

Teaching Notes

Vocabulary

Overview

These twenty-five transparencies provide a variety of activities designed to increase vocabulary development and prepare students for the SAT and for state-specific tests.

Skills Areas

- Frequently Confused Words
- Deadwood Adjectives
- Definitions
- Connotations
- Synonyms
- Prefixes
- Suffixes
- Roots

Activities

- Syno-grams
- Sentence completions
- Crossword puzzles
- Graphic organizers
- Drawings

Answers

Brief answers are provided for your convenience on the transparencies themselves. Further examples, sample sentences, and explanations are included on the Answer Key pages that follow.

Vocabulary

Transparency 26

Vocabulary: Synonyms

- 1 They bought the *dilapidated* house and fixed it up.
Additional synonyms: *decayed, ramshackle*
- 2 He *separated* the eggs according to the recipe before making the cake.
Additional synonyms: *detached, divided*
- 3 Douglass was an *eloquent* orator, and many people came to hear him speak.
Additional synonyms: *articulate, persuasive*
- 4 The *rowdy* soccer fans stopped the game by throwing trash onto the field.
Additional synonyms: *excited, wild*

Transparency 27

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

- 1 A *Accept* means “receive.” A student’s drawing might show a person giving something to another person.
Example sentence: Will you *accept* this gift as a thank you for all your help?
- 1 B *Except* means “omit.” A student’s drawing might show one item out of many set to the side.
Example sentence: We will take all our sports equipment with us *except* our skis.
- 2 A *Assistance* means “help.” A student’s drawing might show a young person helping an elderly one.
Example sentence: The boy was willing to help when his neighbor needed *assistance* climbing the stairs.
- 2 B *Assistants* means “helpers, especially subordinates.” A student’s drawing might show an office setting with several workers.
Example sentence: The director’s *assistants* made sure the actors were ready for the next scene.
- 3 A *Stationery* is writing paper, or paper for correspondence. A student’s drawing might

show a teenager writing to his or her friend.
Example sentence: I keep a box of *stationery* in my desk.

- 3 B *Stationary* means “immovable.” A student’s drawing might show a large statue and someone trying without success to move it.
Example sentence: The statue is *stationary*, so we will not be able to move it to the center of the park.

Transparency 28

Vocabulary: Connotations

Across

- 1 As a synonym for *fan*, *zealot* has a negative connotation, implying an extreme attitude.
- 2 As a synonym for *well known*, *notorious* has a negative connotation, indicating fame garnered by wrongdoing.
- 3 As a synonym for *spur-of-the-moment*, *rash* has a negative connotation, implying a lack of judgment.
- 4 As a synonym for *inflexible*, *stubborn* has a negative connotation, implying a desire to be contrary.
- 5 As a synonym for *inflexible*, *steadfast* has a positive connotation, implying loyalty.
- 6 As a synonym for *fan*, *enthusiast* has a positive connotation, suggesting vigor and support.

Down

- 7 As a synonym for *well known*, *celebrated* has a positive connotation, suggesting worthiness of recognition.
- 8 As a synonym for *spur-of-the-moment*, *spontaneous* has a positive connotation, implying energy and creativity.

Transparency 29

Vocabulary: Prefixes

- 1 prevent I will do everything in my power to *prevent* the closing of the library.

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- 2 premeditated The crime was clearly *premeditated*.
- 3 prejudice His classmates are free from *prejudice*.
- 4 prelude My favorite part of that opera is the *prelude*.

Transparency 30

Vocabulary: Definitions

- 1 animosity A great deal of *animosity* developed when the deal fell apart.
- 2 loathe Tom *loathes* waking up early on weekends.
- 3 reject He will *reject* your offer to buy the company.
- 4 evacuate The rescue squad *evacuated* the village when the floodwaters rose.
- 5 evasive The team's tight end made an *evasive* move and scored a touchdown.
- 6 elude The escaped convict tried to *elude* his pursuers by wading in a stream.

Transparency 31

Vocabulary: Suffixes

- 1 initiative Please take the *initiative* and go meet her.
- 2 prospective He is a *prospective* client, so please be friendly.
- 3 attractive You are quite *attractive* in that new suit.
- 4 submissive The horse was *submissive* after the harness was put on him.

Transparency 32

Vocabulary: Deadwood Adjectives

- 1 frightful, appalling The *appalling* weather conditions caused the Chans to cancel the party.
- 2 hearty, voracious Grandma cooked us a *hearty* breakfast before we left for school.
- 3 modest, simple The governor's family lives in a *modest* home in the suburbs.

