Grades 6-8 Common Core Key Vocabulary

6th Grade Common Core Key Vocabulary

- Argument
- Audience
- Cite
- Claims
- Clause
- Compare
- Connotation
- Contrast
- Credible
- Delineate
- Denotation
- Figurative language
- Genre
- Hyperbole
- Inference
- Integrate
- Metaphor
- Nonrestrictive elements
- Onomatopoeia
- Parenthetical elements (appositives)
- Personification
- Plagiarism
- Plot
- Point of view
- Resolution
- Setting
- Simile
- Technical vocabulary
- Theme
- Tone

7th Grade Common Core Key Vocabulary

- Active Voice
- Alliteration
- Argument
- Assonance
- Audience
- Character
- Cite
- Claims
- Clause
- Compare
- Connotation
- Contrast
- Credible
- Delineate
- Denotation
- Figurative language
- Genre
- Hyperbole
- Inferences
- Irony
- Metaphor
- Onomatopoeia
- Passive Voice
- Personification
- Simile
- Plagiarism
- Plot
- Point of view
- Resolution
- Setting
- Technical vocabulary

8th Grade Common Core Key Vocabulary

- Active Voice
- Allusions
- Analogies
- Argument
- Audience
- Cite
- Claims
- Clause
- Cohesion
- Connotation
- Credible
- Delineate
- Denotation
- Figurative language
- Genre
- Hyperbole
- Inference
- Irony
- Metaphor
- Onomatopoeia
- Passive Voice
- Personification
- Plagiarism
- Point of view
- Resolution
- Simile
- Technical vocabulary

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Active Voice **
The voice of a verb whose subject performs the action.

Alliteration
The repetition of speech sounds, usually applied only to consonants, and only when the recurrent sound occurs in a conspicuous position at the beginning of a word or of a stressed syllable within a word.

Allusion
An explicit or implicit reference, in a work of literature, to a person, place, or event, or to another literary work or passage.

Analogy
A resemblance in some particulars between things otherwise unlike; inference that if two or more things are alike in some respects, they will probably agree in others; a comparison based on such resemblance.

Argument*
An exchange of diverging or opposite views, typically a heated or angry one

Assonance
The repetition in words of identical or similar vowel sounds followed by different consonant sounds.

Audience**
The person or group for whom a selection is written or performed.

Character
A person represented in a story.

Major character: A character who plays a major role in a story but is not the protagonist.

Minor character: A character who appears in a story but does not play a major role.

Cite*
Quote (a passage, book, or author) as evidence for or justification of an argument or statement, esp. in a scholarly work.

Claim*
State or assert that something is the case

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Clause **
A group of words having its own subject and predicate but forming only part of a complete sentence.

Credible*
To be believed; convincing: *few people found his story credible* | *a credible witness.*

Cohesion*
The action or fact of forming a united whole: *the work at present lacks cohesion.*

Compare
To examine and appraise characteristics or qualities in order to discover similarities.

Connotation
The emotional association(s) suggested by the primary meaning of a lexical unit, which affects its interpretations; things suggested by a word apart from the thing it explicitly names or describes.

Contrast
To examine and appraise characteristics or qualities in order to discover differences.

Delineate*
Describe or portray (something) precisely: *the law should delineate and prohibit behavior that is socially abhorrent.*

Denotation**
The objective meaning of a word independent of other associations the word calls to mind.

Figurative language
Language that deviates from a standard significance or sequence of words in order to achieve a special meaning or effect (e.g., similes and metaphors).

Genre
A category used to classify literary works, usually by form, technique, or content.

Hyperbole
An intentional exaggeration for emphasis or comic effect.

Inference
A conclusion or opinion that draws on known facts, evidence, or intuition to fill in missing information.
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**Irony**
A literary technique that involves surprising, interesting, or amusing contradictions.

**Metaphor**
A figure of speech in which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness between them; a figure of speech in which a comparison is implied by analogy, but is not stated directly.

**Nonrestrictive**
Grammar (of a relative clause or descriptive phrase) giving additional information about a noun phrase whose particular reference has already been specified.

**Onomatopoeia**
The term used to describe words whose pronunciations suggest their meaning (e.g., meow, buzz).

**Parenthetical**
Relating to, or inserted as a parenthesis: *ignore the parenthetical remarks that pockmark every page.*

**Parts of Speech**
The eight classes into which words are grouped according to their uses in a sentence: adjective, adverb, conjunction, interjection, noun, preposition, pronoun, and verb.

**Adjective**
A word that answers the question *what kind, how many, or which one.*

**Adverb**
A word that answers the question *when, where, why, in what manner, or to what extent.* An adverb may be a single word, a phrase, or a clause. An adverb modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

**Conjunction**
A word or phrase that connects words, phrases, or clauses.

**Subordinating conjunction**
A conjunction that introduces a dependent clause; words or phrases such as *after, although, as long as, wherever, while.*

**Interjection**
A word that shows emotion. Interjections are not grammatically related to any other part of a sentence. They are usually followed by exclamation points.

**Noun**
The name of a person, place, object, idea, quality, or activity.

**Preposition**
A connective word that evinces the relationship between a noun or pronoun and some other word in the sentence.

**Pronoun**
A word used in place of a noun, such as *he, she, they.*

**Verb**
A word or phrase used to express action or state of being.

**Verb tense**
The property of a verb that expresses time. The three primary tenses correspond to the three time divisions: present, past, and future.

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Passive Voice**
The voice of a verb whose subject receives an action.

Personification
A figure of speech that endows things or abstractions with life or human characteristics.

Plagiarism*
The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.

Plot
The structure of the actions in a dramatic or narrative work, ordered and rendered toward achieving particular emotional and artistic effects. The most basic elements in a plot line are: (a) exposition, (b) rising action, (c) climax, crisis, or turning point, (d) falling action, and (e) resolution or denouement.

Point of View
The perspective or perspectives established by an author through which the reader is presented with the characters, actions, setting, and events that constitute the narrative in a work of fiction. There are multiple modes of point of view, including:

First-person narration: A narrative mode where a story is told by one character at a time, speaking for and about himself or herself. The narrator may be a minor character observing the action or the main protagonist of the story. A first-person narrator may be reliable or unreliable.

First-person perspective: The perspective implicit in first-person narration, intimate on the one hand and circumscribed on the other.

Third-person narration: A narrative mode in which a story is told by a narrator who relates all action in third person, using third-person pronouns such as he or she.

Third-person omniscience: A method of storytelling in which the narrator knows the thoughts and feelings of all of the characters in the story, as opposed to third person limited, which adheres closely to the thoughts and feelings of a single character.

Resolution
Events forming the outcome of the climax of a play or story; also called falling action.

Setting
The time and place in which a narrative takes place; the physical and psychological background against which the action of a story takes place; the scenery and stage effects for a dramatic production.

Environment: The surrounding things, conditions, and influences in the narrative.

Place: The physical location of the narrative.

Time: The period or era in which the narrative takes place.

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Simile
A figure of speech or other direct comparison of two things that are dissimilar, using the words like or as (or other words of comparison).

Technical vocabulary*
Vocabulary relating to a particular subject, art, or craft, or its techniques

Theme
A topic of discussion or writing; a major idea or proposition broad enough to cover the entire scope of a literary or other work of art. A theme may be stated or implied, but clues about the theme may be found in the ideas that are given special prominence or tend to recur in a work.

Tone
The author’s or narrator’s attitude reflected in the style of the text.

*Indicates definitions from Oxford American Dictionary.
**Indicates definitions from Mentoring Minds Critical Thinking for Life Common Core Flip Chart
All remaining definitions taken from www.commoncore.org

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