

Reading Vocabulary

General Terms

argument-a coherent series of statements leading from a premise to a conclusion

author's opinion-a writer's viewpoint, judgment, or appraisal expressed in written form

author's purpose-the intentional message a writer wants to convey to readers

background knowledge-knowledge based on prior exposure and experiences

bandwagon-a faction or cause that attracts growing support

categorize-classify and place in a category

cause/effect-an action (cause) that brings about a result (effect)

compare/contrast-comparing two ideas or events, showing how they are similar or different

conclusion-the end or last part, often containing a summary

evaluate-to determine significance or worth

evidence-proof

expert opinion-a belief or evaluation from a person considered to be very knowledgeable about a particular subject or topic

graphic organizers-visual tools that help the reader organize information from a text (i.e. Venn Diagram, T-chart, Story Map, KWL Chart, web, timeline, table, graph)

generalizations-to make a broad overall statement concerning a particular topic

infer-to make an educated guess

opinion/fact-a belief vs. reality or actual incident

paraphrase-express in your own words to make clearer

perspective-feelings, opinions and experiences that affect a reader's outlook

persuasive techniques-to sway one's opinion or thoughts through literary methods

predict-say in advance what one thinks may happen

pro/con-for or against

retell-to tell orally or in writing what is remembered from the text

scan-to glance at quickly while looking for key information

sequence-one thing after another in a logical order

skim-quickly read through a text to get the main idea of the passage

statistics-data collected to determine a mathematical value

summarize-briefly state the main points

supporting details-facts that support an author's written statement or opinion

supporting evidence-statements of proof

testimonial-a statement testifying to benefits received

theme (topic)-the big idea of a story, which connects the characters, setting, and plot

Genres of Reading

advertisement-the act or process of promoting a product or thought

brochure-a pamphlet containing descriptive advertising material

consumer text-reading materials designed to inform consumers concerning a particular subject or product

directions-instructions or guidance pertaining to a particular task

electronic text-reading materials that are accessed via email or Internet services

essay-an analytic or interpretative literary composition

form-a prescribed set order of words

genre-type of text

letter-a personal, written form of communication

literary (fiction)-a narrative that is imagined (i.e. historical fiction, folklore, short story)

magazine article-a written article that entertains and /or informs readers and has been published in a magazine

manual-a book of instructions

memo-a written reminder

newspaper article- a written article that entertains and /or informs readers and has been published in a newspaper

nonfiction-factual information about real people, places or events

novel-a written narrative that is long and complex and deals with human experience through a connected sequence of events

opinion column-a written narrative found in newspapers and/or magazines that allows for personal expression of one's thoughts and opinions

persuasive-text that convinces you to believe something

play-the stage representation of an action or story

poetry-a piece of literature written in verse

practical/workplace-information for authentic purposes (i.e. directions, letters, schedules, recipes, job applications)

proposal-an act of stating something for consideration, an offer

recite-to repeat from memory, or read aloud publically

schedule-a procedural plan

script-the written text of a stage play, screenplay, or broadcast

short story-a brief account of incidents or events

speech-the communication or expression of thoughts in spoken words

warranty-something that authorizes, sanctions, supports, or justifies

Literary Devices and Terms

alliteration-repetition of the first sound in words

dialogue-characters' conversation in a story

foreshadowing-giving a sign or suggestion of what will happen later in a story

form-a particular style of poetry (i.e. free verse, limerick, cinquain)

hyperbole-figure of speech that exaggerates the truth

imagery-creating mental pictures from descriptive words

metaphor-a word for one idea or thing is used in place of another to suggest a likeness between them "the ship plows the sea"

monologue-a long speech given by one person without interruption

narrator-the one who is telling a story

personification-a figure of speech in which an object has the qualities of a person

script-the text of a play, broadcast, or movie

simile-a comparison between two unlike things often using the words *like, as, seems, appears and resembles*

stanza-a part of a poem with two or more lines that has a common, repeated pattern of rhythm or rhyme

story structure-stories have a beginning, middle and end

Non-fiction Terms

article-a written work often appearing in magazines or newspapers that presents factual information

bold-faced type-type with thick, heavy lines

caption-a brief title or explanation that describes an illustration

chart-a sheet giving information in tabular form

diagram-a drawing that shows arrangement and relationships

format-a general plan of organization, arrangement, or choice of material

glossary-a list of words and their definitions often found at the back of a book

headings-titles within an article that identify each new topic

index-an alphabetized listing of terms or subjects that gives the page number where each item can be found in the text

italics-a style of printing with letters slanted to the right

key words-vocabulary that is important in comprehending the text

layout-the plan, design, or arrangement of something

Table of Contents-a listing of titles or broad topics of information found within the text

text features-the printed layout or design of a book or article

Story Elements

characters-people or animals in a story

conflict/solution-a resolution of a problem

plot-a description of the action in a story; what happened to whom and why

point of view-a position from which something is considered or evaluated

setting-the time and place a story occurs

theme-a specific and distinctive quality, characteristic, or concern

Text Connections

text to text connections-connecting common themes between texts

text to self connections-relating the text to our own life experiences

text to world connections-relating the text to world events

Vocabulary Instruction

antonym-a word or phrase having the opposite meaning of another word or phrase

compound words-two words put together to make one word

homonyms-words that sound alike but are spelled differently and have different meanings

prefix-the syllable at the beginning of a word that changes the meaning of the word

suffix-the syllable at the end of a word that changes the meaning of the word

synonym-a word or phrase having about the same meaning as another word or phrase