Smarter Balanced

Construct Relevant Vocabulary for

English Language Arts and Literacy

June 2015

"Construct relevant vocabulary" refers to any English language arts term that students should know because it is essential to the construct of English language arts. As such, these terms should be part of instruction.

These are words that may appear in assessment stems or options on the ELA Smarter Balanced Assessment even though the EDL might identify these terms as above grade level for general use. Because these terms are part of instruction in the ELA classroom they are considered construct relevant and thus allowable for this use.

The following list of "construct relevant vocabulary" was compiled by the Smarter Balanced ELA Team Leads. This list

- is **not** intended to be a default vocabulary curriculum; instead, the list of terms is intended as an instructional resource to ensure that teachers remember to embed these terms into their instruction.
- includes words that will not be glossed.
- is a working document. It is neither "finished" nor is it all-inclusive.

Note: Some words are not repeated in subsequent grades because it is assumed students are familiar with them because they have been part of ELA instruction in previous grades.

accurate/inaccurate information
affix
analysis
antonym
appropriate information
argument
argumentative article/text/ essay
audience (as in writer's audience)
author's intent
author's message
author's point of view
blog
capitalization
central idea
character's action/
characters' relationship/
characters' interaction
claim
closure
compare/contrast
comparison
conclude/conclusion
conclusion drawn
concrete/specific/
realistic details
conflict/tension
connections/relationships
between ideas (transitions in
writing)
contradict
controlling idea/thesis
conventions
credible sources
describe/description
develop ideas (evidence/
elaboration)
dialogue
draft
edit
editorial
effective beginnings/endings
elaborate/elaboration of ideas
essay
establish a claim
evidence
example
excerpt
explanatory article/text/
essay/writing

flashback
focus
global notes
grammar usage
heading
imaginary
inclusion
infer/inference(s)/
inference(s) made
integrate information/ideas
interaction
interpretation
introduction
justify
key detail
key event
logical progression of ideas
logical sequence of events
mental picture (writing)
multi-paragraph
multiple meanings
narrative/narrative writing
narrator
observation
opinion
organize/organization
paraphrase/paraphrasing
phrase
plagiarism/plagiarize/
plagiarizing
plot
point of view/viewpoint
pre-write
precise/specific language
presentation
punctuation/punctuated
purpose (e.g., author's or
speaker's purpose)
purpose for writing (explanatory,
argumentative, narrative writing)
quotation/quoting
reference/identify sources
relationship
relevant
relevant supporting evidence/
reasons/details/information
represent
research
research question

resolve/resolution
revise
root word
sensory language/details
sequence of events
setting
skim
source(s)
stanza
style
summarize
support
synonym
text structures
(compare/contrast; cause effect;
problem/solution; pro/con)
theme
thesis/controlling idea
title
tone
topic
transitions/transition words/
phrases
trustworthy source(s)
visualize
website

Grade 7

accurate/inaccurate information/
accuracy of information
acknowledge/address opposing
viewpoint/counterclaims
address potential
counterarguments/opposing
claims
affix
analysis
antonym
argument
argumentative text/article/
essay/writing
audience (as in writer's audience)
author's intent
author's message
author's point of view
author's purpose
blog
capitalization
central idea
character's action/
characters' interaction/
characters' relationships
claim
compare/contrast
comparison
conclude/conclusion
conclusion drawn
concrete details/words/
phrases/language
conflict/tension
context
contradict
controlling idea/thesis
conventions
counterargument
counterclaim
credible
definition
develop ideas (evidence/
elaboration)
dialogue
draft
edit
editorial
elaborate/elaboration of ideas
essay
establish a claim
evidence

excerpt
explanatory article/text/
essay/writing
flashback
focus
global notes
grammar usage
heading
illustrate
inclusion
infer/inference(s)/
inference(s) made
integrate information/ideas
interaction
interpretation
introduction
justify
key events
logical progression of ideas
logical sequence of events
mental picture/image
multi-paragraph
multiple meanings
narrative/narrative writing
observation
organize/organization of ideas
paraphrase/paraphrasing
phrase
plagiarism/plagiarize/plagiarizing
plot
point of view/viewpoint
pre-write
precise/concise language
presentation
punctuation/punctuated
purpose (e.g., author's or
speaker's purpose)
purpose for writing (explanatory,
argumentative, narrative writing)
quotation(s)/quoting
reference/identify sources
relationship(s)
relevant
relevant supporting evidence
research
research question
resolve/resolution
revise
root word
sensory language/details

sequence of events
setting
skim
source(s)
stanza
style
summarize
support
synonym
text structure (compare/contrast;
cause/effect; problem/solution;
pro/con)
theme
thesis/controlling idea
tone
topic
transitions/transition words/
phrases
trustworthy source(s)
visualize
website

