

Homework Packet – Week 20

Next week, you will be taking a **Blueprint Test** to practice for the **California State Test (CST)** in May, and you will see most of these words on the test. You should know what each word means and be able to answer questions about the word or concept. You should have flashcards for all of the words on this list; please bring them to school each day this week.

business letter A formal message written to a company or someone who works for a company regarding a business matter.

colon *noun* A punctuation mark (:) used after a word introducing a series or an example or an explanation. A punctuation mark (:) after the salutation of a business letter.

comma *noun* A punctuation mark used to separate parts of a sentence or words in a list.

dependent clause

1. A clause that needs the rest of a sentence.
2. A clause that cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.

independent clause A clause that expresses a complete thought and can stand alone as a sentence.

personal letter A letter to a friend or relative.

punctuation *noun* Periods, commas, question marks, exclamation points, quotation marks, colons, and semicolons are all punctuation marks.

semicolon *noun*

1. A punctuation mark (;) used to connect independent clauses; indicates a closer relation than does a period.
2. Used in between two independent clauses, where a conjunction has been left out.

complex sentence A sentence that contains one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. The connecting word in a complex sentence is called a subordinating conjunction.

compound sentence A sentence made up of two independent clauses. The connecting word in a compound sentence is called a coordinating conjunction.

coordinating conjunction

1. A conjunction that joins words, phrases, or two independent clauses together. Examples: and, but, or, so, nor, for, yet.
2. When a coordinating conjunction joins two independent clauses, there is a comma before the conjunction. Example: Juan writes poetry, and Pam paints portraits.

predicate The verb or action part of the sentence.

subject The part of a sentence that tells who or what the sentence is about.

subordinating conjunction

1. A conjunction that joins an independent clause to a dependent clause. It shows how the two parts of the sentence are related. Examples: after, because, when, before, until, if.
2. Sentences that begin with a subordinating conjunction have a comma after the dependent clause. Example: If a good storyteller tells a tall tale, then everyone enjoys it.

address bar The space at the top of the screen where you type the web address.

alliteration *noun* Use of the same consonant at the beginning of each stressed syllable in a line of verse.

character

1. A set of values that guides behavior.
2. Who or what a story is about.

character traits Things found in the story that help the reader to see how a character looks, acts, or feels.

compare To notice similarities between objects, beings, and events.

connotation The feeling connected with a word, in addition to its dictionary meaning.

context clues The words in a sentences that help you find the meaning of an unknown word.

contrast To show differences.

definition The meaning of a word.

desktop

1. The top of a desk.
2. The metaphor used to portray file systems on a computer. A desktop consists of pictures, called icons, which show files available on the computer.
3. Computer designed to sit on your desk.

example *noun* Something to be imitated, a model.

figurative language

1. Writing that you are not suppose to believe exactly as it is written; should not be taken literally.
2. Example: He was so confused it was like his world was turned upside down.

home page The introductory page for a Web site.

inference *noun* An educated guess about something that is not directly stated in a passage, but is strongly hinted.

knowledge *noun* Everything that one knows or understands about something.

literary device The use of a writing technique to create a special effect or feeling.

main idea The most important idea of a paragraph, passage, or whole piece of writing.

manual *adjective* A small handbook, it usually has instructions; a guide book.

merits Someone's good points or qualities.

metaphor *noun* A comparison of two things without "like" or "as."

online resource When you want the latest news, you should use this resource.

optimistic *adjective* When you are cheerful and hopeful.

personification *noun* A literary device in which human qualities are given to an a nonliving thing.

point of view

1. How a person sees or understands something.
2. The vantage point from which a story is told.

related *adjective* To show or have a relationship to or between; connect.

search engine A Web site that helps you search for information on the Internet through the use of key words.

simile *noun* A comparison using "like" or "as."

successful *adjective* Having success or a favorable outcome; turning out well.

summarize *verb* Give the main points or ideas in a passage.

table of contents Located at the front of a book or magazine; it shows how the book or magazine is organized and gives page numbers of chapters and or articles.

textbook A _____ is used in school. It usually covers one subject.

conflict *noun,verb* The main problem that a character in a book faces.

fictional form The form a story is written in such as short story, play, novel, myth, novella, etc.

genre (zhonruh) *noun* The type of story it is; science fiction, historical fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, mystery, horror, etc.

influence (ihnfloouhns) *noun,verb* The effect of one thing on another.

plot *noun,verb* The main part of any story, which includes the problem, major events and solution.

resolution (rEHzuhlooshuhn) *noun* Finding a solution to a problem.

setting (sEHtihNG) *noun,adjective* Where a story takes place; date, time, location.