- 4 bizarre, unique Bill's *bizarre* behavior embarrassed everyone in the auditorium.
- 5 scenic, panoramic The *panoramic* display of natural beauty amazed the travelers.

Transparency 33

Vocabulary: Connotations

POSITIVE

1 assertive

Mr. Jorgenson did not gain many votes at the debate because he was too *aggressive*.

2 meticulous

Kim is *meticulous* about the condition of her room and cleans it twice a day.

3 slim

Because he exercises regularly and eats balanced meals, Juan is *slim* and healthy.

4 versatile

To be a success on Broadway, an actor must be *versatile*—able to sing, dance, and act.

5 serene

Coach Carbone cut Maria from the JV team because of her *apathetic* attitude.

NEGATIVE

aggressive

finicky

skinny

fickle

apathetic

Transparency 34

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

- 1 stationery The park bench was *stationary* and could not be moved over to the baseball field.
- 2 veracity The lionesses ate their kill with a *voracity* that was frightening.
- 3 allusions The magician created many *illusions* during his performance.
- 4 swayed The *suede* jacket costs over 200 dollars.
- 5 alluded He *eluded* his pursuers by hiding in the old, abandoned warehouse.

Transparency 35

Vocabulary: Synonyms

- 1 My little sister's *incessant* whining annoys me.
Additional synonyms: *continual, unceasing*
- 2 The referee did not appreciate the player's *impertinent* actions, so he removed the player from the game.
Additional synonyms: *bold, saucy*
- 3 The cat was *nimble*, quickly jumping over the fence to escape the dog.
Additional synonyms: *spry, active*
- 4 When I throw the ball, my dog *retrieves* it.
Additional synonyms: *fetch, reclaim*

Transparency 36

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

- 1 A *Principal* means "of chief importance," "a chief person, such as the head of a school," or "an amount of money on which interest is computed." A student's drawing might show the head of a school.
Example sentence: The *principal* made an announcement to the entire student body.
- 1 B *Principle* means "a basic rule or truth." A student's drawing might illustrate a principle, such as "Honesty is the best policy" or "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you."
Example sentence: It is important to act on *principle* if you wish to be taken seriously.
- 2 A A *desert* is a dry area and to *desert* means "to abandon." A student might draw a desert setting.
Example sentence: Cacti grow in the *desert*.
- 2 B A *dessert* is a sweet, end-of-meal dish. A student might draw a favorite dessert.
Example sentence: We had watermelon for *dessert* at the picnic.
- 3 A *Compliment* means "an act of courtesy or respect." A student might draw two people shaking hands.

Example sentence: Lori *complimented* the actress by shaking her hand when the performance was over.

- 3 B** *Complement* means “something that completes.” A student might draw a tie and a suit.

Example sentence: I think this tie will *complement* the suit you have chosen to wear.

Transparency 37

Vocabulary: Connotations

Across

- As a synonym for *enthusiastic, fervent* has a positive connotation, implying intense devotion.
- As a synonym for *sharp, pungent* has a positive connotation, implying that something is poignant.
- As a synonym for *old, antiquated* has a negative connotation, implying that something is no longer useful.
- As a synonym for *dull or worn-out, decrepit* has a negative connotation, implying weakness.

Down

- As a synonym for *usable, functional* has a positive connotation, implying usefulness.
- As a synonym for *cutting or sneering, sarcastic* has a negative connotation, implying rudeness.
- As a synonym for *old, venerable* has a positive connotation, indicating someone or something respected.
- As a synonym for *enthusiastic, frenzied* has a negative connotation, implying near-insanity.

Transparency 38

Vocabulary: Prefixes

- intercede** The diplomat will *intercede* on behalf of his nation
- interval** The obstacle course contained hurdles at certain *intervals*.
- intermittent** Susan could not sleep because of the *intermittent* drip of the faucet.
- interference** I want to work on this painting without *interference* from anyone.

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Transparency 39

Vocabulary: Definitions

- 1 perennial Dealing with traffic congestion is a *perennial* problem for city government.
- 2 chronological Start at the beginning and relate the events in *chronological* order.
- 3 subsequent *Subsequent* to the battle, the troops rested and regrouped behind the lines.
- 4 hereditary The rare blood disease proved to be *hereditary*; his father and grandfather also had it.
- 5 genealogy Interested in *genealogy*, Carlo traced his family's roots back to Italy.
- 6 ancestral That ranch started by my great-grandfather is our family's *ancestral* home.

