

# Glossary

- **Active listening**  
Refers to behaviors that show a student is listening to a speaker such as:  
-making eye contact-head nodding  
-asking for clarification  
-summarizing  
-offering comments  
-displaying interest.
- **Affixes**  
Word parts that create a new meaning when added to the beginning or end of a base or root word such as  
*Un +ravel =unravel*
- **Alliteration**  
Repetition of a consonant sound at the beginnings of words.
- **Allusion**  
Reference to something with which the reader is likely to be familiar such as a person, place or event from history or literature
- **Antithesis**  
The presentation of two contrasting images.
- **Anchor words (high frequency words)**  
Words that occur frequently in text that may or may be phonetically regular. Children need to recognize these core words automatically so readers can read text fluently.
- **Base word**  
Any word to which a suffix or a prefix may be added such as  
*help/helpless, view/review*
- **Bias**  
Thinking that does not allow unprejudiced consideration of text, facts, or ideas.
- **Blend vs. Cluster**  
Cluster is the umbrella term that describes two or more consecutive consonants put together that begin a syllable such as *bl* in blend, *dr* in draw. A blend refers to two consonant clusters.
- **Cadence**  
The beat of a written piece.
- **Character traits**  
The qualities, faults, feelings, states or moods of a character such as  
*humble, generous, brave, irate, etc.*
- **Choral reading**  
An instructional strategy to help readers develop fluency. The teacher and students look at the same text, and the teacher's voice is louder and leads the student.
- **Closed syllable**  
A closed syllable ends with or is "closed" by a consonant sound. Usually the vowel is short. (*riv/er: riv* is a closed syllable.)
- **Comparative adjective:**  
Form an adjective used when comparing two things such as  
*hot,hotter, hottest, or good, better, best*
- **Concepts about print**  
Features of written text: front/back, top/bottom, right/left, letter, word, spaces, return sweep, first/last, beginning/end, punctuation, tables, graphs, etc.
- **Connections**  
During reading, readers link their own meaningful personal experiences and relevant background knowledge to portions of the text in order to construct their own meaning.
- **Consonance**  
The repetition of a consonant sounds anywhere in words.
- **Conventions**  
The usual rules of grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling.

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- **Cross-checking**  
Using two of the following cues simultaneously to self-correct:  
-**visual** cue (phonics: Does it *look* right?)  
-**semantic** cue (meaning: Does it make *sense*?) or  
-**syntactic** cue (language structure: Does it *sound* like language/)
- **Determine importance**  
As they progress through the text, readers determine which information is necessary to construct meaning
- **Detail**  
Specific words, facts, figures that explain a general idea, support an argument, or make it easy to imagine a person, place, experience or idea
- **Dialect**  
Vocabulary, grammar, or pronunciation relative to a specific region.
- **Digraph**  
Two letters that represent one speech sound, such as *ch* in chin, *th* in thick.
- **Diphthong**  
A new vowel sound produced when two vowels make one sound, such as *oy* in boy, *oi* in soil, *aw* in crawl.
- **Directionality**  
The understanding that print is read right to left and moves top to bottom.
- **Environmental print**  
Print and graphics used in one's physical environment such as classroom walls, posters, signs, billboards, etc.
- **Expository text**  
Nonfiction writing that forms, persuades, or explains.
- **Exaggeration-**  
Or Hyperbole  
An obvious stretching of the truth.
- **Figurative language-**  
Language not meant to be taken literally such as similes, metaphors, and personification.
- **Fluency**  
The reader's rate, accuracy, and the degree of expression.
- **Graphic Organizer**  
A visual tool made up of boxes, circles, lines, or arrows used to organize and show the relationship between ideas such as semantic webs, story maps, etc.
- **Genre**  
The organization of text types into categories based on their shared structure, organization, and perspective, such as first person narrative, poem, mystery, etc.
- **Homonym**  
An umbrella term for homophones and homographs.
- **Homophone** is a word, which has the same pronunciation as another but different meaning, derivation, or spelling such as lead/led, meet/meat.
- **Homograph** is a word, which has the same spelling as another, but different meaning, derivation, or pronunciation such as wind/wind, would, wound.
- **Iambic pentameter**  
5 feet of poetry, which follows the unstressed/ stressed pattern
- **Idioms**  
A common phrase made up of words that can't be understood by their literal, ordinary meanings.
- **I.e/e.g.**  
"e.g." means "for example" and "i.e." means "this is it" or is used to clarify a word or phrase.

