



Grade  
3

## Smarter Balanced Construct Relevant **VOCABULARY** **FOR ELA AND LITERACY**

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# VOCABULARY FOR ELA AND LITERACY

- affix
- antonym
- article/magazine article/  
newspaper article
- audience (as in writer's  
audience)
- author
- capitals/capitalization
- central idea
- character(s)
- character's actions
- characters' relationships
- clear language
- conclude/conclusion
- conclusion drawn/drawing a  
conclusion
- connect ideas (transitions in  
writing)
- convince/convincing (in  
opinion writing)
- definition
- describe/description/  
descriptive
- details/realistic details
- develop ideas (evidence/  
elaboration)
- dialogue
- dictionary/dictionary entry
- draft
- edit
- encyclopedia
- errors
- event
- examples
- explain
- facts
- flashback
- global notes
- grammar usage
- heading
- illustration
- imaginary
- infer/inference(s)/  
inference(s) made
- inform
- information
- informational paper/  
informational article
- Internet
- introduce setting/ characters/  
problems (writing)
- introduction
- key details
- lesson/moral
- main character
- main idea
- meaning
- mental picture (writing)
- message (e.g., author's  
message)
- narrator
- notes
- opening (beginning)
- opinion/agree/disagree
- opposite
- order of events
- organize(d)/organization of  
ideas
- paragraph
- passage
- phrase
- plot
- point of view
- pre-writing
- presentation (listening  
stimulus)
- punctuation/punctuated
- purpose for writing  
(informative, opinion,  
narrative writing)
- quotation/direct quotations/  
quoting directly
- reason(s)
- relationship
- report
- research
- research report
- revise
- root word
- sentence/pair of sentences/  
set of sentences/line
- setting
- similar
- skim
- source(s)
- speaker (used in listening  
items)
- specific word choice
- spell check
- spelling errors
- stanza
- support/supporting details
- synonym
- title
- topic
- trustworthy source
- underlined
- verb(s)/verb tense



Grade  
4

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# VOCABULARY FOR ELA AND LITERACY

- account
- adjectives
- affix
- antonym
- appropriate information
- article/magazine article/  
newspaper
- article
- audience (as in writer's  
audience)
- author
- author's message
- author's point of view
- blog
- capitals/capitalization
- central idea
- characters
- character's actions
- characters' relationships
- chart/graph/diagram/table
- clear language
- comma
- compare/contrast
- conclude/conclusion/  
concluding statement
- conclusion drawn/drawing a  
conclusion
- conflict
- connect ideas (transitions in  
writing)
- convince
- definition(s)
- describe/description/  
descriptive
- details/realistic details
- develop ideas (evidence/  
elaboration)
- dialogue
- dictionary/dictionary entry
- draft
- edit
- encyclopedia
- errors
- event
- evidence
- example
- explain
- flashback
- global notes
- grammar usage
- heading
- imaginary
- infer /inference(s)/  
inference(s) made
- inform
- information
- informational paper/  
informational articles
- Internet
- introduction
- key details
- key events
- key idea
- main characters
- main idea
- main problem
- meaning
- mental picture (writing)
- narrative (story)
- narrator
- notes
- opening (beginning)
- opinion(s)/agree/disagree
- opposite
- order of events
- organize(d)/organization of  
ideas
- paragraph
- passage
- phrase
- plot
- poem
- point of view/view (point)
- pre-writing
- presentation (listening  
stimulus)
- punctuation/punctuated
- purpose (e.g., author's or  
speaker's  
purpose)
- purpose for writing  
(informative,  
opinion, narrative writing)
- quotes/quotation/direct  
quotations/quoting directly/  
quotation marks
- reason(s)
- relationship
- report
- research
- research question
- research report
- revise
- root word
- section
- sensory details/language
- sentences/set of sentences/  
pair of
- sentences/line/statement
- setting
- similar
- skim
- sources
- speaker
- specific/exact word(s)/  
word choice(s)/language
- spell check
- spelling errors
- stanza
- summary/summarize(s)
- supporting details/evidence/  
reasons
- synonym
- theme
- timeline
- title
- topic
- transitions
- trustworthy source
- underline
- verb/tense shift
- webpage/website
- writer's message



Grade  
5

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# VOCABULARY FOR ELA AND LITERACY