Transparency 40

Vocabulary: Syno-Grams

[unscrambled words]

vitrlai	trivial
soufirlvo	frivolous
iotxpel	exploit
usabe	abuse
risinets	sinister
nosuoim	ominous
tuvode	devout
soupi	pious

- 1 trivial, frivolous It is not wise to get involved in *trivial* gossip about other people.
- 2 exploit, abuse Many people worry about the environment and encourage others

not to *exploit* the Earth's precious natural resources.

- 3 sinister, ominous Warnings of severe weather can seem *ominous*, but they keep many people from harm.
- 4 devout, pious Her *devout* and humble manner inspired many people to work for her charity.

Transparency 41

Vocabulary: Deadwood Adjectives

- 1 bustling, hectic The end of the school year is a *hectic* time for both students and teachers.
- 2 hazardous, intolerable Crossing the street without looking both ways is extremely *hazardous*.
- 3 robust, vigorous Because he lifts weights, he is *robust*.
- 4 bustling, hectic Travelers were *bustling* through the airport.
- 5 vigorous, robust Their *vigorous* efforts to lift the heavy crate were successful.

Transparency 42

Vocabulary: Roots

- 1 telephone I haven't been able to reach my agent because she has been on the *telephone*.
- 2 phonetics My sister is studying *phonetics* in her reading class.
- 3 generate This mailer should *generate* some new business.
- 4 genetic Medical research has made dramatic progress in *genetic* therapy and health care.

Transparency 43

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

- 1 raise The sun *rises* in the east and sets in the west.
- 2 effect Don't let bad weather *affect* your spirits.
- 3 respectfully The first and second awards went to Bob and Jill, *respectively*.
- 4 imminent Our *eminent* guests were sought after by many in the crowd who wanted autographs.
- 5 altogether Keep the books that belong to John *all together* on that shelf.

Transparency 44

Vocabulary: Synonyms

- 1 Wash your face and comb your hair, or you will appear *unkempt*.
Additional synonyms: *messy, ill-kept*
- 2 Attendance at the party was quite *sparse*; I saw only five guests.
Additional synonyms: *scattered, thin*
- 3 Will you wear a suit to the reception, or is formal *garb* required?
Additional synonyms: *clothing, apparel*
- 4 The *potion* made her feel strong and alert.
Additional synonyms: *remedy, substance*

Transparency 45

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

- 1 A *Formerly* means "previously." Students might draw themselves at an earlier time in their lives.
Example sentence: *Formerly*, I wore braces on my teeth.
- 1 B *Formally* means "politely" or "according to rule or custom." A student might draw a scene of a formal dance.
Example sentence: He *formally* asked her to marry him by getting down on his knees.

- 2 A *Loose* means "not tight." A student's drawing might show a figure wearing loose-fitting clothing.
Example sentence: She loved *loose-fitting* dresses like caftans.
- 2 B *Lose* means "to misplace or get rid of." A student's drawing might show someone who loses something.
Example sentence: She *lost* her sock, so she was left with only half a pair.
- 3 A *Incredulous* means "doubting." A student's drawing might show a frowning parent.
Example sentence: Drew's father gave him an *incredulous* look as Drew explained how the window broke.
- 3 B *Incredible* means "unbelievable." A student's drawing might show a spaceship landing.
Example sentence: Seeing aliens land in the field would be *incredible*.

Transparency 46

Vocabulary: Suffixes

- 1 discretion Keeping this a secret will require the *discretion* of everyone here.
- 2 intimidation Due to *intimidation* by the local bosses, no one was willing to vote freely.
- 3 obsession Losing weight had become an *obsession* for Don; he counted the calories of everything he ate.
- 4 interception Caleb's *interception* was the turning point of the game.

Transparency 47

Vocabulary: Definitions

- 1 dupe How could I be such a *dupe* as to hand over \$100 to a stranger!
- 2 hoax The *hoax* involved forging signatures and impersonating police officers.

- 3 unscrupulous I believe it would be *unscrupulous* to take money for a job I didn't complete.
- 4 promenade Couples *promenade* down the boardwalk at sunset.
- 5 strut Watch him *strut* after making that touchdown.
- 6 meander I love to *meander* through the park.

Transparency 48

Vocabulary: Roots

- 1 sympathize I *sympathize* with you because of your broken leg.
- 2 symphony She attends *symphony* concerts as often as she can.
- 3 export The United States *exports* grain to other countries.
- 4 support We will *support* his effort.

Transparency 49

Vocabulary: Connotations

POSITIVE

- 1 vivid Wearing a *gaudy* yellow dress to the interview was a serious lapse in judgment.

NEGATIVE

- 1 gaudy
- 2 congregation horde
A *horde* of angry wasps attacked the careless hikers.

