

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: 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.

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- 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.

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.

<p>Accept</p>	<p>Except</p>
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<p>Assistance</p>	<p>Assistants</p>
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<p>Stationery</p>	<p>Stationary</p>
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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

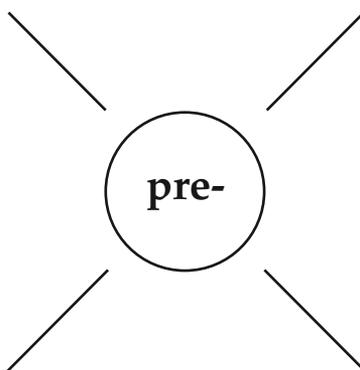
The movie *preview* was astonishing; we could hardly wait to see the new film.

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

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

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

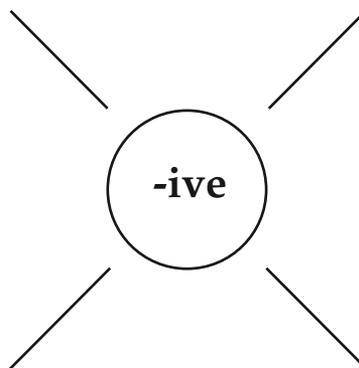
Mr. Patterson is always *supportive* of his staff.

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.

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.

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- 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.

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

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.

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.

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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Vocabulary: Connotations

			¹ F	E	R	⁶ V	E	N	T								
	²																
									⁷								
⁵																	
³																	
									⁴								

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

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

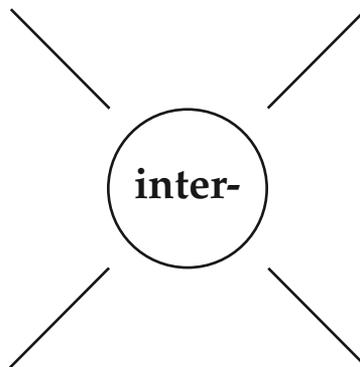
After many months, the diplomats reached an *international* agreement.

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

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

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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

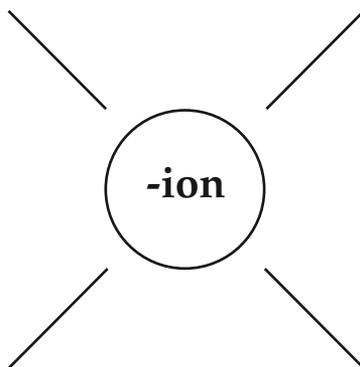
There is a *relation* between climate and geography.

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.

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

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

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 |

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.