

## Reading Standards Terms

**prefix:** an affix placed before a base or another prefix, as un- in unkind, un- and re- in unrewarding

**word root:** the form of a word after all affixes are removed; "thematic vowels are part of the stem"

**suffix:** an affix that follows the element to which it is added, as -ly in kindly

**denotation:** the literal, dictionary meaning of a word

**connotation:** emotions or ideas associated with a word

**simile:** compare two unlike things with "like" or "as"

**metaphor:** compare two unlike things

**personification:** giving human characteristics to inhuman object

**hyperbole:** exaggeration to make a point

**allusion:** reference to a well-known person, place, or thing

**symbolism:** an object is used to represent an idea

**idiom:** a common saying that is not meant to be taken literally

**bold face:** print used to highlight words, titles, terms, and details

**italics:** slanted text used to show titles or special information

**captions:** print found next to graphics or photos

**charts:** outline maps

**diagrams:** labeled drawings

**graphs:** shows a relationship between two sets of numbers

**headings:** provide information about the main idea of text

**subheadings:** heading that includes supporting details and examples

**illustrations:** pictures, photographs, drawings

**context clues:** clues that help the reader determine the meaning of words in a sentence

**synonym:** words with similar meanings

**antonym:** words with opposite meanings

**sequence diagram:** a listing of important information that helps keep track of elements in a story

**diagram:** show how ideas in a text are connected

**story map:** helps to organize events in the order in which they occur

**venn diagram :** compares & contrasts two ideas or things using overlapping circles (similarities and differences)

**cause and effect:** shows how one event is related to another event or cause

**paraphrase:** restatement of the author's words in your own words

**summary:** tells what the text is about in a short, concise manner

**conclusion:** a determination based on evidence

**inference:** a judgment based on clues or ideas not directly stated

**generalization:** a broad statement that applies to all groups or experiences

**prediction:** a guess about what will happen next

**main idea:** what the text is all about

**supporting detail:** facts, examples or reason to help explain a main idea

**topic sentence:** the main sentence that tells what the paragraph is about

**text structure:** refers to the ways that authors organize information in text

**chronological order:** a writing organization that gives information/events in the order they occurred

**flashback:** gives the reader information by going back in time

**foreshadowing:** gives the reader information about what will happen in the future

**journalistic/inverted pyramid:** presentation of the most essential information to the least important information

**compare:** show how two things are similar

**contrast:** show how two things are dissimilar

**author's perspective:** the purpose a writer has for the text effect on its audience

**editorial:** an article in a newspaper or other periodical presenting the opinion of the publisher

**biography:** a written account of another person's life

**autobiography:** a history of a person's life written or told by that person

**argument and support:** often used in persuasive writing with identification of the argument and clear evidence in support of one side of the argument

**persuasive techniques:** writer uses evidence to support an opinion

**fact technique:** statements that can be proven true

**appeal to authority:** using an authority to add credibility to their position

**emotional appeal:** writer uses strong language to evoke fear, anger, joy

**opinion:** statement that reflects what someone feels or thinks

**word choice:** choices that cause writing to take on a certain tone

**repetition:** the repeating of words, points, or ideas to emphasize

**parallelism:** used to emphasize a point or show parallel structure

**logical fallacy:** evidence that sounds true, but is not logical

**attacking the person:** statements about a person rather than subject being argued

**false cause and effect:** falsely claiming that one event caused the next

**appeal to numbers:** claims based on numbers that may or may not be true

**hasty generalization:** incorrect conclusion based on little evidence

**circular reasoning:** writer simply restates his opinion using different words

**either, or thinking:** writer proposes two solutions to an issue that has many possible solutions

**propaganda:** persuasive techniques designed to persuade and often found in advertising

**bandwagon:** claiming everyone is doing something or using something so therefore you should

**testimonial:** words of famous people endorsing a product

**transfer:** associating negative or positive feelings with an image

**reader's purpose:** the reason why something is being read

**locating and gathering sources:** finding information using resources

**evaluating sources:** determining whether information is reliable

**recording bibliographic information:** a source card used to record information about the author, title, publication information

**using note cards:** a card used to summarize, paraphrase, or quote research information

**organizing information:** using an outline to put information into a usable form

**reference materials:** almanacs, books, atlas, databases, Internet, etc.

**encyclopedias:** contains articles on many content areas such as science, history, geography, literature

**almanacs and yearbooks:** collection of facts or statistical information about people, countries, organizations

**atlases:** contains different kinds of maps

**almanac:** provides a bibliographic listing of articles

**indexes:** a detailed alphabetical listing of names, places, and topics along with the numbers of the pages

**government publications:** city, county, state, or federal information related to the government

**internet:** electronic information that may or may not be true or accurate

**text features:** features such as the table of contents or index that help you locate information

**primary source:** written by people who witnessed or participated in an event

**secondary source:** written by evaluating or analyzing primary sources or other sources

**evaluating sources:** determining the reliability of a source by checking author, date of publication, content

**literary genres:** general types of literature each with its own unique characteristics

**character:** creation of a character through what the character says or does

**setting:** the when and where of a story

**problem:** the conflict the character(s) face in the story and is solved at the story's climax

**plot:** events of a story usually in the form of exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution

**theme:** the central message or idea explored by the story

**point of view:** the view from which the narrator tells the story

**imagery:** author's use of sensory language to create a mental picture for the reader

**style:** the way in which features of the language are used to convey meaning

**tone:** the attitude adopted by the speaker to be communicated or transferred to the listener

**stanza:** poetry divided into groups of lines

**rhyme:** gives a poem a musical quality

**meter:** the stressed and unstressed syllables

**rhythm:** pattern of sound within a poem

**refrain:** in poetry, repeated words or lines

**alliteration:** repetition of same sound at the beginning of several words in a line

**onomatopoeia:** using words whose sound imitates its meaning

**consonance:** repetition of consonant sounds

**assonance:** repetition of vowel sounds

**drama:** story written to be performed usually on a stage

**act:** a major division of a play

**scene:** a division of an act in a play

**protagonist:** major character in a story

**antagonist:** the major character's main opponent in a story

**soliloquy:** a long speech in a play meant to be heard only by the audience

**aside:** brief words meant to be heard only by the audience

**monologue:** a long speech which does not require a response from another character

**author's style:** how an author uses language to shape the tone or mood of their writing

**mood:** author's attitude toward their subject

**tone:** feeling the reader gets from the text

**classic literature:** prose or poetry enjoyed by many for centuries

**epic hero:** larger-than-life figure who has superhuman strength and great courage

**universal theme:** themes that most humans experience in their lifetimes

**compare and contrast texts:** discover similarities and differences within multiple texts

**categorize:** to arrange in categories or classes; classify: characterize

**background knowledge:** information that is essential to understanding a situation or problem

**reliable source:** any person, thing or place from which something comes, arises, or is obtained and can be counted on as accurate

**dialogue:** conversation between two or more persons or the conversation between characters in a novel, drama

**excerpt:** a passage or quotation taken or selected from a book, document