- 3 negotiate haggle
No matter how much time it wastes, he has to *haggle* over the price of everything.
- 4 resourceful calculating
In her typical *calculating* style, she figured out a way to get us to pay for the cab.
- 5 wary suspicious
She's so *suspicious* that she never greets a stranger.

Transparency 50

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

- 1 alludes My cat *eludes* my dog by running under the bed.
- 2 already We are *all ready* to go and plan to take the 10:00 A.M. bus.
- 3 continuous I was awakened three times by the *continual* sound of police sirens.
- 4 uninterested The ideal juror should be *disinterested* in the outcome of the case being tried.
- 5 farther We will discuss Faulkner's symbolism *further* at our next meeting.

- Remind students that context can help them determine the meaning of various synonyms.
- Answers: 1 C, 2 B, 3 D, 4 A. Sample sentences and examples of synonyms appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Synonyms

A rowdy B separated C dilapidated D eloquent

DIRECTIONS

- Choose a word from the box that has the same meaning as the underlined word in the sentence.
- Then, write a sentence using the word you have chosen.
- Finally, think of one additional synonym for each underlined word and write it on your paper.

- 1 The old cottage looked extremely run-down, as if it had been neglected for years.
- 2 The yellowed pages became disconnected and fell out of the ancient book.
- 3 The famous speaker was fluent and inspirational; the audience listened attentively to her every word.
- 4 The crowd became frenzied as many spectators screamed and jumped around when it appeared that their team was going to win.

- You may wish to demonstrate the activity by making simple line drawings or diagrams to illustrate the meanings of the underlined words in the model.
- Answers will vary. Suggestions appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

MODEL

I always take the shortest route to school.

Our high school football team routed the opposing team 76–3.

DIRECTIONS

- Draw a simple picture or diagram for each word in the three pairs to show the difference in meaning between them.
- Then, write a sentence using each word correctly.

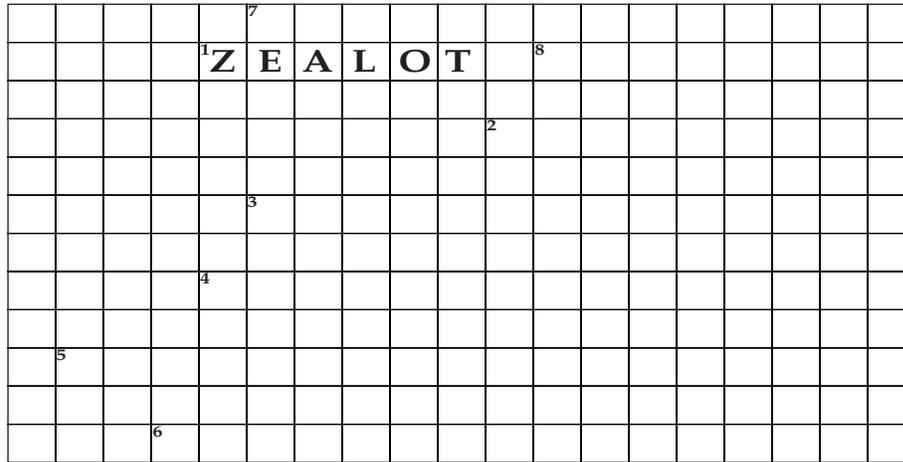
Accept	Except
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Assistance	Assistants
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Stationery	Stationary
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- Remind students that synonyms often have different **connotations**, or shades of meaning. You may want to fill in the grid as students suggest answers.
- The completed puzzle appears in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Connotations



DIRECTIONS

- To complete the puzzle, look for a word that has a similar meaning to the clue word.
- **P** means to look for a word with a positive connotation.
- **N** means to look for a word with a negative connotation.
- Write the words on your paper. The first one has been done as an example.

CLUE WORDS

Across

- 1 fan (N)
- 2 well known (N)
- 3 spur-of-the-moment (N)
- 4 inflexible (N)
- 5 inflexible (P)
- 6 fan (P)

Down

- 7 well known (P)
- 8 spur-of-the-moment (P)

ANSWER CHOICES

- celebrated
- stubborn
- spontaneous
- zealot
- steadfast
- enthusiast
- rash
- notorious

- Remind students that a **prefix** is a letter or group of letters added to the front of a root to change its meaning.
- Answers: 1 prevent, 2 premeditate, 3 prejudice, 4 prelude. Example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Prefixes

MODEL

Prefix: letter or group of letters added to the front of a root to change its meaning

pre-: before, at first, prior

view: (root) to look at attentively, watch

preview: to view before, a first look at

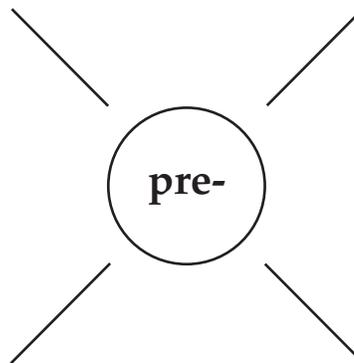
The movie *preview* was astonishing; we could hardly wait to see the new film.

