

# Teaching Notes

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## 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 altercation      B chagrin      C deluge      D novice

### 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 or a word closely related in meaning for each underlined word and write it on your paper.

- 1 As a newcomer on the job, the clerk took advice from more experienced workers.
- 2 During the controversy, the mayor received a flood of complaints.
- 3 During the debate, a small quarrel broke out between some members of the rival teams.
- 4 To his embarrassment, he arrived in a suit when the other guests were wearing jeans.

## Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

### MODEL

In a tennis game, a net stands between the two players.

The prize money was divided among the four top players in the tournament.

### 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.

Converge	Diverge
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Antidote	Anecdote
----------	----------

Congenital	Congenial
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# Vocabulary: Connotations

4					<sup>1</sup> T	A	<sup>7</sup> I	N	<sup>8</sup> T
2		5		6					
3									

**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 color (N)
- 2 sophisticated (P)
- 3 tempt (P)

**Down**

- 4 urge (N)
- 5 harmful (N)
- 6 train (P)
- 7 unafraid (P)
- 8 inexpensive (N)

**ANSWER CHOICES**

- allure
- intrepid
- baleful
- nurture
- debonair
- taint
- goad
- tawdry

## Vocabulary: Prefixes

### MODEL

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

*in-*: not

*tolerant*: (root word) inclined to respect the beliefs, traits, or practices of others

*intolerant*: not inclined to respect the beliefs, traits, or practices of others

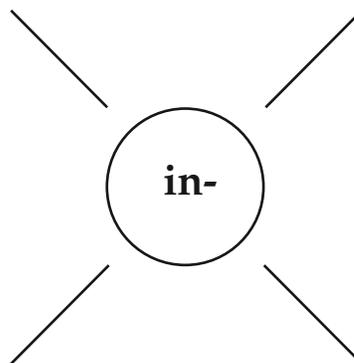
He is very *intolerant* of people who are vegetarians.

### DIRECTIONS

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

1 not able to be explained

2 not speaking or thinking clearly and cohesively



3 not able to be satisfied

4 not able to be touched or perceived

## 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 Weakness

A dissolute

B tepid

C vulnerable

- 1 lacking moral restraint
- 2 lukewarm or half-hearted
- 3 easily hurt

### Words That Express Strength

A adamant

B imperious

C resilient

- 4 bossy and demanding
- 5 able to bounce back from misfortune
- 6 stubbornly firm in one's beliefs or purpose

## Vocabulary: Suffixes

### MODEL

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

*-ize:* to make, become, or cause to become

*fossil:* (root word) rock or mineral dug out of the earth or hardened remains of a plant or animal preserved in the earth

*fossilize:* to change into a fossil

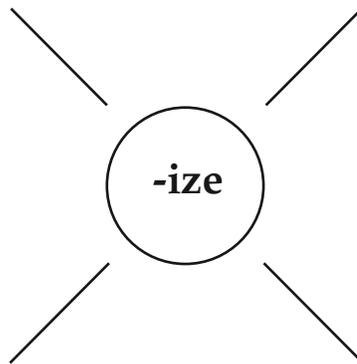
Insects can be *fossilized* when they are trapped in sap that turns to amber.

### DIRECTIONS

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

1 Most other animals operate by instinct, but human beings are rational creatures.

2 She had studied painting, drawing, and other visual arts.



3 After starring in two blockbuster films, the handsome young actor became a teen idol.

4 I believe that happiness is more important than material objects.

## Vocabulary: Deadwood Adjectives

abominable	beneficent	comprehensive	grandiose	heinous
affable	inclusive	inane	impressive	vacuous

### 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 We made big plans for the future.
  - 2 The head of the welcoming committee is a very good individual.
  - 3 Cruelty to animals is truly bad.
  - 4 The doctor's examination will be thorough.
  - 5 The child's silly behavior did not impress his friends.

## Vocabulary: Connotations

### MODEL

*command*: to issue orders and make demands with authority

*Connotation: positive*

A general must know how to *command*.

*browbeat*: to issue orders and make demands in a bullying manner

*Connotation: negative*

The cruel princess *browbeat* her ladies-in-waiting.

