

EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC VOCABULARY AND VERB PHRASES

Grade 5 Geometry

Academic content:

- a given point
- attributes
- based on their properties
- convention
- coordinate plane
- coordinate values of points
- coordinates
- intersection
- one axis, second axis
- quadrant
- the origin
- the plane
- two-dimensional figures
- x-axis and x-coordinate, y-axis and y-coordinate

Verb/verb phrase:

- classify two-dimensional figures in a hierarchy based on properties
- classify two-dimensional figures into categories
- define a coordinate system
- graph points
- graph points on the coordinate plane
- represent real-world and mathematical problems
- understand category and subcategory attributes for classification
- use a pair of perpendicular number lines, called axes
- use ordered pair of numbers, called coordinates

Grade 2 Reading Informational Text

KEY IDEAS AND DETAILS

Academic content:

- who, what, where, when, why, how
- multi-paragraph text
- historical events
- scientific ideas
- technical procedures

Verb phrases:

- ask and answer questions
- identify main topic
- retell key details
- describe the connection between two people, events, or ideas

Grade 3 Weather and Climate

Verb/verb phrase:

- cite relevant evidence
- communicate information from books and reliable media
- connect to engineering, technologies and science
- decrease known risks
- describe climates
- describe typical weather conditions
- develop new technologies
- engage in argument from evidence
- evaluate the merit and accuracy of methods
- explain phenomena
- know how science affects everyday life
- make a claim
- obtain and combine information
- predict*
- record patterns
- represent data in tables and graphical displays*

Grade 8 Economics

Verb/verb phrase:

- analyze how choices have present and future consequences
- demonstrate how effective management of personal finances includes using basic banking services (checking/savings account) and credit
- discover how Industrial Revolution (18th and 19th centuries) changed means of production
- explain impact government can have on markets by spending, regulating, taxing, and creating trade barriers
- provide an historical example of decision based on economic choices



Order & Learn More

Order Academic Vocabulary References and learn more about our Common Core Teacher Planning & Preparation Tools at www.BattelleforKids.org/CommonCore.

USER MANUAL

for the
Academic Vocabulary References
Grades K–3, 3–5, and 6–8

**Battelle
for Kids**
Bringing clarity to
school improvement

About Battelle for Kids

Battelle for Kids is a national, not-for-profit organization that provides strategic counsel and innovative solutions for today's complex educational-improvement challenges. Our mission-driven team of education, technology, communications, and business professionals specializes in creating strategies that advance the development of human capital, the implementation of strategic measures, practices for improving educator effectiveness, and communication with all stakeholders in schools. At the heart of this work is an unwavering focus on accelerating student growth.

Connect: twitter.com/BattelleforKids | www.facebook.com/battelleforkidsorg

Battelle for Kids

© 2014, Battelle for Kids. All Rights Reserved.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE ACADEMIC VOCABULARY REFERENCES?

The Academic Vocabulary References for Grades K–3, 3–5, and 6–8 are designed for classroom teachers and district administrators to help implement the academic content standards from the Common Core, as well as Next Generation Science and National Standards for Social Studies. These Vocabulary References will be helpful as teachers plan instruction and units.

Why Are Verb Phrases Important?

Academic cognitive verbs are a crucial part of understanding the Standards by supporting content relevance and rigor. The verb phrases listed in the Academic Vocabulary References help teachers target formative instructional assessments and develop performance assessments for the content area they teach.

Educators Use Verb Phrases To:

1. Incorporate rigor and engagement into their units, lessons, and learning activities, and model expectations needed to master the knowledge and/or skill in the Standard;
2. Formatively assess student knowledge and skills of grade-level Standards;
3. Develop performance assessments specific to content Standards;
4. Write prompts to stimulate and deepen students' thinking and provide opportunities for student writing; and
5. Help teachers and students build rubrics for mastery.

EXAMPLES OF ACADEMIC VERBS AND VERB PHRASES

Using this chart, compare the use of what verbs alone can do for teachers compared to the use of verb phrases to help develop tasks and assessment items on what a student needs to know and be able to do. Common Core and State Standards use verb phrases to support content relevance and rigor for formative- and performance-type assessments.

