

Academic Vocabulary Glossary

Academic Word	Definition	Sample Sentence
Unit 1		
clarify (<i>verb</i>)	to make something clear and easier to understand	When you clarify the problem, it makes it easier to understand.
compare (<i>verb</i>)	to look at two or more things closely to see what is similar and what is different about them	When you look at two numbers to see which is greater, you compare them.
explanation (<i>noun</i>)	information you say or write to make something clear or easy to understand	An explanation makes something easy to understand.
represent (<i>verb</i>)	to use as a sign or symbol for something	In math, you can use symbols to represent operations.
Unit 2		
confirm (<i>verb</i>)	to say or show that something is true or correct	You should check your work to confirm the answer is correct.
identify (<i>verb</i>)	to know and say what something or someone is	Knowing what math symbols represent helps you identify the operations to use.
opinion (<i>noun</i>)	what you think or believe about something	An opinion is something that may or may not be true.
refer (<i>verb</i>)	to look at a book or other source for information	If you do not know the meaning of a word, you can refer to the glossary to learn the definition.
Unit 3		
develop (<i>verb</i>)	to grow and change; to become better and more advanced	Reading helps you develop your vocabulary.
label (<i>verb</i>)	to put a word or name on something to help identify it	When you label the parts of a diagram, you describe what each part is called.
likely (<i>adjective</i>)	will probably happen or is probably true	The storm clouds and wind mean it is likely it will rain.

Academic Word	Definition	Sample Sentence
process (<i>noun</i>)	a way to do or make something, often with specific steps to follow	You should always follow the same process during a fire drill. Knowing the steps to take will help you exit safely.
Unit 4		
connection (<i>noun</i>)	a relationship between two or more things	When there is a connection between numbers, they have something in common.
observe (<i>verb</i>)	to listen to or watch carefully	A magnifying glass helps you observe objects in greater detail.
predict (<i>verb</i>)	to say or think that something is going to happen	When I predict , I say what I think will happen next.
reasonable (<i>adjective</i>)	sensible; makes sense	The answer is reasonable . It makes sense.
Unit 5		
assumption (<i>noun</i>)	something you think is true without having real proof	When you make an assumption , you use what you know to make a best guess.
brief (<i>adjective</i>)	using few words in writing or in speaking	If an explanation is brief , it is not very long.
characteristic (<i>noun</i>)	a quality or feature of something or someone	A characteristic of a triangle is that it has three angles.
critical (<i>adjective</i>)	very important	When a fact is critical for solving a problem, it is very important.