Most Frequently Used Academic Words in the upper grades

| define | - to explain the exact meaning of a particular word or idea |
| :---: | :---: |
| Collect | - to gather together |
| Quote | - to repeat exactly what someone else has said or written |
| Recognize | - acknowledge to identify someone or something seen before |
| Conclude | - to bring to an end <br> - decide by reasoning |
| restate | - (v) express the same idea in a different way |
| Represent | - to stand for |
| State | - a region that shares a government <br> - the way something is with respect to its main attributes <br> - brief answer |

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| Paraphrase | $\bullet$ a summary that is not word-for-word |
| :--- | :--- |
| Interpret | • explain the meaning of |
| Illustrate | • to make clear by examples or pictures |
| Clarify | • Group together based on similar traits |
| Classify | • Represent or identify by using a symbol <br> Symbolize <br> • Arrange your main points \& supporting <br> ideas in visible framework <br> a line that shows or creates the outer of a shape <br> edges |
| Outline | • to put to use |

Most Frequently Used Academic Words in the upper grades

| Demonstrate | - show <br> - provide evidence for |
| :---: | :---: |
| Investigate | - To explore or examine carefully in order to learn the facts |
| Build | - v. to join materials together to make something |
| Prioritize | - To decide which goals and activities are most important to you. |
| Relate | - to show how things are alike or connected |
| Survey | - the collection of data by having people answer a series of questions |
| Diagram | - a drawing intended to explain how something works |
| Argue | - to give reasons for or against something |

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| Convince | - to make someone believe something |
| :---: | :---: |
| Debate | - formal discussion between opposing sides |
| Hypothesize | - to make a guess you can test |
| Generate | - to produce or create |
| Propose | - to suggest or offer |
| Design | - the way in which something is planned and made |
| Develop | - to grow |
| Enhance | - improve; make better or clearer |
| Originate | - to begin or start up |

Most Frequently Used Academic Words in the upper grades
Some of the strategies that are particularly helpful when teaching the vocabulary include the following:
*Drawing pictures to represent the vocabulary word.

* Teaching the root of the word and pre/suffixes, then having the student generate related words.
* Using the vocabulary word in a variety of contexts, then having the student tell in their own words what the vocabulary meant.
*Developing games around matching the vocabulary and definitions.
*Reviewing mastered vocabulary.
*Highlighting keywords in the definition.
The targeted words listed above were largely pulled from these resources:
The Words Students Need (http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/oct10/vol68/num02/The-Words-Students-Need.aspx) and 11 Tips on
Teaching Common Core Critical Vocabulary
(https://www.edutopia.org/blog/teaching-ccss-critical-vocabulary-marilee-
sprenger)
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