- affix
- antonym
- appropriate information
- article
- audience (as in writer's audience)
- author
- author's message
- author's point of view
- blog
- capitals/capitalization
- cause/effect
- central idea
- characters
- character's actions
- characters' relationships
- chart/graph/diagram/table
- clear language
- comma(s)
- compare/contrast
- conclude/conclusion/
- concluding statement
- conclusion drawn/drawing a
- conclusion
- concrete details
- conflict
- connect ideas - (transitions in writing)
- convince
- create
- definition(s)
- describe/description/descriptive
- details/ realistic details
- determine
- develop ideas (evidence/elaboration)
- dialogue
- dictionary entry
- draft
- edit
- effect
- effective beginning /ending
- elaborate/elaboration of ideas
- errors
- essay
- event
- evidence
- example
- explain
- first paragraph
- flashback
- focus
- global notes
- grammar usage
- headings
- imaginary
- infer/inference(s)/inference(s) made
- inform
- informational
- paper/informational article
- Internet
- introduction
- key detail(s)
- key events
- key point
- main idea
- main problem
- meaning
- mental picture (writing)
- narrative
- narrator
- notes
- opinion(s)/agree/disagree
- opposite
- organize(d)/organization of ideas
- paragraph
- passage
- phrase
- plot
- point of view/view (point)
- pre-write
- presentation
- punctuation/punctuated
- purpose (e.g., author's or speaker's purpose)
- purpose for writing (informative, opinion, narrative writing)
- quotations/direct quotations/ quoting directly/quotation marks
- reasons
- relationship
- report
- research
- research question
- research report
- revise
- root word
- sensory details/language
- setting
- similar
- skim
- source(s)
- speaker
- specific/exact word (s)/word choice(s)/information
- spell check
- spelling errors
- stanza
- statement/sentence/set of sentences/pair of sentences/line
- summary/summarize(s)
- supporting evidence/reasons
- synonym
- theme
- thesaurus
- timeline
- title
- topic
- transition words/phrases
- trustworthy source(s)
- verbs/verb tense/shifts
- webpage/website



Grade  
6

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# VOCABULARY FOR ELA AND LITERACY



- accurate/inaccurate information
- affix
- analysis
- antonym
- appropriate information
- argument
- argumentative article/text/essay
- audience (as in writer's audience)
- author's intent
- author's message
- author's point of view
- blog
- capitalization
- central idea
- character's action/
- characters' relationship/
- characters' interaction
- claim
- closure
- compare/contrast
- comparison
- conclude/conclusion
- conclusion drawn
- concrete/specific/
- realistic details
- conflict/tension
- connections/relationships
- between ideas (transitions in writing)
- contradict
- controlling idea/thesis
- conventions
- credible sources
- describe/description
- develop ideas (evidence/
- elaboration)
- dialogue
- draft
- edit
- editorial
- effective beginnings/endings
- elaborate/elaboration of ideas
- essay
- establish a claim
- evidence
- example
- excerpt
- explanatory article/text/
- essay/writing
- flashback
- focus
- global notes
- grammar usage
- heading
- imaginary
- inclusion
- infer/inference(s)/
- inference(s) made
- integrate information/ideas
- interaction
- interpretation
- introduction
- justify
- key detail
- key event
- logical progression of ideas
- logical sequence of events
- mental picture (writing)
- multi-paragraph
- multiple meanings
- narrative/narrative writing
- narrator
- observation
- opinion
- organize/organization
- paraphrase/paraphrasing
- phrase
- plagiarism/plagiarize/
- plagiarizing
- plot
- point of view/viewpoint
- pre-write
- precise/specific language
- presentation
- punctuation/punctuated
- purpose (e.g., author's or
- speaker's purpose)
- purpose for writing (explanatory,
- argumentative, narrative
- writing)
- quotation/quoting
- reference/identify sources
- relationship
- relevant
- relevant supporting
- evidence/
- reasons/details/information
- represent
- research
- research question
- resolve/resolution
- revise
- root word
- sensory language/details
- sequence of events
- setting
- skim
- source(s)
- stanza
- style
- summarize
- support
- synonym
- text structures
- (compare/contrast; cause
- effect;
- problem/solution; pro/con)
- theme
- thesis/controlling idea
- title
- tone
- topic
- transitions/transition words/
- phrases
- trustworthy source(s)
- visualize
- website





Grade  
7

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- accurate/inaccurate information/
- accuracy of information
- acknowledge/address opposing
- viewpoint/counterclaims
- address potential
- counterarguments/opposing
- claims
- affix
- analysis
- antonym
- argument
- argumentative text/article/
- essay/writing
- audience (as in writer's audience)
- author's intent
- author's message
- author's point of view
- author's purpose
- blog
- capitalization
- central idea
- character's action/
- characters' interaction/
- characters' relationships
- claim
- compare/contrast
- comparison
- conclude/conclusion
- conclusion drawn
- concrete details/words/ phrases/language
- conflict/tension
- context
- contradict
- controlling idea/thesis
- conventions
- counterargument
- counterclaim
- credible
- definition
- develop ideas (evidence/
- elaboration)
- dialogue
- draft
- edit
- editorial
- elaborate/elaboration of ideas
- essay
- establish a claim
- evidence
- excerpt
- explanatory article/text/
- essay/writing
- flashback
- focus
- global notes
- grammar usage
- heading
- illustrate
- inclusion
- infer/inference(s)/
- inference(s) made
- integrate information/ideas
- interaction
- interpretation
- introduction
- justify
- key events
- logical progression of ideas
- logical sequence of events
- mental picture/image
- multi-paragraph
- multiple meanings
- narrative/narrative writing
- observation
- organize/organization of ideas
- paraphrase/paraphrasing
- phrase
- plagiarism/plagiarize/ plagiarizing
- plot
- point of view/viewpoint
- pre-write
- precise/concise language
- presentation
- punctuation/punctuated
- purpose (e.g., author's or speaker's purpose)
- purpose for writing (explanatory, argumentative, narrative writing)
- quotation(s)/quoting
- reference/identify sources
- relationship(s)
- relevant
- relevant supporting evidence
- research
- research question
- resolve/resolution
- revise
- root word
- sensory language/details
- sequence of events
- setting
- skim
- source(s)
- stanza
- style
- summarize
- support
- synonym
- text structure (compare/contrast; cause/effect; problem/solution; pro/con)
- theme
- thesis/controlling idea
- tone
- topic
- transitions/transition words/ phrases
- trustworthy source(s)
- visualize
- website



