

6 Grade 6 Reading for STAAR™

Category 1 – Understanding and Analysis Across Genres

ROOTS AND AFFIXES

root: basic part of a word; the meaning of an English word can often be determined from its Latin, Greek, or other linguistic root(s)

Examples: *bio* (life) + *ology* (study of) → *biology* (study of living things)
peri (around) + *meter* (measure) → *perimeter* (measure of the distance around a figure)

affix: word part placed before (**prefix**) or after (**suffix**) a base word; a word's affix changes the word's meaning in a predictable way

Affix (Prefix or Suffix)	Meaning	Example
dis-, in-, im-, un-, non-, a-, an-, il-, ir-, -less	not, opposite, no, without	unrelated, improper
pre-	before	predict
re-	again	regroup
-able, -ible, -ife	able to, can do, fit to	divisible
-er, -or, -ist, -ite, -an	one who does or is	consumer
-ful, -ous, -ose, -lent	full of, having	equivalent
-ness, -ship, -ance, -ment, -age, -ism	quality of, condition, result, practice of	compliment, racism
-ry, -ary, -ery, -ory	relating to (<i>adj.</i>), place where (<i>n.</i>), quality (<i>n.</i>)	introduction, library
-ion, -tion, -sion	action, instance of	resistance

CONTEXT CLUES

context clue: nearby words or sentence(s) that give hints about an unfamiliar word's meaning; can be a definition, a relationship, or a description that connects known words to the unfamiliar word

Example: What does the word *horrendous* mean? The huge, unpredicted tsunami had *horrendous* consequences, unlike last year's smaller tsunami, which resulted in deaths caused only three recorded injuries, and damage to one house.

Context clues: The word *unlike* compares the consequences of the smaller tsunami, which did not have horrible consequences, to the *horrendous* consequences of the larger tsunami, suggesting that *horrendous* means terrible.

multiple meaning word: word that has more than one meaning; use context clues to determine correct meaning

Example: The word *gross* means *whole* or *not serious or extreme*. Which is the correct meaning in the sentence? Allie's monthly *gross* is more than her expenses, so she can save a little for her new car.

Context clues: The word *gross* means *whole* because Allie is subtracting her expenses from her income. If she can save a little, the meaning of *gross* that makes sense is *whole*.

DICTIONARY, GLOSSARY, AND THESAURUS

dictionary: shows the pronunciation of a word and its part of speech, root, and meaning

Part of Speech	Definition	Examples
Verb	to state of being	thrive
Noun	place, thing, or idea	work
Adjective	or modify a noun	get
Adverb	or an adjective or shift an adverb (often ends in -ly)	play

Example: *gross* (adjective) words with the spelling *gross* (Latin *grōsus* (thick, course)) 1. whole 2. disgusting or obscene 3. serious, flagrant, extreme
gross (verb) (Latin *grōsus* (thick, course)): to make total amount before subtracting costs (before deducting)

thesaurus entry: lists synonyms; useful for improving vocabulary
Example: *party:* celebration, gathering, gala, social, reunion

glossary entry: shows the given word's meaning as it appears in the book containing the glossary (located at the end of the book)
Example: *culture:* behaviors and ideas shared by a group of people

COMPARING AND CONTRASTING SETTINGS

historical setting: place and time in which a story takes place; affects the events that occur and impact the plot

cultural setting: ideas and beliefs held by a group of people within the historical setting (place and time); affects characters' values

Example: The map below compares and contrasts settings.



TEXT ABOUT THE AUTHOR

author: text written about author's own life; usually reports accurate information from childhood to old age

memoir: author's or narrator's account of their experiences, decisions, or events regarding one aspect of his/her life (such as his/her career)

autobiography: text that is a particular story from author's life

Literary or Document	Language	Memoir	Personal Narrative	Autobiography
first person (I, we)	✓	✓	✓	✓
chronological order	✓	✓	✓	✓
beginning by setting	✓	✓	✓	✓
central conflict and resolution	✓	✓	✓	✓
flashback (memory)	✓	✓	✓	✓
flashforward	✓	✓	✓	✓

Key
✓ common
~ sometimes
✗ rare

PURPOSES ACROSS INFORMATIONAL TEXTS

author's purpose: reason the author wrote the text, such as to entertain, inform, describe, explain, or persuade; may be directly stated, or you may need to analyze the text to determine purpose

Example: Two nonfiction texts about the Civil War share the same topic. One author's purpose is to inform the reader about how different cultural groups contributed to either the Confederate or Union sides, while the second author's purpose is to show how different cultural groups were affected by the war.

STRUCTURES AND VIEWPOINTS OF PERSUASIVE TEXTS

viewpoint: author's beliefs, attitude, or position on a topic

stated claim: author's position **Example:** Hall is the best candidate.

supporting evidence: points made by author to support the stated claim, such as statistics, facts, examples, opinions, and assertions

structure: organization of text, such as cause and effect, compare and contrast, problem and solution, sequence of events, or listing

Example: Two authors write editorials with the same purpose of persuading the reader to support a candidate.

SAMPLE PAGE -- Page 1 of 4
Read reviews and create an eQuote online.
These student course notes are also available via the *DynaNotes Plus* app for student iPads and Android tablets.

DYNA
NOTES
TOOLS FOR EXPLOSIVE LEARNING

Copyright © 2012 DynaStudy, Inc. and/or its licensors. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced or transmitted in any form without written permission from the publisher.
www.dynanotes.com ISBN 978-1-935056-32-2

Symbol indicates section aligns to Texas College and Career Readiness Standards.