

connect

Chapter Three:

Developing Your Vocabulary

Choose A Partner

Briefly tell your partner about a time when you misunderstood or misused a word.

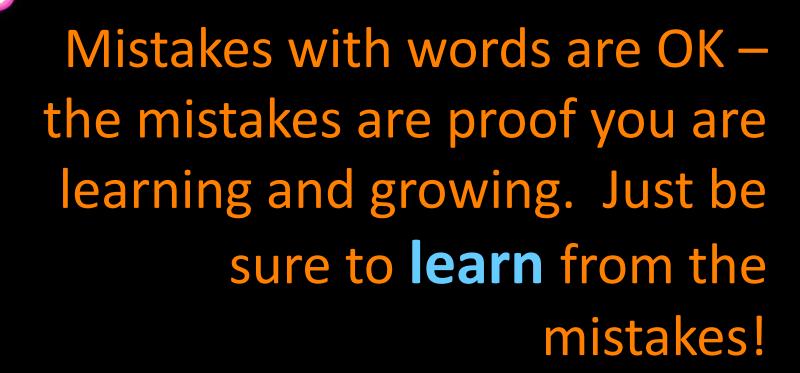
Describe

- What happened
- How it made you feel
- What you learned from the mistake



Remember

- A person's vocabulary is never "finished."
- It changes you grow and learn new things.
- It changes as the world changes.
- Did you use "text" as a verb ten years ago?





Vocabulary Strategies

How can you learn and remember new words?

- Learn words in context
- Practice the words
- Use the words with others



Context Clues

- A context clue is a hint (clue) about the meaning of a word that is located in the surrounding words or sentences (context).
- When you use context clues you are not looking for the exact meaning; you are simply looking for enough of an understanding to keep reading.



Why Context Clues?

- Quicker than the dictionary
- Gives you enough information to get the meaning of the word
- Lets you get on with your reading.

It's like an express checkout -- Get in, get what you need, and get on with your work.



Finding Context Clues

- Look in the actual sentence in which the unknown word appears,
- The sentence before the one in which the word appears,
- And the sentence after the one in which the word appears.

Context Clues are as

EASY as 1-2-3

A = Antonyms

S = Synonyms

Y = Your Logic

1 = Look for signal words

as = Focus on what you know

3 = Pay attention to punctuation

Examples

The author uses a word then explains it

- Signal words:
 - for example
 - for instance
 - such as
 - to illustrate



Antonyms

- Words that have opposite meanings, such as *light* and *dark*.
- Signal words:
 - in contrast
 - however
 - but
 - instead
 - even though
 - although

- unlike
- yet
- on the other hand

©2014 Wadsworth, Cengage Learning



Synonyms

 Words that have a similar meaning or the same meaning, such as small and little.

Signal words:

- like
- as
- also
- as well

- or
- in other words
- that is
- in the same way

Your Logic

1. Start with what you already understand

2. Figure out what you don't yet know.

1 – Look for Signal Words

- Signal words or transitions are a good places to look for meaning.
- Signal words often indicate
 - Example clues
 - Antonym clues
 - Synonym clues

2 – Focus on What You Know

- Look for connections between prior knowledge and new information.
- Focusing on what you know will help you understand more of what you read than if you focus on what you do not know.

3 – Pay Attention to Punctuation

Punctuation can indicate context clues.

Pay special attention to

- Dashes
- Parentheses
- Commas
- Colons



Punctuation – Dashes

Remember the importance of dashes – punctuation marks that when used in pairs sometimes indicate a definition – or which may introduce or follow an example.





Punctuation (Parentheses)

Parentheses (a type of punctuation mark) may enclose definitions.





Punctuation, Commas

Commas, one of the most common punctuation marks in the English language, may restate the meaning of the previous word.





Punctuation: Colons

Colon: Words after a colon often are examples or illustrations of the words before it.



EASY Note Cards

The word

(the part of speech noun, verb, adjective, adverb) Example—Write a sentence using the word that shows you know its meaning.

Antonym—the word's opposite (if there is one)

Synonym—a word with a similar meaning (If there is one)

Your Logic—Use your logic to make up a definition in your own words

Front

Back

Example EASY Card

Refuse

(noun)

Pronunciation: REFuse

Examples: The dumpster was overflowing with refuse. Hoarders can't let go of their refuse.

Antonyms: property, assets, stuff you still want

Synonyms: garbage, junk, rubbish, trash

Your logic: If you would refuse to bring it in your house, it may be refuse!

Front

Back

Create EASY Cards

 Find someone whose phone number has the same LAST digit (number) as your phone number.

EXAMPLE: 765-876-1748 and 384-183-5648 can be partners.

Create EASY Cards

- Use scratch paper to make EASY cards for the italicized words on the next screens.
- Feel free to draw a picture on the front of the card, or write how to pronounce the word.
- When finished, share your cards with another group.

Create EASY Cards

I'm scared to death of being poor. It's like a fat girl who loses 500 pounds but is always fat inside. I grew up poor and will always feel poor inside. It's my pet *paranoia*.

-Cher

Create EASY Cards

I love giving gifts and I love receiving them. I really like giving little kids extravagant gifts. You see their little faces light up and they get excited. If it's a really good gift, I love receiving it, like jewels, small islands.

-Gina Gershon

Television knows no night. It is perpetual day. TV embodies our fear of the dark, of night, of the other side of things.

-Jean Baudrillard

Create EASY Cards

I have a very *eclectic* iPod. So I've got my cardio people - so it's anything from Beyonce to some Jay-Z to Janelle Monae, her song 'Tightrope,' that's a good cardio song. And then I've got Sting. I've got Mary J. Blige. I've got The Beatles. I've got Michael Jackson. I try to pick the songs that I personally love.

-Michelle Obama





Three Kinds of Word Parts

- The root carries the meaning of the word
- The prefix is attached to the beginning and changes the meaning of the word
- The suffix is attached to the end and changes the meaning and/or part of speech of the word.

By knowing a single piece, you have a clue to the meaning of multiple words.

Exploring Word Parts

- 1. Break into groups of three
- 2. On a piece of paper, write down words you know that contain the following roots. You may not know words for all the roots, but fill in what you can.
 - -bio- (life)
 - -morph- (form)
 - -path- (feeling, suffering)
 - -phon- (sound)
 - -phil- or -philo- (having a strong affinity or love for)

Exploring Word Parts

This time, write down words beginning with these prefixes.

- Non- (not)
- Dis- (opposite of)
- Sub- (under)
- Trans- (across)

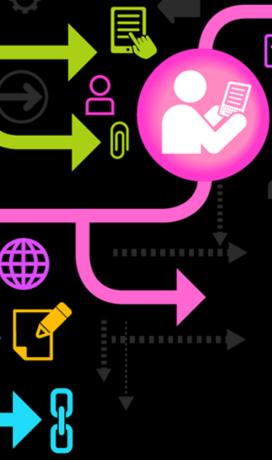
Exploring Word Parts

- Lastly, write down words ending with the following suffixes.
 - -tion (act, process of)
 - -able (can be done)
 - -ious (possessing qualities of)
 - ity (state of)
- Share your words with one other group. Write down words that aren't on your list.



Denotation is the definition of a word.

 Connotation is the feeling associated with the word.



When I wear high heels I have a great vocabulary and I speak in paragraphs. I'm more eloquent. I plan to wear them more often.

- Meg Ryan