### 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.

- 
- |          |             |              |
|----------|-------------|--------------|
| <b>1</b> | noble       | supercilious |
| <b>2</b> | indolence   | repose       |
| <b>3</b> | tenacity    | obstinacy    |
| <b>4</b> | inflexible  | staunch      |
| <b>5</b> | ceremonious | ostentatious |

## Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

### MODEL

The author does not directly state a theme, but the story's details (imply, infer) one.

From the details, readers can (imply, infer) the theme of the story.

### 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 teacher asked me to (A cite, B site) examples to support my analysis of the story.
- 2 The scientist had to (A assay, B essay) the fabric to see what chemicals it contained.
- 3 Do the governor's past actions (A evoke, B invoke) the voters' trust?
- 4 The prosecutor has to (A appraise, B apprise) the defense of all prosecution witnesses.
- 5 The poet's (A idle, B idyll) described a peaceful scene.

## Vocabulary: Synonyms

A abate      B antagonize      C beleaguer      D scrutinize

### 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 or a word closely related in meaning for each underlined word and write it on your paper.

- 
- 1 The sheriff and his deputies were able to surround the outlaws hiding in the barn.
  - 2 Will the storm grow stronger, or will it subside soon?
  - 3 Examine the document carefully before you sign it.
  - 4 He is already angry, so I would be careful not to rile him further.

## Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

### MODEL

Megan has volleyball practice every day after school except on Wednesday.

Since Emilio cannot be here, I will accept the award on his behalf.

### 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.

<b>Prologue</b>	<b>Epilogue</b>
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<b>Flail</b>	<b>Flay</b>
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<b>Stationery</b>	<b>Stationary</b>
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# Vocabulary: Connotations

<sup>1</sup> F	L	<sup>4</sup> A	U	N	T			
								<sup>7</sup>
		<sup>2</sup>		<sup>5</sup>		<sup>6</sup>		
	<sup>3</sup>							

**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 show (N)
- 2 setback (N)
- 3 curt (N)

**Down**

- 1 secretive (N)
- 4 bold (P)
- 5 proud (N)
- 6 fair (P)
- 7 reply (P)

**ANSWER CHOICES**

- audacious
- flaunt
- bumptious
- furtive
- comely
- repartee
- debacle
- brusque

## Vocabulary: Prefixes

### MODEL

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

*pre-*: before

*-jud-* : (root) to judge

*prejudice*: a judgment made before knowing the person, situation, or thing being judged

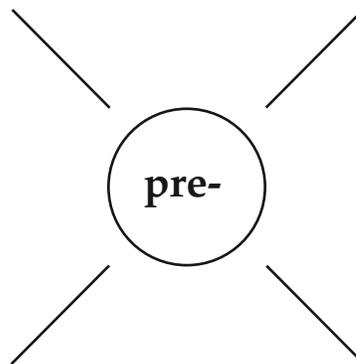
Because of her *prejudice* against new food, she refused to taste the curry.

### DIRECTIONS

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

1 inclined to make assumptions before knowing details, taking too much for granted

2 someone who lived or came before the present person



3 something required before you can start something else

4 thought about and planned out beforehand

## 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 Show Attack or Offense

A assail

B vanquish

C usurp

1 to conquer

2 to overthrow

3 to attack

### Words That Show Support or Defense

A bolster

B bulwark

C sustain

4 a protective wall or embankment

5 a supporting cushion *or* to prop up

6 to keep up or maintain

## Vocabulary: Syno-grams

tnerle	aeinbple	eiqueaccs	tsruartef
nheerint	arwtht	sncnirtii	aaertonrlpi

### 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 referring to the common people
  - 2 to give in
  - 3 existing within or basic and essential
  - 4 to prevent the occurrence or achievement of something

## Vocabulary: Deadwood Adjectives

auspicious	despicable	felicitous	preposterous	ludicrous
repugnant	stoic	sallow	pallid	impassive

### 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 birth of a family's first child is a very nice occasion.
- 2 I could not finish the book because I found it too senseless.
- 3 He is a horrid person who offends nearly everyone.
- 4 Her sickly complexion was a clue that she was not feeling well.
- 5 Kristen maintained an unfeeling expression when she was declared the winner.

## Vocabulary: Roots

### MODEL

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

*-fid-, -fidel-:* faith

*fidelity:* faithfulness to one's beliefs, duties, and responsibilities

In the marriage ceremony, the couple swore *fidelity* to each other.

