ACADEMIC VOCABULARY, PREFIXES, SUFFIXES, AND BASE WORDS
7TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS

Most of the following list of words should be a review of prior knowledge which you have acquired in former grades. This year in seventh grade you will be tested on the meaning of these words, and you will develop a working knowledge of how to apply these words.

ADJECTIVE-word that modifies a noun or pronoun
ADVERB-word that modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb
AFFIX-suffix or prefix
ALLITERATION-two or more words in a sentence begin with the same letter or sound
ANALOGIES-describes how two sets of things are similar
ANNOTATE-to make notes, record responses, and write questions about text
ANTONYM-words that have opposite meanings
ARCHETYPES-a model or pattern of characters and places in literature
AUTOBIOGRAPHY-a history of a person’s life written by that person
BIOGRAPHY-a history of a person’s life
CHARACTERIZATION-description of a character
CLIMAX-turning point of the conflict in a narrative
COMPLEX SENTENCE-1 or more dependent clauses and an independent clause
COMPOUND SENTENCE—2 independent clauses joined with a comma followed by a coordinating conjunction
CONCLUSION-end of essay which summarizes and/or wraps up thoughts
CONFLICT-problem the character in a story struggles to solve
CONJUNCTION-connects words, phrases, or clauses
CONNOTATION-your personal definition of a word that includes the feelings and memories associated with the word
CONVENTIONS-rules and standards for grammatically correct writing
DECLARATIVE SENTENCE-command sentence
DENOTATION-dictionary definition
DENOUEMENT-end of the story
DEPENDENT CLAUSE-begins with a subordinate conjunction; contains a subject and verb; not a complete sentence
DIALOGUE-conversation between characters
ESSAY-a story presented in dialogue between characters (a play)
EXCLAMATORY SENTENCE-sentence that expresses strong feeling or excitement
EXPOSITION-part of the plot in which the author reveals the setting and characters; at beginning of a story
EXPOSITORY-writing that explains or describes to inform
EXTERNAL CONFLICT-conflict the character has with outside forces or other characters
FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE-language that is not literal, contains figures of speech such as metaphors and similes(The little boy was a TORADO.)
FINAL DRAFT-revised, edited copy of essay ready for publication

FLASHBACK-tool used in a narrative in which an event from the past is inserted in the present events

FORESHADOWING- hinting at events that will happen later in a story

GENRE- form of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama

HISTORICAL FICTION-fiction which is set in a historical setting and contains historical people and events

HYPERBOLE-an exaggeration (The trip to Six Flags lasted a million hours!)

IDIOMS-sayings which aren’t literal such as, “When pigs fly.”

INCITING INCIDENT-event in plot structure in which the major conflict starts

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE-contains a subject and verb, tells a complete thought, makes sense; also known as a complete sentence

IMAGERY- Use of words and phrases that appeal to the five senses

INFITIVE PHRASE-begins with the word “to” and a verb ( TO EAT corn on the cob, you must have teeth.)

INTERJECTION-words that express emotion or surprise (Wow! That’s some pig.)

INTERNAL CONFLICT-conflict the character experiences in which he/she wrestles with a decision, temptation, or feelings

INTERROGATIVE SENTENCE-question

INTRODUCTION-beginning or lead of an essay

IRONY-a contrast between what happens and what was expected (The fire station burned to the ground last night.)

LITERARY DEVICE-writer’s tool that produces a certain effect such as a simile, metaphor, personification, irony, foreshadowing

MAIN IDEA -the most important idea in an article or story

METAPHOR- Comparing two different things or ideas NOT using the words LIKE or AS

(The tiger’s glowing eyes were burning embers.)

METER-rhythm of a poem

MOOD- Reader’s emotional response to literature

MYTH-an invented story usually containing a hero

NARRATOR-character telling the story

NOUN-word that represents a person, place, thing, or idea

OBJECT-a noun toward which thought, feeling, or action is directed (The dog chased the CAT.)

OUTLINE-main ideas in an essay organized with a system of numbers and letters

PARTICIPLE PHRASE-phrase beginning with a verb ending in “ing”

PERSONAL NARRATIVE-story with plot structure written about oneself

PERSONIFICATION -Giving human qualities to something

PERSPECTIVE-the viewpoint of a person; their own ideas about a subject

PERSUASIVE ESSAY-essay that attempts to change the beliefs or ideas of the reader

PHRASE-group of words that is not a sentence

PLAGIARISM-copying words or ideas which someone else wrote without giving them credit

PLOT-what happens in a narrative; pattern of events from beginning to end

POEM-composition in verse with artistic form, rich language, and rhythm; written in lines instead of sentences

POINT OF VIEW-the position of the narrator in relation to the story, as indicated by the
narrator's outlook from which the events are depicted and by the attitude toward the characters
PREPOSITION-words that describe a relationship between words; direction words
PRONOUN-words that take the place of a noun
QUOTE-to enclose words within quotation marks
REALISTIC FICTION-made up story with believable characters and events
RESOLUTION- conclusion of a story in which the major conflict is solved

RHYME-repetition of stressed vowel sounds and all the sounds that come after the stressed vowel in two or more words (stamp and cramp are rhyming words)
RISING ACTION-events of plot structure in which the conflict builds and becomes more intense
ROUGH DRAFT-first draft of writing
SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY-genre of writing with unbelievable characters, events, or setting

SIMILE- Comparing two different things or ideas using the words LIKE or AS(The tiger’s eyes glowed like burning embers.)
SIMPLE SENTENCE-contains one independent clause
SUBORDINATE CONJUNCTION-conjunction that turns an independent clause into a dependent clause(common ones include because, if, since, which, when, although)
SOLUTION-problem is solved
SUBJECT-the formal term for the noun that is the main focus of the sentence(who or what is doing the action in a sentence: The CAT meowed.)
SUMMARY-shortened version of a piece of literature; usually 3-5 sentences long
SYMBOLISM-something which stands for or means something else
SYNONYM-words that mean the same or about the same
TEXT EVIDENCE-words from the text that support a written response or inference
TEXT STRUCTURE-elements of writing that distinguish it from other genres
THEME- life lesson or message shown through the character and conflict in a story or book; the big idea

THESIS-controlling idea which defines what the writer is arguing, the position the writer is taking, or the action the writer is encouraging; defines the purpose of the essay
TONE- Author’s attitude, opinion, or feelings about something
TRANSITION-word or phrase that smoothly connects other words, sentences, or paragraphs
TRUISM-universal truth; thematic statement
VERB-words that express action, state, or a relation between two things ( words such as swim, jump, run, play, think which are active verbs and inactive verbs such as is, are, am, has, can, could, etc.)