DIRECTIONS

- For each numbered clue, write the appropriate word that begins with the prefix *pre-*.
- Then, write a sentence using the word.

1 to keep from happening, to hold back

2 to consider or meditate beforehand



3 judgment or opinion formed before facts are known, bias

4 an introductory or preliminary performance of music

- Remind students that understanding the definitions of related words can help them expand their vocabulary.
- Answers: 1 B, 2 C, 3 A, 4 A, 5 C, 6 B. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Definitions

DIRECTIONS

- Choose the word from the box that best matches the numbered definition.
- Then, write your own sentence using the word.

Words That Express Dislike

A reject

B animosity

C loathe

- 1 a strong, deep-rooted dislike
- 2 to feel intense hatred for
- 3 to turn down or put away

Words That Express Escape

A evacuate

B elude

C evasive

- 4 to remove from an area of danger
- 5 hard to catch
- 6 to escape or avoid through the use of quickness or cunning

- Remind students that a **suffix** is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a root to change its meaning.
- Answers: 1 initiative, 2 prospective, 3 attractive, 4 submissive. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Suffixes

MODEL

Suffix: letter or group of letters added to the end of a root to change its meaning

-ive: showing or demonstrating a characteristic

support: (root) to carry, bear, uphold

supportive: demonstrating support of a person or thing

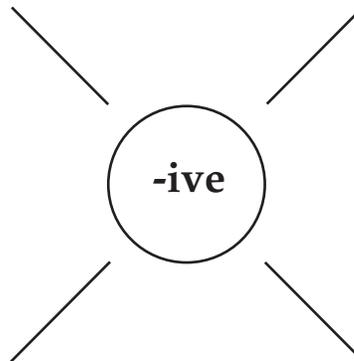
Mr. Patterson is always *supportive* of his staff.

DIRECTIONS

- Add *-ive* to a word in each clue sentence below. You may have to change the spelling of the root in order to spell the new word containing the suffix correctly.
- Then, write a sentence using the word.

1 We must initiate our new plan immediately!

2 The prospect of a new school thrills me.



3 The group will attract people who are interested in music.

4 He will submit to their questions.

- Suggest to students that replacing weak, general adjectives with strong, more precise adjectives will make their writing more interesting to readers.
- Answers: 1 frightful, appalling; 2 hearty, voracious; 3 modest, plain; 4 bizarre, unique; 5 scenic, panoramic. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Deadwood Adjectives

frightful	hearty	modest	appalling	simple
bizarre	scenic	unique	panoramic	voracious

DIRECTIONS

- Write two adjectives from the box that could replace each underlined word. You will use all the words in the box.
- Then, select one adjective from each pair and write a sentence using the word correctly.

-
- 1 The continual stormy weather was bad.
 - 2 She was active, athletic, and had a strong appetite.
 - 3 Thoreau lived alone in the woods and led a plain life.
 - 4 The car's unusual appearance attracted a lot of attention.
 - 5 The wide view we enjoy from the terrace includes the distant mountains.

- Remind students that synonyms often have different **connotations**, or shades of meaning. Example: You might describe something you like as “distinctive” and something you don’t like as “weird.”
- Answers and example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Connotations

MODEL

confident: assured, certain, sure of oneself

Connotation: positive

Laura looked *confident* as she walked onto the stage.

haughty: arrogant, proud, showing contempt for others

Connotation: negative

The candidate’s *haughty* expression did not win him any votes.

DIRECTIONS

- Create two columns: **POSITIVE** and **NEGATIVE**.
- Place the words in each numbered pair in the appropriate column.
- Select one word from each pair, and considering its connotation, write a sentence using the word correctly.

1 assertive aggressive

2 finicky meticulous

3 slim skinny

4 fickle versatile

5 serene apathetic

- Remind students that many similar-sounding words often are confused and misused.
- Remind students to consider carefully context and spelling.
- Answers : 1 B, 2 A, 3 B, 4 A, 5 A. Example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

MODEL

Her (counsel, council) from the law firm advised her not to talk to reporters.

The (counsel, council) met to decide whether or not to endorse the candidate.

