

**Canyon Hills Junior High School
2008-2009**

“Words of the Week”

September

Week of Sept. 8th

1. **describe** (verb) – tell all about (5 senses).
2. **evaluate** (verb) – judge by set criteria.
3. **trace** (verb) - to study, follow, or show the development and progress of in detail.

Week of Sept. 15th

1. **compare** (verb) – identify all the ways two or more things are alike.
2. **contrast** (verb) – identify all the ways two or more things are different.
3. **explain** (verb) – tell how.

Week of Sept. 22nd

1. **simplify** (verb) – to make simple or simpler.
2. **assume** (verb) – take upon oneself or to take as true.
3. **apparent** (adjective) – clear to the understanding or appears to be true or real.

Week of Sept. 29th

1. **anecdote** (noun) - a brief story about something interesting or funny in a person's life.
2. **sum** (noun) - the result of adding numbers. **Example: The sum of 5 and 7 is 12.**
3. **political** (adjective) - of or relating to a government.

October

Week of Oct. 6th

1. **formulate** (verb) - state definitely and clearly.
2. **infer** (verb) - to form an opinion from little or no evidence.
3. **conclusion** (noun) - a final decision reached by reasoning or the last part of something.

Week of Oct. 13th

1. **estimate** (verb) – to judge the approximate value, size, or cost of on the basis of experience or observation rather than actual measurement.
2. **predict** (verb) – tell what will happen next (based on evidence).
3. **measurement** (noun) - a figure or amount obtained by measuring.

Week of Oct. 20th

1. **contradict** (verb) – to go against or be opposed to.
2. **dialect** (noun) - a regional variety of a language differing from the standard language.
3. **aerobic** (adjective) - living, active, or occurring only in the presence of oxygen.

Week of Oct. 27th

1. **cluster** (noun) - a number of similar things growing, collected, or grouped together.
2. **thesis** (noun) - a sentence with a subject and opinion; this is usually at the end of the introductory paragraph in an essay.
3. **coherent** (adjective) - to hold together firmly as parts of the same mass.

November

Week of Nov. 3rd

1. **summarize** (verb) – to give the short version.
2. **parallel** (adjective) - lying or moving in the same direction but always the same distance apart. **Example: Train tracks are parallel.**
3. **irony** (noun) - the use of words that mean the opposite of what one really intends.

Week of Nov. 10th

1. **analogy** (noun) - resemblance in some details between things otherwise unlike.
2. **stationary** (adjective) - fixed in a position or unchanging in condition.
3. **emphasize** (verb) - to place emphasis on or to stress as being important.

Week of Nov. 17th

1. **analyze** (verb) - to study or find out the nature and relationship of the parts of by analysis.

2. **intersect** (verb) - to meet and cross at one or more points. **Example: Lines intersecting at right angles or overlapping circles intersect at two points.**

3. **reform** (verb) - to correct or improve one's own behavior or habits.

Week of Nov. 24th

1. **illustrate** (verb) - to make clear by using examples or to provide with pictures or diagrams intended to explain or decorate.

2. **sequence** (noun) - the order in which things are connected, related, or dated.

3. **origin** (noun) – ancestry.

December

Week of Dec. 1st

1. **solution** (noun) - an answer to a problem or the process by which a solid, liquid, or gaseous substance is dissolved in a liquid.

2. **consistent** (adjective) - being in agreement or unchanging in behavior or beliefs.

3. **elliptical** (adjective) - having the shape of an ellipse (an oval shape, like a cone).

Week of Dec. 8th

1. **force** (noun) - strength or energy put forth or an influence (as a push or pull) that tends to produce a change in the speed or direction of motion of something.

2. **perpendicular** (adjective) - exactly vertical or upright.

3. **confiscate** (verb) – to seize by public authority.

Week of Dec. 15th

1. **equivalent** (adjective) - alike or equal in number, value, or meaning.

2. **discuss** (verb) - talk about something with the intention of reaching agreement or putting forth different points of view.

3. **compression** (noun) - the state of being pressed together.