Previous Standards Used	Common Core and State Standards Use			
	Grade 2 ELA	Grade 3 Mathematics	Grade 5 Science	Grade 7 History
Verb				
Explain: answer, articulate, clarify, communicate, convey, describe, inform, present, report, respond, retell, state, summarize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain images • Explain diagrams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why 4 times a number can be decomposed into two equal addends • Explain equivalence of fractions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain phenomena or solutions • Identify cause and effect relationships to explain change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain how Mongol influence led a unified state in China • Explain effect of Saharan slave trade on West Central Africa

Using Verbs and Verb Phrases:

Sample Question for Grade 3 Mathematics: Explain why 4 times a number can be decomposed into two equal addends.

Sample Student Response: For example, $4 \times 6 = (4 \times 3) + (4 \times 3)$. Multiplication is repeated addition with patterns so the two equal numbers of 3 and 3 make the number 6.

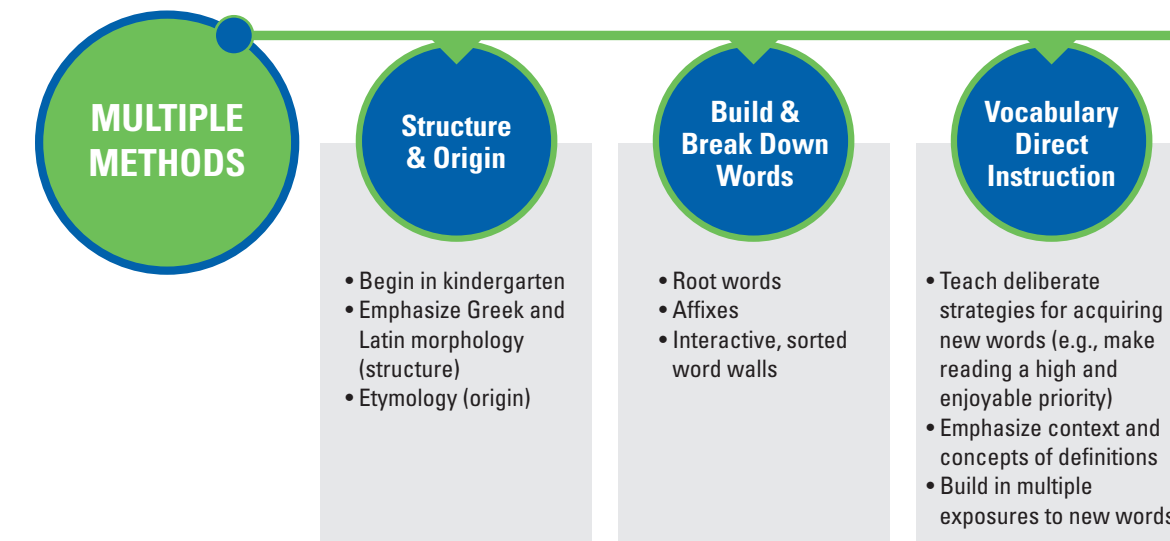
