

Grade 6 Vocabulary

24 words with meanings and original examples. Choose eight at a time. Explain a meaning aloud, then try a new sentence.

A flexible sample, not a required school list or a placement test.

Read for meaning and viewpoint

infer (verb) - work out an idea from clues and what you already know.

We infer that the character is nervous because she checks the clock and keeps twisting her sleeve.

context (noun) - the surrounding words or situation that help explain a meaning.

The context tells us that bank means the edge of a river in this paragraph.

emphasize (verb) - give special importance or attention to something.

The writer repeats the warning to emphasize the danger of the steep path.

perspective (noun) - a particular way of seeing or thinking about something.

The story describes the crowded market from a young visitor's perspective.

distinguish (verb) - recognize or explain the difference between things.

The guide helps readers distinguish a moth from a butterfly.

interpret (verb) - explain the meaning of words, information, or an event.

Use the labels to interpret what the bars on the graph represent.

imply (verb) - suggest an idea without saying it directly.

The muddy boots in the illustration imply that the traveler has walked through wet ground.

literal (adjective) - using the usual meaning of words rather than an imaginative comparison.

The sentence about a real cat sleeping inside a bag has a literal meaning.

Grade 6 Vocabulary

Build a clear explanation

claim (noun) - a statement that someone says is true and can support with reasons or evidence.

Our claim is that the shaded bench stays cooler in the afternoon.

support (verb) - provide reasons or evidence that help show an idea is sound.

The temperature readings support our explanation about the shaded bench.

relevant (adjective) - connected to the question or idea being considered.

The bus timetable is relevant to our plan for arriving before the museum opens.

specific (adjective) - giving exact or clearly identified details.

Give a specific example, such as the character sharing her lunch on the first day.

justify (verb) - explain why an answer, choice, or action is reasonable.

Justify your choice of route by explaining which crossings are safer.

elaborate (verb) - add details to explain an idea more fully.

Elaborate on your suggestion by describing how the new club would work.

clarify (verb) - make something easier to understand.

Please clarify whether the meeting starts before or after lunch.

plausible (adjective) - seeming possible or reasonable but not certain.

A loose lid is a plausible explanation for the spilled beads.

Try it: use two of these words in your own sentences.

Grade 6 Vocabulary

Consider choices and change

consequence (noun) - something that happens as a result of an action or event.

One consequence of leaving the windows open was a wet classroom floor.

alternative (noun) - another choice or possible way to do something.

Taking the earlier bus is an alternative to walking in the rain.

circumstance (noun) - a fact or condition that affects a situation.

The lack of a nearby bus stop was a circumstance we had to consider when choosing the venue.

adapt (verb) - change to fit a new situation or need.

We adapt the outdoor game so it can be played in the smaller hall.

reluctant (adjective) - hesitant or not eager to do something.

Maya was reluctant to lend her sketchbook because several drawings were unfinished.

persistent (adjective) - continuing to make an effort despite difficulty.

The persistent team kept checking its calculations until it found the mistake.

sufficient (adjective) - enough for a particular need or purpose.

One small jug was not sufficient to water every plant in the greenhouse.

evaluate (verb) - judge how useful or effective something is by considering information.

Evaluate the designs by checking their strength, cost, and ease of use.

Try it: use two of these words in your own sentences.

Vocabulary practice

Name: _____ Date: _____

Circle the best answer. Underline a clue or explain why your choice fits. Keep the answer key aside until you finish.

1. A character steps back from the stage and says, "Could someone else go first?" What can you reasonably infer?

- A. The character has already finished performing.
- B. The character wants the audience to leave.
- C. The character may feel hesitant about performing.

Clue / reason: _____

2. In "We sat on the bank and watched the river flow," which clue helps explain bank?

- A. watched the river flow
- B. We sat
- C. the word and

Clue / reason: _____

3. The writer repeats "every drop matters" at the start and end of an article about saving water. The repetition helps ____.