January

Week of Jan. 5th

1. **transition** (noun) - a changing from one state, place, or subject to another.

2. **trend** (noun) - a general tendency or movement.

3. **reaction** (noun) - the act, process, or an instance of reacting or a chemical transformation or change.

Week of Jan. 12th

1. **density** (noun) - the quality or state of being dense or the quantity of something per unit volume, unit area, or unit length.

2. **inductive** (adjective) - is the process of arriving at a conclusion based on a set of observations; it is not a valid method of proof. Just because a person observes a number of situations in which a pattern exists doesn't mean that that pattern is true for all situations. **Example: After seeing many people outside walking their dogs, one may observe that every dog that is a poodle is being walked by an elderly person. The person observing this pattern could inductively reason that poodles are owned exclusively by elderly people.**

3. **deductive** (adjective) - is the process by which a person makes conclusions based on previously known facts (it is the way in which geometric proofs are written). **Example: All apples are fruit; all fruits grow on trees; therefore, all apples grow on trees.**

Week of Jan. 19th

1. **personification** (noun) - the representation of a thing or idea as a person or by the human form. **Example: The rain danced on the rooftops.**

2. **democratic** (adjective) – appealing to or relating to helping the common people.

3. **support** (verb) - to uphold or defend as true or right.

Week of Jan. 26th

1. **unified** (verb) - to put or come together to form a single unit.

2. **fact** (noun) - something that actually exists or occurs.

3. **opinion** (noun) - a view or judgment about a person or thing.

February

Week of Feb. 2nd

1. **social** (adjective) - tending to form cooperative relationships with others.

2. **buoyant** (adjective) - capable of floating.

3. **narrative** (noun) - something (as a story) that is told or written.

Week of Feb. 9th

1. **essential** (adjective) - important in the highest degree.

2. **symbolism** (noun) – the practice of using something to represent something else.

Examples: #1 A rose is symbolic of love.

#2 The color “green” has come to represent anything which is environmentally friendly.

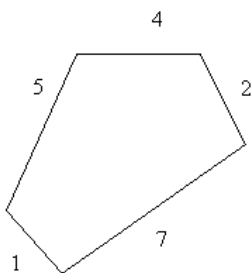
3. **volume** (noun) – a large amount or an amount of space as measured in cubic units.

Week of Feb. 16th

1. **excerpt** (noun) - a part taken from a longer work.

2. **perimeter** (noun) - is the distance around a shape’s edges (the distance you would have to travel to walk once around the shape). In general, the perimeter of a shape is the sum of the lengths of its sides.

Example: The perimeter of the polygon pictured below is equal to $1 + 5 + 4 + 2 + 7 = 19$:



3. **value** (noun) - a numerical quantity that is found by calculation or measurement.

Week of Feb. 23rd

1. **antonym** (noun) - a word of opposite meaning. **Example:** "Hot" and "cold" are antonyms.

2. **synonym** (noun) - a word having the same or almost the same meaning as another word in the same language. **Example:** “Happy” and “cheerful” are synonyms.

3. **inequality** (noun) - an instance of being unequal or a statement in mathematics where two quantities (usually separated by a special sign: < is “less than” and > is “greater than”), are not equal. Just like with equations, the solution to an inequality is a value that makes the inequality true.

March

Week of Mar. 2nd

1. **simile** (noun) – a figure of speech in which things different in kind or quality are compared by the use of the word “like” or “as.” **Example:** Walking onto those sun-warmed stones was like stepping into a hot plate.

2. **metaphor** (noun) - a figure of speech in which a word or phrase meaning one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a similarity between them. **Example:** You are my sunshine.

***Hint: A simile states that A is like B; a metaphor states that A is B or substitutes B for A.**

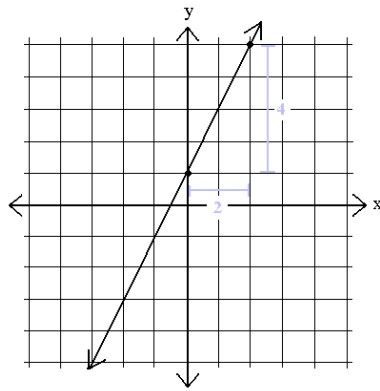
3. **economic** (adjective) - relating to or based on the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.