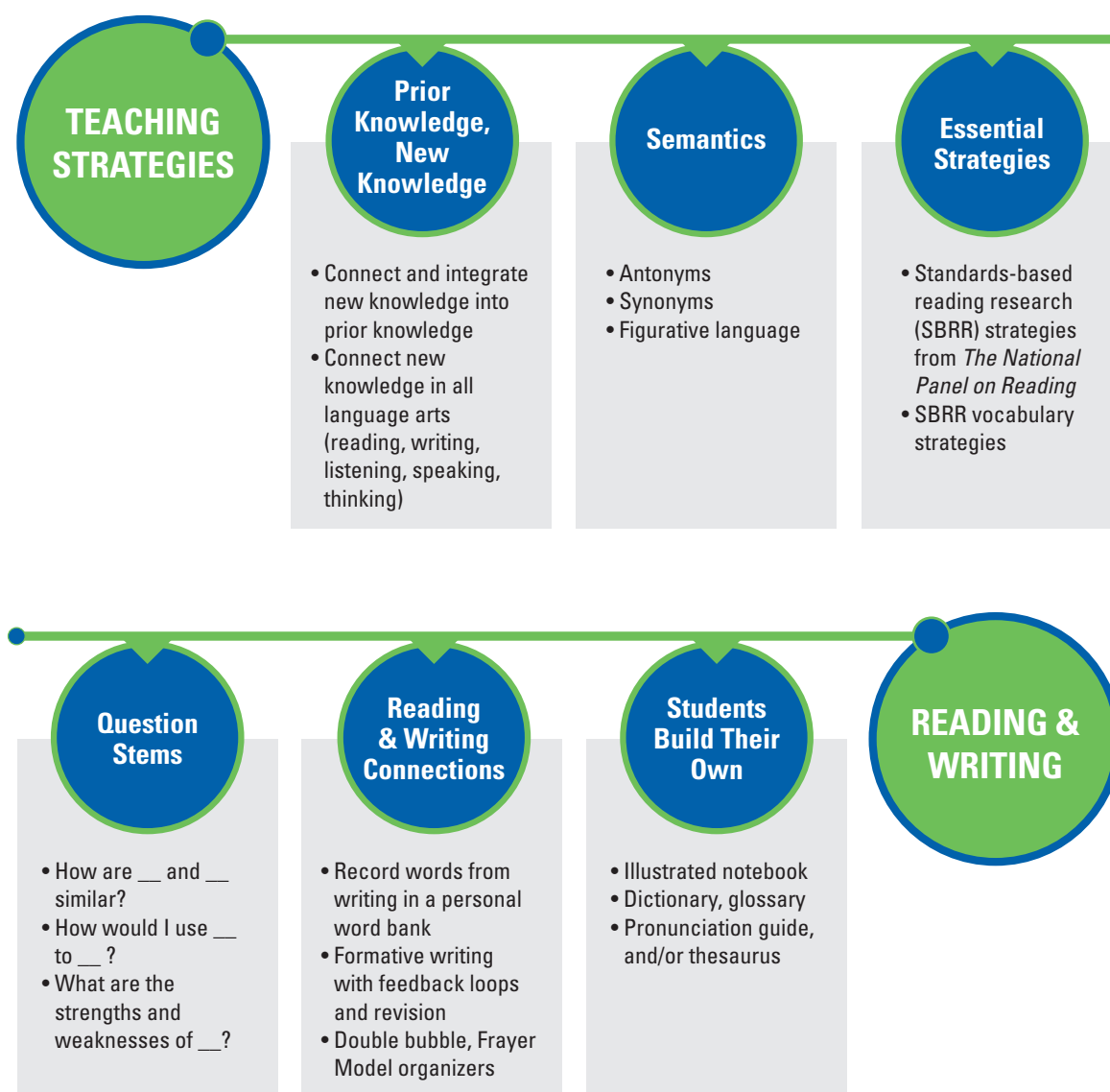
THE DO'S & DON'TS OF VOCABULARY TEACHING & LEARNING

The Importance of Vocabulary Development

Effective vocabulary teaching and learning are essential for students' comprehension and understanding. Research suggests that there is a strong correlation between vocabulary and comprehension. Unfortunately, many students enter school with delayed language and vocabulary knowledge and skills, which often leads to reading delays. Using effective vocabulary teaching and learning can help increase students' collection of vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency.

Educators Use Academic Content Vocabulary To:

1. Connect content vocabulary to students' prior knowledge using semantics and essential **teaching strategies**;
2. Integrate **reading and writing** to enhance content specific vocabulary instruction;
3. Use **multiple methods** of vocabulary instruction by using comparisons, examples and non-examples, multiple contexts, elaborations, and especially with Greek and Latin roots; and
4. Use engaging **game-like activities** and word games.



THE DON'TS OF VOCABULARY TEACHING & LEARNING

