

9th-10th Grade Academic Content Standards for English Language Arts

Standard: **Acquisition of Vocabulary**

	Grade Level Indicator	Implementation Plan
	1. Define unknown words through context clues and the author's use of comparison, contrast and cause and effect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss examples as they arise in readings. • Do "Diction" exercises to illustrate effects of word choice and how authors clarify meaning (resource: Voice Lessons).
	2. Analyze the relationships of pairs of words in analogical statements (e.g., synonyms and antonyms, connotation and denotation) and infer word meanings from these relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do selected "Diction" exercises from Voice Lessons. • Discuss antonyms and synonyms in connection with readings and with daily or specially selected vocabulary words. • Do SAT analogy exercises.
	3. Infer the literal and figurative meaning of words and phrases and discuss the function of figurative language, including metaphors, similes, idioms and puns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do selected "Diction" exercises from Voice Lessons. • Read aloud passages from assigned readings to infer word meanings and examine function of figurative language. • Include discussion of figurative language as resource for descriptive and expository writing assignments.
	4. Analyze the ways that historical events influenced the English language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss history of the English language—Old, Middle, modern—and historical events and processes that influenced development, such as Anglo-Saxon migration, Christianity and Latin, Norman invasion.
	5. Use knowledge of Greek, Latin and Anglo-Saxon roots, prefixes and suffixes to understand complex words and new subject-area vocabulary (e.g., unknown words in science, mathematics and social studies).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do occasional vocabulary intensives on roots and prefix/suffix clusters. • Consult teachers in other disciplines for subject-area lists of vocabulary used in high school classes or college-level words.
	6. Determine the meanings and pronunciations of unknown words by using dictionaries, thesauruses, glossaries, technology and textual features, such as definitional footnotes or sidebars.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require students to learn definitions of unusual words from readings. • Examine daily school-wide vocabulary words, their pronunciations and meanings. Regular quizzes on daily words. • Resource: use Folger editions of Shakespeare, with facing-page vocabulary sidebars.