

Clarifying the Vocabulary

Using the **Clarifying the Vocabulary** skill builder supports students in analyzing unknown words or phrases when they hinder their comprehension.

Directions:

When working with students to help them analyze unknown words or phrases to clarify comprehension, have students:

1. Write on the Skill line the skill: clarifying vocabulary in order to make meaning while reading or listening.
2. Reflect on the importance of learning this skill and the question: *Why am I learning this skill?*
3. Record their thoughts in the space next to the question.
4. Record the word or phrase they are clarifying.
5. Review the parts of speech and how they are determined in a sentence.
6. Review the meaning of signal words and how they are identified.
7. Review punctuation clues and how they are identified.
8. Review visual cues and how they are identified.
9. Review context clues and how they are identified.
10. Review prediction of meaning and what clues can be used to support this.
11. Review actual meaning and how this can be determined.
12. Reflect on how they will use this skill in other situations and the question: *How will I use this skill in the future?*
13. Record their thoughts in the space next to the question.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Skill: _____

Why am I learning this skill?

Word or phrase I am clarifying:	
Write the sentence with the vocabulary word.	What is the part of speech?
Are there any signal words? What do the signal words tell you about the unknown word?	Are there any punctuation clues? What do the punctuation clues tell you about the unknown word?
Are there any visual clues? What do the visual clues tell you?	Are there any clues from surrounding sentences that tell you about the unknown word?
Prediction of meaning:	Actual meaning:

How will I use this skill in the future?