Grade 8

accurate/inaccurate information/
accuracy of information
acknowledge/address opposing
viewpoint/counterclaims
address potential
counterarguments/opposing
claims
affix
analysis
antonym
argument
argumentative text/essay
audience (as in writer's audience)
author's intent
author's message
author's point of view
author's purpose
blog
capitalization
central idea
character's action/
characters' interaction/
characters' relationships
claim
clarify claim/counterclaim
clause
compare/contrast
comparison
conclude/conclusion
conclusion drawn
concrete details/words/phrases/
language
conflict/tension
context
contradict
controlling idea/thesis
conventions
counterargument
counterclaim
credible
develop ideas (evidence/
elaboration)
dialogue
draft
edit
editorial
elaborate/elaboration of ideas
essay
establish a claim

evidence
excerpt
explanatory article/text/
essay/writing
flashback
focus
global notes
grammar usage
heading
illustrate
inclusion
infer/inference(s)/
inference(s) made
integrate information/ideas
interaction
interpretation
introduction
justify
key events
logical progression of ideas
logical sequence of events
motive
multiple meanings
narrative/narrative writing
observation(s)
paraphrase/paraphrasing
phrases
plagiarism/plagiarize/
plagiarizing
plot
point of view/viewpoint
pre-write
precise/concise language/
word choice
presentation
punctuation/punctuated
purpose (e.g., author's or
speaker's purpose)
purpose for writing (explanatory,
argumentative, narrative writing)
quotation(s)
reference sources
relationships
relevant/irrelevant
relevant supporting evidence
resolve/resolution
revise
root word
sensory details/language

sequence of events
setting
shift in narrator's perspective/
point of view
skim
stanza
style
summarize
support
synonym
text structure (compare/contrast;
cause/effect; problem/solution;
pro/con)
theme
thesis/controlling idea
tone
topic
transitions/transition
words/phrases/clauses
trustworthy source(s)
visualize
voice (consistent/appropriate)
website

Grade 11

acknowledge/address opposing viewpoint/counterclaims

address potential counterarguments/opposing claims

affix

analysis

antonym

argument

audience (as in writer's audience)

author's intent

author's point of view

author's purpose

bias

blog

capitalization

central idea

character's action/ characters' interaction

claim

clarify claims/counterclaims

compare/contrast

colon/semi-colon

comparison

conclude/conclusion

conclusion drawn

concrete details/words/ phrases/language

conflict/tension

context

contradict

conventions

counterarguments

counterclaim

credible/credibility

develop ideas (evidence/ elaboration)

dialogue

effective use of analogy/metaphor/simile

essay

establish a claim

evidence

excerpt

explanatory article/text/ essay/writing

flashback

grammar usage

hypothesis

inclusion

inconsistent information (research)

infer/inference(s)/inference(s) made

integrate information/ideas

interaction

interpretation

justify

logical progression of idea

mood

multiple meanings

narrative

opposing claim

organization

parallel structure/parallelism

paraphrase/paraphrasing

perspective

phrases/clauses

plagiarism/plagiarize/ plagiarizing

position

precise/concise language

presentation

punctuation

purpose (e.g., author's or speaker's purpose)

purpose for writing (explanatory, argumentative, narrative writing)

quotation

reference sources

relevant/irrelevant

relevant supporting evidence

resolve/resolution

root word

sensory language

setting

shifts in narrator's perspective

stanza

style

summarize

synonym

techniques (e.g. exaggeration, repetition, making a comparison, including a question)

text structures (compare/contrast; cause effect; problem/solution; pro/con)

theme

thesis/controlling idea

tone

transition words/phrases/ clauses/sentences/paragraphs

viewpoint/point of view

voice (consistent use of verb voice)