DIRECTIONS

- Number your paper from 1 to 5, and write the correct word choice to complete each sentence. Consider context.
- Then, write a sentence for the other word from each of the word pairs. The context of this sentence should clearly demonstrate the word's meaning.

- 1 The office manager ordered the (A stationary, B stationery) with the company logo.
- 2 They made strong character witnesses; no one in court questioned their (A veracity, B voracity).
- 3 The short story writer included many literary (A illusions, B allusions) but few historical ones.
- 4 The curtains (A swayed, B sude) as the wind gently blew through the window.
- 5 In his speech, Joe (A alluded, B eluded) to the feature article he had read that morning.

- Remind students that context can help them determine the meaning of various synonyms.
- Answers: 1 C, 2 D, 3 A, 4 B. Sample sentences and examples of synonyms appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Synonyms

A nimble B retrieve C incessant D impertinent

DIRECTIONS

- Choose a word from the box that has the same meaning as the underlined word in the sentence.
- Then, write a sentence using the word you have chosen.
- Finally, think of one additional synonym for each underlined word and write it on your paper.

- 1 The endless roar of cars and trucks outside their home eventually forced the family to move.
- 2 The customer refused to answer the sales associate's questions and made several flippant remarks about the department store.
- 3 The agile acrobat did a quick back flip and landed on the shoulders of his partner.
- 4 A passerby was able to recover the kitten from the fast-flowing stream.

- You may wish to demonstrate the activity by making simple line drawings or diagrams to illustrate the meanings of the underlined words in the model.
- Answers will vary. Suggestions appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

MODEL

Personal letters should be read only by the person to whom they are addressed.

All personnel must be at their work stations by 8:00 A.M.

DIRECTIONS

- Draw a simple picture or diagram for each word in the three pairs to show the difference in meaning between them.
- Then, write a sentence using each word correctly.

Principal	Principle
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Desert	Dessert
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Compliment	Complement
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- Remind students that synonyms often have different **connotations**, or shades of meaning. You may want to fill in the grid as students suggest answers.
- The completed puzzle appears in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Connotations

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DIRECTIONS

- To complete the puzzle, look for a word that has a similar meaning to the clue word.
- **P** means to look for a word with a positive connotation.
- **N** means to look for a word with a negative connotation.
- Write the words on your paper. The first one has been done as an example.

CLUE WORDS

Across

- 1 enthusiastic (P)
- 2 sharp (P)
- 3 old (N)
- 4 dull, worn-out (N)

Down

- 1 usable (P)
- 5 cutting, sneering (N)
- 6 old (P)
- 7 enthusiastic (N)

ANSWER CHOICES

- pungent
- functional
- venerable
- fervent
- frenzied
- sarcastic
- decrepit
- antiquated

- Remind students that a **prefix** is a letter or group of letters added to the front of a root to change its meaning.
- Answers: 1 intercede, 2 interval, 3 intermittent, 4 interference. Example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Prefixes

MODEL

Prefix: letter or group of letters added to the front of a root to change its meaning

inter-: between, among

national: (root) characteristic of a country or sovereign state

international: between countries, among nations

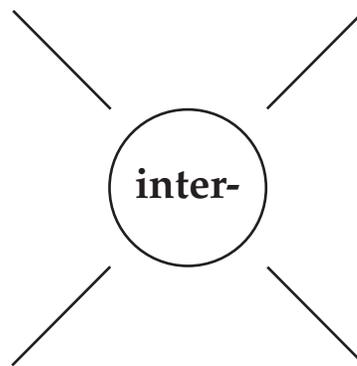
After many months, the diplomats reached an *international* agreement.

DIRECTIONS

- For each numbered clue, write the appropriate word that begins with the prefix *inter-*.
- Then, write a sentence using the word.

1 to attempt to bring about agreement between two parties

2 a space between at least two items or details



3 from time to time, periodic

4 obstruction, blocking or hindering

- Remind students that understanding the definitions of related words can help them expand their vocabulary.
- Answers : 1 B, 2 A, 3 C, 4 B, 5 A, 6 C. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Definitions

DIRECTIONS

- Choose the word from the box that best matches the numbered definition.
- Then, write your own sentence using the word.