"Are the characters credible?" This is asking if the characters are believable.

"Is the plot contrived?" This is asking if the plot is realistic.

"resolution of the conflict" The solution to the problem.

fictional form The format of the writing. For example, novel, short story, play, etc.

genre *noun* A category that a piece of writing belongs to such as science fiction, fantasy, horror, realistic fiction, etc.

“How do character traits affect the plot?” This is asking how the character's personality traits such as greed or courage either cause the problem in the plot or help to solve the problem.

“How does the setting influence the plot?” This is asking how the place and/or time of the story cause the problem in the story or helps to solve the problem.

Theme (*them*) *noun* The message an author wants to convey, or what the author hopes to teach the reader through their work.

business letter A letter inquiring about a business matter.

compare and contrast The writer compares ideas to convince the reader that one is better than another.

compound sentence A sentence made up of two independent clauses. The connecting word in a compound sentence is called a coordinating conjunction.

essay *noun, verb* A piece of writing that gives your thoughts about a subject. It is usually not as detailed as a report.

however Can be used instead of the phrase "on the other hand..." or the word "but."

letter to the editor A letter to the newspaper stating your opinion.

order of importance The writer may begin with the most important idea and move to the least important idea.

personal letter A letter to a friend about your personal life.

report *noun, verb* A long, detailed essay or piece of writing about something you have learned about.

review (*reevyoo*) *noun, verb, adjective* An article recommending or critiquing

something such as a movie or car.

spatial order This form of paragraph organization shows how things are arranged in a space or scene.

therefore (thEHrfawr) As a consequence; as a result of that.

writing purpose The intention of or reason for a specific form of writing (e.g., personal letter, letter to the editor, review, poem, report, narrative).

imagery (ihmuhjree) *noun* Words that create a picture for you. It helps you see, hear, feel, smell, or taste what someone is writing about.

mood *noun* The feeling that the author creates for the reader.

poem *noun* A number of lines of words that paint a picture. Sometimes they rhyme.

rhyme *noun,verb* Having the same or similar sounds.

rhythm *noun* The beat of music that you clap your hands to.

stanza *noun* A grouping of lines in a poem.

symbolism *noun* The use of an object to represent something else. For example, a flag may represent patriotism.

tone *noun,verb* The writer's attitude toward his or her audience and subject.

alliteration *noun* Example: The wild and woolly walrus wondered what we were when we walked by.

hyperbole *noun* Example: I'm so tired! I walked a million miles today!

idiom *noun* Example: I am under the weather today.

metaphor *noun* Example: The raindrops were tears falling from the sky.

onomatopoeia *noun* Example: Hiss, snap, buzz!

personification *noun* Example: The sun peeked from behind the clouds.

rhyme *noun,verb* Example: *The Cat in the Hat*

simile *noun* Example: She is as delicate as a baby bird.

repetition The repeated use of the same word or word pattern.

present tense Shows actions that happen in the present:
I play soccer.

past tense Shows actions that have already happened:
I played soccer.

future tense Shows actions that will happen:
I will play soccer.

past perfect Shows a past action that ended before another past action:
I had played soccer for two years before I joined a club team last year.

present perfect Shows actions that begin in the past and continue in the present:
I have played soccer all day.

future perfect Shows a future action that will have ended before another action begins:
You will have learned all about verb tenses before you go out to play soccer.

plural subject More than one subject.
Examples: The pilots fly the plane.
The boy and his friend walk down the street.

plural verb A plural verb is used when a plural subject is used in a sentence (no S). The pilots fly the plane.

singular subject Only one subject.
Examples: The pilot flies the plane.
The boy walks down the street.

singular verb A single verb is used when a single subject is used in a sentence (often ends in S). Example: The pilot flies the plane.

accuracy (akyuruhsee) Being correct or as close to correct or right as possible.

delete (dihleet) To take out or cross out something printed or written.

evidence *noun, verb* Proof; the reason you believe something.

logic An argument backed up by evidence.

main idea Tells what the story or passage is mostly about.

outline An organized list of main ideas and important details.

purpose The reason why an author may write a story or selection; the reason why you read a selection.

Parallel structure is the term writers use to describe similar ideas expressed in similar ways. ... The sentence "I like running, fishing, and to ski" lacks **parallel structure**. It should say, "I like running, fishing, and skiing."

relevant Connected with what is being discussed or dealt with.

source (sawrs) A person or thing that gives information or evidence, such as a book.

support (suhpawrt) Strengthen with evidence or facts; prove.

topic (topihk) A subject or idea that people talk about.