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- **Independent text**  
Text that a student reads without help with 95% to 100% accuracy and 90% comprehension
- **Inference**  
A comprehension strategy that requires readers to link personal background knowledge and experience with information in the text to construct meaning that is not directly stated in the text such as
  - Location inference:** determining unstated location, or place, in text such as the setting
  - Time inference:** determining time of day, season, era, etc. unstated in a text
  - **Attitude/feeling inference:** Determining the feelings or attitudes of a character not stated directly in the text.
  - Cause /effect inference**  
Determining either the cause of the effect of events in a story or factual information in expository text
- **-Problem/Solution Inference:** Determining the unstated problem or solution in fiction or nonfiction
- **Inflectional endings**  
A suffix/word part added to the end of a base word to change:
  - case:* possessive case 's
  - number-* plural s, es
  - tense:* ed
  - form:* ing, ly, er, est, ion, etc.
- **Informational text**  
Nonfiction pieces whose purpose is to give information
- **Literary text**  
Any text a student reads.
- **Loaded Words**  
Emotionally charged words that will produce strong positive or negative feelings.
- **Main Idea**  
In nonfiction, the author's message about the topic. It is often expressed directly or it can be implied. In fiction, the main idea answers the question? "What is this story mainly about?"
- **Memoir vs. biography**  
A memoir is a story that reveals not only an event in a person's life, but contains an in-depth reflection on a particular aspect. An autobiography presents a complete, more factual picture of an individual's life, from the time that they are born to the time they sit down to write the autobiography itself. In a memoir, the voice is the distinguishing characteristic.
- **Metaphor**  
A direct comparison between two unlike things.
- **Metonymy**  
A figure of speech in which representative.
- **Narrative text**  
Text that contains setting, character, events, problem/solution or goal, and resolution, such as first person narratives and fictional stories.
- **Onset**  
The onset of a single syllable or word is the initial consonant or consonants that precede the vowel, such as the *b* in *bag*.
- **Onomatopoeia**  
Words that sound like the things they name.  
  
A syllable that ends with a vowel (e.g. sea/son *sea* is an open syllable)
- **Oxymoron-**  
A technique in which two words with opposite meaning are put together for a special effect
- **Paraphrase**  
Restating a passage or sentence in one's own words.

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- **Personification**  
A type of figurative language in which poets give an animal, object or idea human qualities such as the ability to her, feel, talk and make decisions
- **Phoneme**  
The smallest unit of speech that distinguishes one word from another. For example, the /k/ of cat the /h/ of hat are two English phonemes. In text, the phonemes represented by letters are shown between slashes as in the following:  
F= /f/ as in fish  
C= /k/ as in cat or /s/ as in city  
English has 40+ phonemes: 25 consonants and 15 vowels.
- **Phonetic**  
The association of a specific sound with printed symbol/s.
- **Propaganda**  
Methods not based in fact that are used to make arguments more persuasive.
- **Point of View**  
A perspective from which a story is written: first person, third person singular.
- **Prediction**  
Using prior knowledge and personal experience to make a logical guess about what will happen in a story or what is contained in an informational article.
- **Prefix**  
An affix that precedes the root or base to which it is added (e.g. *return*: *re* is a prefix.)
- **Preview**  
A prereading strategy whereby the reader makes predictions about the text using the title, the illustrations, and the book jacket to set the purpose for reading.
- **Prior knowledge (schema)**  
a “file cabinet” of knowledge stored in our brains of  
-related concepts (flowers, cars, chairs),  
-events(birthday, school experiences),  
-emotions (happiness, sadness, anger),  
-and roles (parent, student, law enforcement) drawn from our life’s experiences.
- **Purpose for reading**  
A prereading strategy students use to enhance comprehension (e.g. to locate specific information, to confirm predictions)
- **Pun**  
A phrase that uses words in a way that gives them a funny effect.
- **Red Herring**  
Irrelevant issue in an argument when one side wishes change to the subject
- **Retelling**  
An oral or written rendition of a story (contains the elements of a story: setting, character, problem events, solution, resolution)
- **Rimes**  
The last part of a syllable, composed of the vowel and following consonants
- **Root**  
A Greek or Latin meaning unit to which prefixes and suffixes are added, such as *ject*= *to throw*, *port*+*to move or send*
- **SQ3R**  
A study technique using Survey, Question Read, Recite, Review.
- **Scanning**  
A post reading strategy whereby the reader glances quickly through the text looking for specific information that is relevant to a specific purpose such as answering a question.