- A. adapt the article
- B. emphasize the main idea
- C. distinguish two speakers

Clue / reason: _____

4. Which pair uses imply and infer accurately?

- A. A writer implies that a character is upset, and a reader infers it from clues.
- B. Both words always mean to say something directly.
- C. A reader implies a clue, and the writer infers it to the reader.

Clue / reason: _____

5. Your claim is that the school needs more bicycle parking. Which detail is most relevant?

- A. The school walls were painted last summer.
- B. A friend likes the color of the new bicycles.
- C. On three mornings, students found every bicycle rack full.

Clue / reason: _____

Vocabulary practice

Name: _____ Date: _____

Circle the best answer. Underline a clue or explain why your choice fits. Keep the answer key aside until you finish.

6. Which response best justifies choosing cardboard for a model?

- A. "I picked it because I picked it."
- B. "It held the test weight, was easy to cut, and fit our budget."
- C. "We should stop talking about the choice."

Clue / reason: _____

7. A reader asks you to clarify "We will meet there later." Which revision helps most?

- A. "We will meet there at some point."
- B. "We will meet later, not now."
- C. "We will meet beside the library entrance at 3:30."

Clue / reason: _____

8. Twenty students each need one sheet of paper. The box contains only twelve sheets. The supply is not _____.

- A. reluctant
- B. sufficient
- C. literal

Clue / reason: _____

9. Rain cancels a planned outdoor game. Which choice is an alternative?

- A. Play a suitable game in the gym instead.
- B. Describe yesterday's score.
- C. Keep saying that it should not rain.

Clue / reason: _____

10. A loose window was found after papers blew off a desk. Calling the wind a plausible explanation means it is _____.

- A. already proven beyond doubt
- B. impossible under any circumstances
- C. reasonable to consider, but not yet certain

Clue / reason: _____

Choosing a place for the book exchange

Name: _____ Date: _____

The class planned a book exchange and needed to choose a location. Leo's first claim was that the front entrance would work best because many students passed it. Amara asked the group to evaluate the idea more carefully. A busy entrance might attract visitors, but a table could also narrow the walkway. From the caretaker's perspective, keeping the entrance clear mattered most. The group considered the library as an alternative. It had sufficient space, although it was closed during part of lunch. They adapted the plan by holding the exchange just after school. In their proposal, they used specific opening times and a sketch of the table arrangement to justify their choice. They also asked classmates whether the new time would work for them before calling the plan final.

Explain your thinking

Why did the group consider the library after first suggesting the entrance? Use a relevant detail from the passage.

Write with the words

Write 4-6 sentences proposing a place or time for a club activity. State a claim, consider one alternative, and justify your choice with a specific detail. Use claim, alternative, and justify accurately.

Answer key & explanations

Discuss the reason behind each answer. This practice set does not measure overall reading ability.

1. **C. The character may feel hesitant about performing.** - Stepping back and asking someone else to begin support an inference about hesitation; they do not prove the exact reason.
2. **A. watched the river flow** - The river supplies context for bank as land beside water rather than a place that keeps money.
3. **B. emphasize the main idea** - Repeating an important phrase draws attention to its message.
4. **A. A writer implies that a character is upset, and a reader infers it from clues.** - Writers or details can suggest a meaning; readers infer a meaning by using clues.
5. **C. On three mornings, students found every bicycle rack full.** - Full racks on several mornings directly support a need for parking space.
6. **B. "It held the test weight, was easy to cut, and fit our budget."** - Test performance, ease of use, and cost give reasons for the choice.
7. **C. "We will meet beside the library entrance at 3:30."** - Naming the place and time removes the uncertainty in there and later.
8. **B. sufficient** - Sufficient means enough for the task; twelve sheets cannot provide one for each of twenty students.
9. **A. Play a suitable game in the gym instead.** - An alternative is another possible choice.
10. **C. reasonable to consider, but not yet certain** - Plausible means an explanation seems possible; it still needs evidence.

Reading: a sample response

A table at the busy entrance could narrow the walkway, which concerned the caretaker. The library offered enough space, so the group adjusted the time to make that alternative possible.

Writing: responses vary. Check that each word fits its meaning and that the explanation gives useful details.

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