

Vocabulary Words

1. Relevant – pertaining to the subject; on topic; important

Word Family: relevance, relevancy

Synonyms: germane, pertinent, related

Meaning – Something that is relevant is appropriate or connected to the matter at hand.

Jingle – My facts are straight, to the topic they matter

Without their relevance, they'd be idle chatter

2. Persuade – to use reason or argument to convince someone to do something

Word Family: persuaded, persuading, persuasion, persuasive

Synonyms: convince, induce, prompt

Meaning – If you persuade someone, you get your way; if someone talks you into or believing something, you've been persuaded.

Jingle – Persuade! Persuade!

Let's see who will be swayed

3. Evaluate – to find value, find worth, judge, appraise

Word Family: evaluated, evaluation

Synonyms: appraise, assess, calculate, estimate, gauge, weigh

Meaning – Evaluate means placing value on something, as when your teacher assesses your work or you appraise your own work.

Jingle – I evaluate 'cause I'm the judge

I place value without a grudge!

4. Cite – to note, quote, refer to, point out.

Word Family:

Synonyms: mention, name quote

Meaning – To cite is to mention evidence from a text in your writing.

Jingle – Cite is about pointing things out.

5. Analyze – to break something down into parts.

Word Family: analyzed, analyzing, analysis

Synonyms: examine, inspect, scan, scrutinize, study

Meaning – To analyze is to take a piece of information (e.g., a story or an article, or a movie) and examine each part in order to interpret what the author is saying; to decide which text structure is being used or is appropriate to your audience or purpose

Jingle – Analyze, break it down, down, down

Then explain what you found, found, found.

6. Theme – a universal idea carried through a text; a universal idea that an author is trying to teach.

Word Family:

Synonyms: content, idea matter, message, motive

Meaning –

Jingle – Theme is the message you will find

Woven by the author through your mind

7. **Structure – how something is organized or built; for text structure, how information within a text is organized**

Word Family:

Synonyms: arrangement, organization

Meaning – If you understand the text structure, you will know what to look for when you summarize, analyze, or make inferences from a text.

8. **Paraphrase – to put the author’s words into you own words; to make text easier to understand**
9. **Summarize – to make a short statement of the main points of a passage (When you are asked to summarize include only the important information.)**

Word Family:

Synonyms: condense, review, sum up

10. **Main Idea– the most important point. The author’s key point of their text.**

Word Family:

Synonyms: central, chief, foremost, key

11. Interpret – to translate, decode, explain, clarify; to describe what you have found out; to draw conclusions or find meaning about what text, events, or acts mean.

Word Family: interpreted interpreting, interpretation, interpreter

Synonyms: translate

12. Infer – to deduce, conclude; to read between the lines.

Word Family: inferred, inferring, inference

Synonyms: conclude, deduce, derive

13. Evidence – knowledge on which to base a belief; information helpful in forming a conclusion or judgement; details that support an assumption or claim. Evidence is information that provides support for other essential words and concepts, like main idea and inference.

Word Family:

Synonyms: confirmation, indications, proof

14. Develop – to elaborate or expand in detail; to create or produce.

Word Family: developed, developing, development

Synonyms: create, elaborate, explain

15. **Trace** – to follow the course or development of; to outline; to find or discover by investigation.

Word Family:

Synonyms: copy, find, follow, outline, sketch, track

16. **Support** – factual evidence that backs up your thinking about any topic (noun); to back up your thinking with factual evidence (verb)

Word Family: supporter, supporting, supportive.

Synonyms: back up, backing, hold up

17. **Point of View** – the distinctive way you see things.

Meaning – Point of View is the story from one person's perspective.

18. **Explain** – to tell about something so people understand it. To explain something is to define it, show how it works, or just tell what it is. Explaining helps people understand.

Word Family: explaining, explained, explanation, explanatory.

Synonyms: clarify, define, demonstrate, describe in detail, interpret

19. **Distinguish – to set apart, separate, tell apart, characterize, classify, categorize, tell about the unique characteristics of something.**

Distinguish requires students to recognize distinct or different characteristics or attributes

Word Family: distinguished (verb and adjective), distinct or different characteristics or attributes.

Synonyms: determine, differentiate, discern, discriminate, tell apart

20. **Determine- to conclude, decide, choose, figure out, come to a firm decision.**

Word Family: determined (verb and adjective), determiner, determining.

Synonyms: decide, direct

21. **Details – isolated facts; pieces of information that support or tell more about an idea.**

Word Family: detail (verb) detailed (verb).

Synonyms: facts, fine points, items, specifics

22. **Describe - to depict in words, tell in your own words; to report**

Word Family: describing, description, describable, descriptive, descriptively.

Synonyms: delineate, explain, portray, report, tell.

23. **Demonstrate** - 1. to describe or explain by examples; to show clearly that something exists or is true; to make known; to write or illustrate a step-by-step procedure that tells or shows how to do something; to prove. 2. To protests about something in a public place.

Word Family: demonstrated, demonstrating, demonstration, demonstrator, demonstrable, demonstrative, demonstrably, demonstratively.

Synonyms: display, explain, expound, illustrate, instruct, operate, prove, reveal, show; protest

24. **Compare/Contrast**

Compare – to find the likenesses between two or more things.

Word Family: compared, comparing, comparison, and comparatively.

Synonyms: correlate, equate, liken, match

25. **Contrast** – to find differences between or among two or more things; to differ in a way that can serve to distinguish one thing from another.

Word Family: contrasted, contrasting, contrastable

Synonyms: differ, disparity, distinguish

