



Next Generation Informational Text Standards-Based Glossary

Grades K-12

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account- a report or description of an event or experience

advance- to bring into consideration or notice, suggest; propose

advantage- a condition or circumstance that puts one in a favorable or superior position

advocacy- the act of pleading or arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, an idea, or policy

allusion- a reference made to something that is not directly mentioned

analogy- similarities between like features of two things on which a comparison may be made

analyze (analysis)- to break into smaller components for the purpose of study or examination; or to separate into its constituent elements or parts

anecdote- a short account of an interesting or humorous incident

animation- the result of imparting life, spirit, motion, or activity

argument- words presented with the aim of persuading thought or action

assess- to evaluate or estimate quality

audio- of or related to humanly audible

author's purpose- the author's reason for composing a text

base word- a word part that can stand alone without a prefix and/or a suffix

beauty- the quality present in a thing or person that gives intense pleasure/deep satisfaction to the mind, whether arising from sensory manifestation, a meaningful design or pattern, or something else

category- a class or division of people or things regarded as having particular shared characteristics

central idea- the thought, concept, notion, or impression that is of greatest importance in the text or portion of the text, it may be implied or explicitly stated

chart- a table giving information

citation- the exact location of a quotation or reference from a text brought forward as support (more useful when it includes a line number, paragraph number, page number, and/or author)

claim- an assertion to the truth of something, typically one that is disputed or in doubt

clarity- the quality of being coherent or easy to understand

compare- to note similarities

comparison- the process of noting similarities and differences

concept- an idea, especially an abstract idea

conflicting- incompatible or clashing

convincing- having the quality of believability and credibility

connection- a relationship in which a person, thing, or idea is linked or associated with something else

connotative- refers to the emotions (positive or negative) that are associated with words

content- all that is contained/dealt with in a discussion or piece of writing; substance

contrast- to note differences

convey- to communicate or make known

cumulative- increasing by successive addition

description- to represent or give an account in words

determine- to conclude after reasoning; to figure out

develop- to cause to grow and become more mature, advanced, or elaborate

delineate- to describe, portray, or list in detail

diagram- a plan, sketch, drawing, or outline designated to demonstrate or explain how something works or to clarify the relationship between the parts of a whole

disadvantage- an unfavorable circumstance or condition that reduces the chances of success or effectiveness

distinct- separate or different from

distinction- difference

distinguish- to note differences

elaboration- the act of providing intricate and rich detail or the act of developing thoroughly

emergent- related to an introduction

emphasize- to lay stress upon

engaging- having the quality of causing favorable attention or interest

essential- absolutely necessary; extremely important

evaluate- to decide the value or worth after study

evidence- facts or information used as support for whether a belief or proposition is true or valid

explanation- a statement making something clear by describing it in more detail or by revealing relevant facts or ideas

explicit- clearly stated

exposition- writing or speech primarily intended to convey information or explain

fallacious- containing or involving a fallacy; illogical; erroneous

figurative- language that contains or uses figures of speech (e.g., simile, metaphor, personification, imagery, alliteration, onomatopoeia, hyperbole, and idioms)

firsthand- information directly from an original source

focus- center of interest

graph- a diagram representing a connection or relationship among two or more things by a number of distinctive plots, lines, bars, etc.

identify- to recognize and name

illustration- an example or image serving to clarify or prove something

inference- a logical assumption based on observed facts from the text and one's prior knowledge or experience

integrate- to combine

interaction- reciprocal action, effect, or influence

interactive- of or related to an ability to respond to user activity

interpret- explain, meaning

interrelated- how ideas or concepts are connected to or associated with one another

introduction- the act of providing (someone) with a beginning knowledge or first experience with something

irrelevant- not connected with or relevant to the matter or topic

judgment- an informed and objective opinion formulated without bias

key details- important words or phrases

logical- reasonable or to be expected

main idea- what the text is mostly about

medium- a means of communicating information

multimedia- of or related to the use of more than one means of communicating information

objective- not influenced by personal feelings or opinions in

considering and representing facts

opinion- a belief or conclusion held with confidence, but not substantiated by proof

oral- spoken or verbal

persuasive- having the quality of changing one's belief and/or actions

point of view- opinion, perspective, position, or viewpoint on a topic or issue

portrayal- a representation or description

powerful- characteristic of eliciting a strong reaction not necessarily toward a desired end

prefix- a word part added to the beginning of a root or base word

premise- a basis, stated or assumed, on which reasoning proceeds

purpose- answers the question, "Why did the author compose the text?"

quantitative- involving or relating to considerations of amount or size

quote- to repeat or copy words (of another), usually with acknowledgement of the source

recount- retell

reference- to mention

refine- to improve by making small changes

relevant- closely connected or appropriate to the matter or topic

rhetoric- author's use of language

root- a word part to which a prefix and/or suffix may be added to create a word

search tool- a tool used to locate information on the internet (e.g., hyperlink, toolbar, search engine text box, etc.)

secondhand- information that is not from the original source

seminal- highly influential in an original way; constituting or providing a basis for further development

shaping- related to providing more information on an idea, including establishing relevance/context

signal- something that gives notice or warning

strong- able to perform a specified action well and powerfully

style- the way in which something is said

sufficient- adequate or enough for the purpose

suffix- a word part added to the end of a root or base word

summary- a brief statement that contains the essential ideas of a longer passage

support- to hold up or serve as a foundation

synthesis- to combine the constituent elements of separate material into a single or unified entity

technical- language that treats subject matter in a manner peculiar to a particular field

text feature- a unique characteristic of a text that emphasizes an important idea or detail (e.g., graphic aids, informational aids, organizational aids, and print features)

theme- a unifying or dominant idea

thesis statement- controlling sentence of the argument or exposition

thorough- written with great care and completeness

time line- a graphic representation showing the passage of time as a line

tone- the author's attitude toward the subject of the text

topic- the subject of the text

trace- to find or discover by investigation

valid- having some foundation; based on truth

video- of or related to televised images

visual- done, maintained, or executed by sight