Grade  
8

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- accurate/inaccurate information/
- accuracy of information
- acknowledge/address opposing
- viewpoint/counterclaims
- address potential
- counterarguments/opposing
- claims
- affix
- analysis
- antonym
- argument
- argumentative text/essay
- audience (as in writer's audience)
- author's intent
- author's message
- author's point of view
- author's purpose
- blog
- capitalization
- central idea
- character's action/
- characters' interaction/
- characters' relationships
- claim
- clarify claim/counterclaim
- clause
- compare/contrast
- comparison
- conclude/conclusion
- conclusion drawn
- concrete details/words/ phrases/
- language
- conflict/tension
- context
- contradict
- controlling idea/thesis
- conventions
- counterargument
- counterclaim
- credible
- develop ideas (evidence/ elaboration)
- dialogue
- draft
- edit
- editorial
- elaborate/elaboration of ideas
- essay
- establish a claim
- evidence
- excerpt
- explanatory article/text/
- essay/writing
- flashback
- focus
- global notes
- grammar usage
- heading
- illustrate
- inclusion
- infer/inference(s)/
- inference(s) made
- integrate information/ideas
- interaction
- interpretation
- introduction
- justify
- key events
- logical progression of ideas
- logical sequence of events
- motive
- multiple meanings
- narrative/narrative writing
- observation(s)
- paraphrase/paraphrasing
- phrases
- plagiarism/plagiarize/
- plagiarizing
- plot
- point of view/viewpoint
- pre-write
- precise/concise language/
- word choice
- presentation
- punctuation/punctuated
- purpose (e.g., author's or speaker's purpose)
- purpose for writing (explanatory, argumentative, narrative writing)
- quotation(s)
- reference sources
- relationships
- relevant/irrelevant
- relevant supporting evidence
- resolve/resolution
- revise
- root word
- sensory details/language
- sequence of events
- setting
- shift in narrator's perspective/
- point of view
- skim
- stanza
- style
- summarize
- support
- synonym
- text structure (compare/ contrast; cause/effect; problem/ solution; pro/con)
- theme
- thesis/controlling idea
- tone
- topic
- transitions/transition
- words/phrases/clauses
- trustworthy source(s)
- visualize
- voice (consistent/ appropriate)
- website



Grade  
11

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# Smarter Balanced Construct Relevant

# VOCABULARY

# FOR ELA AND LITERACY

Grade  
11

- acknowledge/address opposing
- viewpoint/counterclaims
- address potential
- counterarguments/opposing
- claims
- affix
- analysis
- antonym
- argument
- audience (as in writer's audience)
- author's intent
- author's point of view
- author's purpose
- bias
- blog
- capitalization
- central idea
- character's action/
- characters' interaction
- claim
- clarify claims/counterclaims
- compare/contrast
- colon/semi-colon
- comparison
- conclude/conclusion
- conclusion drawn
- concrete details/words/
- phrases/language
- conflict/tension
- context
- contradict
- conventions
- counterarguments
- counterclaim
- credible/credibility
- develop ideas (evidence/
- elaboration)
- dialogue
- effective use of
- analogy/metaphor/simile
- essay
- establish a claim
- evidence
- excerpt
- explanatory article/text/
- essay/writing
- flashback
- grammar usage
- hypothesis
- inclusion
- inconsistent information
- (research)
- infer/inference(s)/inference(s)
- made
- integrate information/ideas
- interaction
- interpretation
- justify
- logical progression of idea
- mood
- multiple meanings
- narrative
- opposing claim
- organization
- parallel structure/parallelism
- paraphrase/paraphrasing
- perspective
- phrases/clauses
- plagiarism/plagiarize/
- plagiarizing
- position
- precise/concise language
- presentation
- punctuation
- purpose (e.g., author's or speaker's purpose)
- purpose for writing (explanatory, argumentative, narrative writing)
- quotation
- reference sources
- relevant/irrelevant
- relevant supporting evidence
- resolve/resolution
- root word
- sensory language
- setting
- shifts in narrator's perspective
- stanza
- style
- summarize
- synonym
- techniques (e.g. exaggeration, repetition, making a comparison, including a question)
- text structures
- (compare/contrast; cause effect;
- problem/solution; pro/con)
- theme
- thesis/controlling idea
- tone
- transition words/phrases/
- clauses/sentences/ paragraphs
- viewpoint/point of view
- voice (consistent use of verb
- voice)