



## GLOSSARY

### READING AND WRITING

- adjective:** a word that modifies, or describes, a noun or a pronoun
- adverb:** a word that modifies, or describes, a verb, adjective, or adverb
- antecedent:** the word or phrase to which a pronoun refers
- antonym:** a word that is the opposite in meaning to a particular word
- audience:** the intended readers of a written work
- bias:** a personal tendency to judge a person, people, or ideas favorably or negatively
- clarity:** freedom from confusion and extraneous information
- coherence:** logical connection and adherence of ideas
- colloquial language:** conversational, or informal, language
- concise:** free from elaboration and unnecessary detail
- context clues:** the words or ideas that surround an unfamiliar word and provide clues to its meaning; clues may be in the form of examples, definitions, restatements, or explanations
- conventions:** established practices, methods, and rules
- credibility:** believability, trustworthiness
- deductive reasoning:** drawing a specific conclusion from a general premise
- demonstrative pronoun:** a pronoun used to indicate a particular person or thing
- explicit:** clearly or directly stated
- extraneous:** not essential or pertinent
- fallacy:** a false or mistaken idea
- figurative language:** language that has a meaning that is not literal or exact
- fluent:** smooth and flowing
- focus:** the point of concentration or emphasis



**graphic representation:** a table, chart, graph, or other non-text-based form of representing information

**implications:** ideas expressed indirectly

**implicit:** suggested without being directly stated

**infer:** to derive a conclusion by reasoning from evidence

**intent:** a clearly formulated aim

**main idea:** the central idea on which a paragraph or selection is based

**modifier:** a word that describes another word in the sentence (i.e., adjective, adverb)

**noun:** a word that names a person, place, thing, or idea

**objective:** dealing with facts without distortion by personal feelings or interpretations

**occasion:** the circumstance for which an action is taken

**organized:** structured as a coherent, unified whole

**paragraphing:** dividing writing into paragraphs

**phrase:** two or more words forming a distinct part of a sentence

**point of view:** a technical term in writing that refers to the person (i.e., first, second, third) in which a piece of writing is presented; or the opinion, viewpoint, or stand taken by a writer

**precise:** defined exactly

**preposition:** a word that shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence (e.g., in, over, with, before, of)

**pronoun:** a word that takes the place of a noun (e.g., I, her, theirs, everyone)

**pronoun-antecedent agreement:** a correct match between the number (e.g., singular, plural) and gender of a pronoun and the antecedent to which it refers

**purpose:** a reason or goal

**qualifying language:** language, including adjectives and adverbs, used to explain or describe other words in the sentence (e.g., "They, *the boys and girls*, were excited about their vacation."; "The speaker was *quite* adamant about her point.")

**redundancy:** needless repetition or excessive use of words in an explanation or description

**relative pronoun:** a pronoun that introduces a clause



**relevant:** applicable to the matter at hand

**run-on sentence:** two or more sentences written and punctuated as one sentence

**sentence fragment:** an incomplete sentence punctuated as a complete sentence

**structural analysis:** the identification of prefixes, suffixes, and bases to help with word identification

**subject-verb agreement:** a correct match between the number (e.g., singular, plural) of the subject and verb in a sentence

**supporting information:** details, anecdotes, and other information provided to support a main idea

**synonym:** a word with the same meaning as or similar meaning to a particular word

**syntax:** the way in which words are arranged to form meaningful phrases, clauses, and sentences

**theme:** a subject or topic of discussion

**thesis:** a point set forth and defended in writing

**transitions:** words or phrases that serve to link ideas in a clear order

**valid:** both relevant and meaningful

**verb:** a word that expresses action or a state of being or becoming

**verb tense:** the form a verb takes to show time (e.g., past, present, future)

**voice:** individual distinction of form or expression