Week of Mar. 9th

1. **slope** (noun) - is often used to describe the measurement of the steepness, incline, gradient, or grade of a straight line. **Example:** To find the slope of a line, pick any two points on the line. Then subtract their x-coordinates and subtract their y-coordinates in the same order. Divide the difference of the y-coordinates by the difference of the x-coordinates:

#1. The slope of the line which passes through the points (2, 5) and (0, 1) $m = \frac{5-1}{2-0} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$.

This means that every time x increases by 1 (anywhere on the line), y increases by 2, and whenever x decreases by 1, y decreases by 2.



2. **amendment** (noun) - a change in wording or meaning, especially in a law or bill.

3. **primarily** (adverb) - for the most part (chiefly) or in the first place (originally).

Week of Mar. 16th

1. **linear** (adjective) - relating to, consisting of, or resembling a line.

2. **theme** (noun) - a subject for a work of literature, art, or music, or an idea, message, or lesson conveyed by a work. This message is usually about life, society, or human nature. **Example:** Honor and friendship are themes of stories.

3. **Renaissance** (noun) - the period of European history between the 14th and 17th centuries marked by a flourishing of art and literature inspired by ancient times and by the beginnings of modern science.

Week of Mar. 23rd

1. **infinite** (adjective) – seeming to be without limits.

2. **conclude** (verb) - to form an opinion or decide by reasoning.

3. **median** (noun) - is the "middle" value in the list of numbers. To find the median, your numbers have to be listed in numerical order (from smallest to largest) where there are an equal number of values or which is the average of the two middle values if there is no one middle value. **Examples: #1 The median of the set 1, 3, 7, 12, 19 is 7 (7 is the middle # of 1, 3, 12 and 19.**

#2 The median of the set 2, 5, 7, 15 is 6 (There is an odd amount of numbers, so you add $5+7$ then \div by 2 which = 6).

Week of Mar. 30th

1. **factor** (noun) - something that contributes to the production of a result. **Example: Price wasn't a factor in our decision.** Also, a factor can be any of the numbers or symbols in mathematics that when multiplied together form a product. **Example: A number that divides another number without leaving a remainder (The factors of 6 are 1, 2, 3, and 6).**

2. **characteristic** (noun) - a special quality or appearance that makes an individual or group different from others.

3. **congruent** (adjective) - having the same size and shape.

April

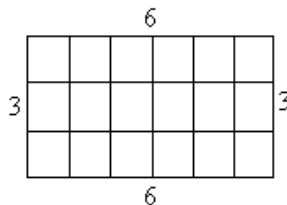
Week of Apr. 6th

1. **represent** (verb) - to take the place of in some respect.

2. **exert** (verb) - to put forth (as strength).

3. **area** (noun) - is the total number of square units that fill a shape. **Example: The area of a rectangle = $(h \times w)$, h = height and w = width.**

#1 $h = 3$ and $w = 6$, so the area is $3 \times 6 = 18$. In other words, there are 18 squares in the interior of the rectangle:



Week of Apr. 20th

1. **velocity** (noun) - the rate of change of position.

2. **idiom** (noun) - an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of its separate words but must be learned as a whole; its meaning is not meant to be taken literally but figuratively instead. **Example:** **The boy had a chip on his shoulder – the boy does not actually have a chip on his shoulder; instead the phrase is referring to the boy carrying a grudge about some issue.**

3. **urban** (adjective) – of or related to being a city.

Week of Apr. 27th

1. **omniscient** (adjective) - knowing everything.

2. **mass** (noun) - a quantity of matter or the form of matter that holds or clings together in one body.

3. **hyperbole** (noun) - extravagant exaggeration used to emphasize a point. **Example:** **Mile-high ice cream cones.**