Words That Express Time

A chronological

B perennial

C subsequent

- 1 continuing to happen over time
- 2 occurring in time order
- 3 occurring later in time

Words About Family History

A genealogy

B hereditary

C ancestral

- 4 something that is inborn or genetic
- 5 the study of family history
- 6 having to do with earlier generations of a family

- Tell students that the scrambled words in the box below are pairs of **synonyms**, words with almost the same meanings.
- Answers: 1 trivial, frivolous; 2 exploit, abuse; 3 sinister, ominous; 4 devout, pious. Example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Syno-grams

iotxpel

soufirlvo

vitrlai

usabe

tuvode

nosuoim

risinets

soupi

DIRECTIONS

- Unscramble the jumbled words in the box to find a pair of synonyms for each numbered definition. You may want to read the numbered definitions before you try to unscramble the syno-grams.
- Then, write a sentence using one of the synonyms for each definition.

1 not important at all

2 to use in a way that injures or damages

3 suggesting bad luck, trouble, or disaster

4 having strong religious beliefs

- Suggest to students that replacing weak, general adjectives with strong, more precise adjectives will make their writing more interesting to readers.
- Answers: 1 bustling, hectic; 2 hazardous, intolerable; 3 robust, vigorous; 4 bustling, hectic; 5 vigorous, robust. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Deadwood Adjectives

vigorous hectic hazardous robust bustling intolerable

DIRECTIONS

- Write two adjectives from the box that could replace each underlined word. You will use all the words in the box, and some you will use twice.
- Then, select one adjective from each pair and write a sentence using the word correctly.

- 1 The five children had many pets, so their house was a busy place.
- 2 The poor working conditions in the mines caused many workers to be sick or injured.
- 3 Regular exercise and dieting keep my grandparents in good health.
- 4 The streets were crowded and active with holiday shoppers.
- 5 She is an energetic campaigner who schedules many public appearances.

- Remind students that a **root** is the foundation of a word. It carries the word's core meaning and is the part to which prefixes and suffixes are added.
- Answers: 1 telephone, 2 phonetics, 3 generate, 4 genetic. Example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Roots

MODEL

Root: foundation of a word that carries the word's core meaning; the part to which prefixes and suffixes are added

-cogn-: know

recognize: to know by some detail

You can *recognize* a monarch butterfly by its orange coloring.

DIRECTIONS

- For each numbered clue, write a word that uses the root indicated.
- Then, write a sentence using the word.

-phon-: sound

- 1 instrument for sending and receiving sounds over distances
- 2 the study of speech sounds

-gen-: birth, kind, origin

- 3 to bring into existence, to create
- 4 relating to causes, origin, or development of something

- Remind students that many similar-sounding words are often confused and misused.
- Remind students to consider carefully context and spelling.
- Answers: 1 A, 2 B, 3 A, 4 B, 5 B. Example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

MODEL

The mayor and governor will (precede, proceed) the other marchers.

The marchers will (precede, proceed) down Main Street to the war memorial.

DIRECTIONS

- Number your paper from 1 to 5, and write the correct word choice to complete each sentence. Consider context.
- Then, write a sentence for the other word from each of the word pairs. The context of this sentence should clearly demonstrate the word's meaning.

- 1 Two Boy Scouts (A raise, B rise) the flag every morning.
- 2 The lack of heavy snow last winter had an adverse (A affect, B effect) on area ski resorts.
- 3 The students listened (A respectfully, B respectively) to the principal's remarks.
- 4 The president's arrival was (A eminent, B imminent), and large crowds had gathered.
- 5 Despite the problem with our dogs, we are (A all together, B altogether) happy in our new home.

- Remind students that context can help them determine the meaning of various synonyms.
- Answers: 1 A, 2 C, 3 B, 4 D. Sample sentences and examples of synonyms appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Synonyms

A unkempt

B garb

C sparse

D potion

DIRECTIONS

- Choose a word from the box that has the same meaning as the underlined word in the sentence.
- Then, write a sentence using the word you have chosen.
- Finally, think of one additional synonym for each underlined word and write it on your paper.

- 1 The uncut lawn and untidy appearance of the house suggest it is abandoned.
- 2 The northern landscape was empty except for snow and a few meager trees and bushes.
- 3 Wearing the attire of a wealthy French aristocrat, Renee made her entrance onto the stage.
- 4 The hero regains his strength after swallowing the elixir prepared by the wise old woman.

- You may wish to demonstrate the activity by making simple line drawings or diagrams to illustrate the meanings of the underlined words in the model.
- Answers will vary. Suggestions appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

MODEL

The movie director decided to adapt the popular novel for use in a film.

My little brother tries to adopt stray dogs and cats in our neighborhood.

DIRECTIONS

- Draw a simple picture or diagram for each word in the three pairs to show the difference in meaning between them.
- Then, write a sentence using each word correctly.

