

STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES FOR TEACHING VOCABULARY

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What's in this packet?

Since vocabulary instruction is an important part of all content area classes, this packet contains 10 strategies that build students' understanding of vocabulary. All of these activities can be used to teach vocabulary in all content areas.

The handouts and vocabulary activities are featured in color for projection on an interactive whiteboard or via an LCD projector. A black and white set is also provided for photocopying.

Some Additional Tips:

Each of these activities can be turned into a learning center. Students can work in groups on each vocabulary activity.

See my website (and blog) for more tools and information for engaging all students in reading and writing in the 21st century!

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1 . VOCABULARY SLIDES

We know that students best learn vocabulary when they manipulate words in a variety of ways. Vocabulary Slides are graphic representatives of words that prompt students to use new words and terminology in a variety of ways. This packet includes five vocabulary slide formats.

2 . VOCABULARY ORGANIZER

This chart is a learning log that catalogues vocabulary words and terminology. This is particularly helpful when students encounter many new words and terms (i.e. polygons, systems of government, or cell structure).

4 . LIST - GROUP - LABEL

Drawing meaningful connections between words helps students to understand and learn new vocabulary.

Here's how the activity works:

Have the students read a selected passage.

Instruct the students to LIST all of the words that they think are important from the passage.

In pairs or groups of 3-4 students, direct the students to GROUP similar words.

Once the students have grouped the words, instruct the students to provide LABELS for each group that reveals the reasoning behind the grouping.

This packet includes a template for the students to use during this activity.

5 . VOCABULARY BOOKMARKS

As students read through a text, encourage them to record vocabulary words and terms on a bookmark. This packet includes several templates for vocabulary bookmarks.

Name: _____

Class: _____

WHAT IS IT?

Definition:

EXAMPLES

NON-EXAMPLES

Word or
Concept:

I can find this word...

This word reminds me of...

Name: _____

Class: _____

Detective:

Text or quote where the word was
originally found.

Context clue #1:

Word:

Context clue #2:

Part of Speech:

Sentence:

Picture or
illustration:

Definition:

Name: _____

Class: _____

Vocabulary word:

Picture or icon
of vocabulary:

Synonym:

Part of speech:

Antonym:

Sentence using the vocabulary word:

Name: _____

Class: _____

WHAT IS IT?

Definition:

EXAMPLES

NON-EXAMPLES

Word or
Concept:

Illustration:

Name: _____

Class: _____

Important
characteristics:

Incorrect
characteristics:

Concept or
vocabulary word:

Example:

~~Example:~~

Name: _____

Class: _____

WORD/TERM	DEFINITION	SYNONYM	ANTONYM	PICTURE OF WORD
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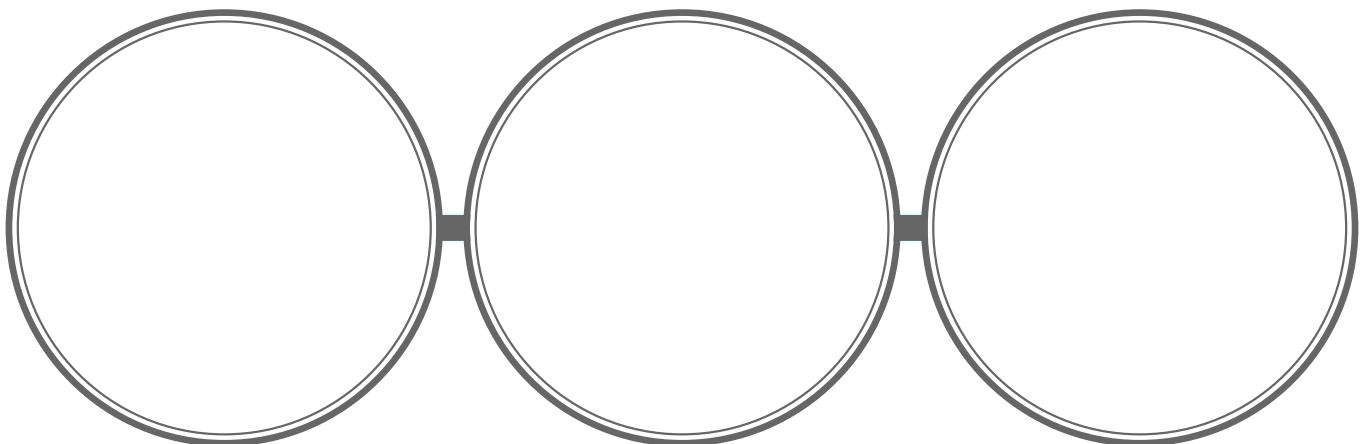
Name: _____

Class: _____

Write down the words that were brainstormed and words that you already know.

LIST-GROUP-LABEL

CATEGORIES

Three empty circles are arranged horizontally, connected by a thin horizontal line. Each circle is outlined with a double border, and the interior is white. This section is intended for students to write down categories for their brainstormed words.

VOCABULARY BOOKMARKS

WORD
DEFINITION
PAGE #

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