on convincing readers of an opinion or claim, or to take a particular action
- 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
- pronoun**a word that is used instead of a noun to refer to a person, place, thing, or idea
- root or base word**the word to which a prefix or suffix is added
- 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

Vocabulary

table of contentsa 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

thesis statementthe main point of the essay; the claim or opinion the rest of the essay will discuss or support

topicthe subject of written material; what the material is about

topic sentencethe sentence that tells the focus or main point of a paragraph

verba 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*

visual referencesinformation presented in graphic form to summarize and supplement written information, including sources such as diagrams, tables, graphs, pictures, maps, or signs