Formerly

Formally

Loose

Lose

Incredulous

Incredible

- Remind students that a **suffix** is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a root to change its meaning.
- Answers: 1 discretion, 2 intimidation, 3 obsession, 4 interception. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Suffixes

MODEL

Suffix: letter or group of letters added to the end of a root to change its meaning

-ion: suffix meaning action, condition

relate: (root word) to connect

relation: condition of being related

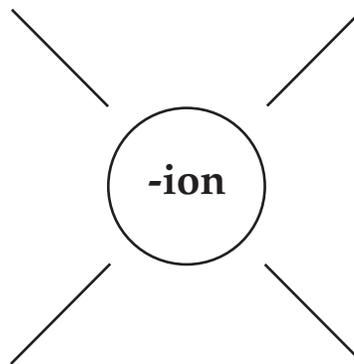
There is a *relation* between climate and geography.

DIRECTIONS

- Add *-ion* to a word in each clue sentence below. You may have to change the spelling of the root in order to spell the new word containing the suffix correctly.
- Then, write a sentence using the word.

1 No one found out about our secret because we were very discreet.

2 Rather than intimidate the children, try to win them over with love and respect.



3 It's great to lose weight but try not to obsess about dieting.

4 Player number 84 managed to intercept the football and run for a touchdown.

- Remind students that understanding the definitions of related words can help them expand their vocabulary.
- Answers : 1 C, 2 A, 3 B, 4 C, 5 A, 6 B. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Definitions

DIRECTIONS

- Choose the word from the box that best matches the numbered definition.
- Then, write your own sentence using the word.

Words That Express Dishonesty

A hoax

B unscrupulous

C dupe

- 1 someone who is a victim of dishonesty
- 2 a dishonest scheme
- 3 corrupt or immoral

Words That Describe Movement

A strut

B meander

C promenade

- 4 to walk slowly and gracefully
- 5 to swagger
- 6 to wander around

- Remind students that a **root** is the foundation of a word. It carries the word's core meaning and is the part to which prefixes and suffixes are added.
- Answers: 1 sympathize, 2 symphony, 3 export, 4 support. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Roots

MODEL

Root: foundation of a word that carries the word's core meaning; the part to which prefixes and suffixes are added

-chron-: time

chronology: science that deals with measuring time and dating events

He is studying the *chronology* of the American Revolution for his history class.

DIRECTIONS

- For each numbered clue, write the appropriate word that uses the root indicated.
- Then, write a sentence using the word.

-sym-, -syn- : with, together

- 1 show or feel interests of another, support, understand
- 2 complex composition of harmonic sounds

-port- : to carry, to bear

- 3 to carry or send goods to other countries
- 4 to prop, bear, hold up

- Remind students that synonyms often have different **connotations**, or shades of meaning. Example: You might describe a person you like as “thrifty” and someone you don’t like as “stingy.”
- Answers and example sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Connotations

MODEL

acquire: to get or gain by one’s own efforts

Connotation: positive

Kim hopes to *acquire* a graduate degree within several years.

grab: take suddenly, snatch, seize

Connotation: negative

Her mother saw Janet *grab* the toy from her little sister.

DIRECTIONS

- Create two columns: **POSITIVE** and **NEGATIVE**.
- Place the words in each numbered pair in the appropriate column.
- Select one word from each pair, and considering its connotation, write a sentence using the word correctly.

-
- | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|
| 1 | gaudy | vivid |
| 2 | horde | congregation |
| 3 | negotiate | haggle |
| 4 | resourceful | calculating |
| 5 | suspicious | wary |

- Remind students that many similar-sounding words are often confused and misused.
- Remind students to consider carefully context and spelling.
- Answers: 1 B, 2 A, 3 A, 4 B, 5 A. Sample sentences appear in the Answer Key.

Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

MODEL

The (averse, adverse) weather conditions made the mountaineers' trek all the more difficult.

I prefer mountain climbing in summer but would not be (averse , adverse) to an autumn expedition.

DIRECTIONS

- Number your paper from 1 to 5, and write the correct word choice to complete each sentence. Consider context.
- Then, write a sentence for the other word from each of the word pairs. The context of this sentence should clearly demonstrate the word's meaning.

- 1 The title of the novel (A eludes, B alludes) to an event in history.
- 2 We (A already, B all ready) have wallpapered the living room and are now working on the dining room.
- 3 Our neighbors in the next apartment never turn off their television, and the (A continual, B continuous) blare is a constant annoyance.
- 4 When it comes to athletics, my brother Jason is completely (A disinterested, B uninterested); he has never played a sport himself and doesn't watch pro games on television.
- 5 The distance from Middleburg to Duanesville was (A farther, B further) than I thought.