Standards Based Vocabulary ™

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STANDARDS-BASED Vocabulary I



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INTRODUCTION

This book is not about memorizing long lists of vocabulary words and their definitions. You have done that before! As you work your way through *Standards-Based Vocabulary*, you will increase your vocabulary by learning the skills that you'll be able to apply to unfamiliar words you encounter throughout your life. You'll see how a word's definition can change depending on the words around it and how prefixes and suffixes can completely change a word's meaning. You'll also be able to recognize many vocabulary words that come from mythology or from Latin roots. All this will help you both in school and in life.

Will *Standards-Based Vocabulary* also help you succeed on your state's standardized test? Yes, it will. But being able to communicate with power and precision is the real long-term benefit of having a strong vocabulary.



For the following paragraphs, fill in each blank with the vocabulary word that best fits. Use clues from the sentences to help you. Each vocabulary word will be used only once and may be used in a different form to fit the sentence.



1. Jen wrote a play for her after-school drama club. It was long, and it took a lot of paper to print out the ______ for each person in the club. The play was about a family who lived in a town that was far away from the city. They didn't even have telephones. Messages to people outside of town had to be sent by ______. One day a group of people wearing ______ uniforms came to town and took it over by force. The rest of the story was about how the townspeople fought to get their town back. Jen had to make the play more ______ because it took two hours, and that was much too long. She also wanted to rent the costumes instead of making them, but had to ______ the idea when she was told it would cost too much.



2. The fields around our neighborhood had been ______ all winter. Finally, last night there was a snowstorm that left two feet of snow on the ground. School was closed, and there were a lot of kids outside playing in the snow. Some of them started building a(n) ______. My little brother wanted to join them and asked me to ______ him outside. He thought it would be ______ to have someone older to help make it as tall as possible. Soon, a snowball fight started, and everyone was having fun. Then, a few troublemakers came by and knocked down what we had built. Even though we could rebuild it ourselves, I made the other kids do it on ______ because what they did was wrong.

EXERCISE V EXPLORING WORD MEANINGS

Homographs – Each sentence contains a **bolded** vocabulary word and an <u>underlined</u> word that is *spelled the same* as the vocabulary word, *but has a different meaning and may sound different*. Write a definition for the <u>underlined</u> word based on how it is used in the sentence.

1. I couldn't eat much when I was sick for a week and became so **lean** that I was weak and had to <u>lean</u> on my mom to stand up.

Definition of <u>lean</u>:

2. There wasn't much <u>scrap</u> left from the wood we used to make the go-cart, so we had to **scrap** the idea of making a skateboard with it.

Definition of scrap:

Homophones – Each sentence contains a **bolded** vocabulary word and an <u>underlined</u> word that *sounds the same* as the vocabulary word, *but has a different spelling and meaning*. Write a definition for the <u>underlined</u> word based on how it is used in the sentence.

1. Cheating on a test is breaking a **principle** that will get you in trouble with the <u>principal</u>.

Definition of <u>principal</u>:

I put on socks because I could not <u>bear</u> to walk on the cold floor in **bare** feet.
 Definition of bear:

EXERCISE IV COMPLETE THE SENTENCE

Complete each sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the vocabulary word.

- 1. In her **address** to the town council, the mayor...
- 2. Randy's comments began to incense Carol because...
- 3. The art teacher clearly explained that students should **knead** the clay in order to...
- 4. Jim's **terse** answers made it clear that he...
- 5. The **irony** of buying a high-priced couch hit me when...
- 6. Claire took her children to the **museum** to see...
- 7. Many radio stations **censor** the lyrics of songs because...
- 8. The Lincoln Memorial was built to...
- 9. A plausible excuse for having a messy room would be that...
- 10. A negative person says the glass is half-empty, but an **optimist** says...

EXERCISE I **DEFINITIONS**

Write a brief definition for each of the following words, based on how the word is used in the sentence.

- 1. **avid** (a´ vid) Sam's love of books has made him an **avid** reader who finishes a book each day.
- 2. **cite** (sīt) In his report, Ben had to **cite** the authors' names and the page numbers where he found the information he used.
- 3. **foolhardy** (fool ' har de) Some **foolhardy** pioneers rushed to California without the supplies they needed in hopes of finding gold.
- 4. **hypnotic** (hip nä' tik) The violinist's **hypnotic** music put the audience in a trance.
- 5. **minute** (mī nōōt´) If you break a glass, it's important to pick up even the most **minute** pieces.



2. During the Great Depression, many people did not have the money to buy the things they needed and were forced to use what they had. The poor economy had hurt many companies, especially Grandpa Henry's fruit market. He grew his own apples and strawberries, but he had to ______ pineapples and oranges. In the ______ days of the stock market crash, Henry lost most of his life's savings. He knew, though, that he had to create a(n) ______ plan to keep his market in business. His fruit market was a(n) ______ part of his life because it was his only source of money. He had no other job. Like many others, Grandpa Henry decided he would let people pay him with services instead of money. One man paid Henry by fixing his cart so that it would be ______. Grandpa Henry could then roll his fruit to other towns to sell the food. His plan worked, and the fruit market was able to stay in business.

EXERCISE III SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS

Synonyms – For each sentence, fill in the blank with a word or phrase that has the same or nearly the same meaning as the vocabulary word in parentheses.

- When Carl arranged the furniture, he left some (leeway)
 ______ in front of the wall so that the chair
 does not bump against the wall when people sit back.
- Because George is the boss, most of his employees (bow) to
 ______ his commands, and they do whatever he tells them.
- Rhonda gave Luke a pair of silver cufflinks as a (symbol)
 ______ of her love for him.
- 5. The principal called a meeting to open a (dialogue)
 ______ between the parents and the teachers of the school so that they could understand each others' viewpoints.

Antonyms – For each sentence, fill in the blank with a word or phrase that means the opposite or nearly the opposite of the vocabulary word.

- 1. Joseph describes himself as a(n) ______ because he loves to be surrounded by people, but Marianne is an **introvert**, who seems quite shy.
- Olivia wanted to go on an **odyssey** around the world, but she had enough vacation time only for a(n) ______ to the beach for a week.
- 4. While Mr. Barton is a(n) _______ of the new cell phone law, his daughter is a **rebel** who still talks on her phone while driving.
- 5. Using the new telescope, the astronomer looked at _______ space in the sky, and found that the area was **teeming** with stars that were invisible before.

EXERCISE VI ROOTS, PREFIXES, AND SUFFIXES

Use the following information about roots, prefixes, and suffixes to answer the questions.



- 1. Old film or printed works are stored in a special location. The name for this place comes from the root that means "beginning." What is the word?
- 2. People go to a museum to see beautiful vases from ancient Rome. The vases were first found by scientists who were trained to find and take care of ancient objects. Combine a root and a suffix to make a word that means "the study of ancient objects":
- 3. Combine a prefix and a root from this chapter to form a word that means "out of one's mind":
- 4. The word *sanitary* comes from the root that means ______.

EXERCISE VII LITERARY TERMS

Protagonist

A *protagonist* is the person the action revolves around in a story.

Which of the following words is the best synonym for the word *protagonist*?

- A) character
- B) hero
- C) author