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- **Schwa**  
The indistinct vowel sound that occurs in unaccented syllables, such as the vowel sound spelled *a* in *about*. The schwa sound is represented by the character.
- **Scansion**  
One foot of poetry, which has unstressed /stressed, or unaccented/accented syllables.
- **Self-extending system**  
The reader improves whenever they read and write. The reader: Monitors their own reading and writing  
Cross-checks one source of cues with another  
Confirms own reading and writing  
Self-corrects by taking the initiative to making cues match
- **Self-monitoring**  
A reader stops when meaning is lost and applies fix up strategies check as rereading, cross checking, looking at the illustration, etc.
- **Side bar**  
Additional information printed next to an article, often in a box or set off by a colored border or colored text. The information may be used to clarify terminology, present interesting facts, etc.
- **Simile**  
Comparison using like or as of two unlike things
- **Skill vs. strategy**  
A *skill* is a learned procedure the student has been drilled on. It is automatic, passive, and remains constant for each reading situation; whereas a *strategy* is a thoughtful plan or operation readers actively use while involved in the reading process. These plans are activated, adjusted, and modified for each new reading situation. For example, reciting the alphabet and letter/sound associations are skills and using visual cue is a strategy.
- **Skimming**  
A previewing or rereading strategy whereby the reader glances through sections of the text while attending to titles, headings, repeated words, names, dates, places, words in bold, illustrations photographs and their captions, and beginning and last paragraphs.
- **Stereotype**  
A flat character possessing no depth or complexity, whose actions, and/or words are highly predictable.
- **Structural Analysis**  
The study of word parts in order to determine pronunciation and meaning. Structural analysis skills include roots, base words, inflectional endings, prefixes, suffixes, contractions, compound words, derivations, and syllabication.
- **Suffix**  
An affix that follows the root or base to which it is added (e.g. senseless: *less* is the suffix)
- **Syllable**  
A unit of speech organized around a vowel. Every syllable has a vowel sound and a vowel letter.
- **Synecdoche**  
A figure of speech that utilizes a part representative of the whole  
Ex. The pen is mightier is than the sword
- **Synonyms**  
Words with similar meanings such as *rock/stone/pebble*
- **Synopsis**  
A brief summary or outline of a story

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- **Syntax**  
The application of the rules, or grammar, of a language such as subject-verb agreement
- **Synthesize**  
A process by which the reader internalizes the meaning of the text to pull parts of a text together into a new form to show their connections to the selection as a whole, such as a timeline.
- **Visualize**  
A comprehension strategy proficient readers use to create visual images while they read and add their own knowledge to those images to construct meaning.
- **Word Boundaries**  
Wordness; indicated by the beginning and end of a word and spaces before and after.
- **Word family vs. pattern**  
A word family is all the different words derived from a root (e.g. “ject”: reject, subject, interject, project, etc.) A pattern is a collection of word of words that share common orthographic rimes, such as *at* in *pat, sat, mate* or *ike* in *like, bike, hike*
- **Word Play**  
Clever or subtle use of words