### DIRECTIONS

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

*-chron-:* time

- 1 in the order of time
- 2 to cause to occur at the same time

*-gram-:* letter; writing

- 3 a word or phrase formed by reordering the letters in another word or phrase
- 4 a short, witty poem or saying

## Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

### MODEL

Will the prince (waive, wave) his right to the throne and pass it to his son?

How fast does a sound (waive, wave) travel through the air?

### 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 We heard everyone's opinion and tried to reach a (A census, B consensus).
- 2 The (A connotation, B denotation) of a word is its basic dictionary definition.
- 3 Will the value of the property increase or (A deprecate, B depreciate) over time?
- 4 When you pronounce the word "accordion," you (A accentuate, B extenuate) the second syllable.
- 5 Ever the skeptic, Jo gave the magician an (A incredible, B incredulous) look as he pulled a rabbit from a hat.

## Vocabulary: Synonyms

A conjecture    B expedite    C fastidious    D lucrative

### 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 or a word closely related in meaning for each underlined word and write it on your paper.

- 
- 1 Kay is a meticulous person, concerned about every detail.
  - 2 Since paying with a credit card can be slow, paying with cash will facilitate the checkout time.
  - 3 The business venture lost money at first but later proved profitable.
  - 4 Is it just speculation, or are you certain of the answer?

## Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

### MODEL

He remained ambivalent about his choice for class president.  
 Because the directions were ambiguous, we were uncertain whether we had installed the car speakers properly.

### 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.

<b>Arable</b>	<b>Arid</b>
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<b>Wrest</b>	<b>Rest</b>
--------------	-------------

<b>Affluent</b>	<b>Effluent</b>
-----------------	-----------------

## Vocabulary: Suffixes

### MODEL

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

*-tion* or *-ation*: the act or process of

*educate*: (root word) to teach

*education*: the act or process of teaching or being taught

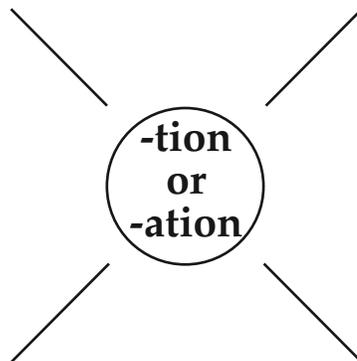
Computer science has become an increasingly important part of today's *education*.

### DIRECTIONS

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

1 To get what you want in life, you sometimes need to assert yourself.

2 The fireworks should elate the crowd of children.



3 The tiger can be very dangerous, so do not do anything to provoke it.

4 The floor has a slight grade so that theatergoers in back rows can see over others' heads.

## 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 Suggest Regret

A amends

B contrition

C repentant

- 1 payment for an insult or injury
- 2 remorse for doing something wrong
- 3 expressing or feeling remorse or penitence

### Words That Suggest Strength or Power

A ferocity

B forte

C vigor

- 4 a person's strongest talent or field
- 5 fierceness or intensity
- 6 active growth or force

## Vocabulary: Roots

### MODEL

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

*-somm-*: sleep

*somnolent*: sleepy

The old dog was a *somnolent* creature, rarely getting up from the rug.

### DIRECTIONS

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

*-spec-*: to look or view

**1** a person who views a sport or another event

**2** looking inward

*-vor-*: swallow or eat

**3** eating both meat and vegetables

**4** eager to eat great amounts

## Vocabulary: Connotations

### MODEL

*obedient*: following orders reliably

*Connotation: positive*

An *obedient* dog is an owner's joy.

*subservient*: following orders timidly

*Connotation: negative*

The *subservient* worker never contradicted his employer.

### 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 blithe            irresponsible

2 brevity           abruptness

3 garrulous        vivacious

4 stoic             aloof

5 terse             concise

## Vocabulary: Frequently Confused Words

### MODEL

Carla has an (affinity, infinity) for languages and has learned several very quickly.

The values on the graph may be anything from zero to (affinity, infinity).

### 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 (A auspicious, B suspicious) weather meant we were going to have a great day.
- 2 He thinks he can lie with (A impunity, B impurity) since no one else was present.
- 3 Before the settlers arrived, the (A indigenous, B indignant) population was fairly small.
- 4 Some herbs are helpful, some are (A inoculate, B innocuous), and some are harmful.
- 5 The smoke was (A insidious, B invidious); by the time we saw it, it was nearly too late.