

4th Grade
Reading Language Arts
(RLA)



Grade 4 Reading Vocabulary

To perform their best on any assessment, students must understand the vocabulary of reading. The following list includes many of the reading words that students will encounter on the STAAR®.



affix
author
author's purpose
autobiography
biography
cause and effect
character
compare and contrast
concluding sentence
conclusion

context
details
dictionary
difference
drama
event
evidence
fact
form*
genre

glossary
graphic
guide words
imagery
inference
line break*
main idea
meaning
metaphor
meter*

multiple meaning word
narrator
opinion
passage
plot
poetry
prediction
pronunciation
relationship
rhyme*

root
sensory language
sequence
similarities
simile
stanza
summarize
syllable
theme
topic sentence

*term as related to poetry

Families can help their students understand and master the vocabulary of reading in several different ways. Some strategies appear below:

- Use any or all of the following prereading questions to help prepare students for reading a selection:
 - From reading the title, what do you think this passage is about?
 - What do you already know about this topic?
 - Have you read anything about this topic before?
 - After reading the title, what questions come to your mind?
 - Who might have written this passage?
 - What do you think you will learn from this passage? Why?
 - What would you like to learn from this passage? Why?
 - Does this passage include any pictures, diagrams, or charts? What information do they give you?



Reading Strategies

(continued)

- Students should be able to explain when and/or how they use a reading idea or concept.

Example: I use the concept of root words when _____

- Students should be able to recognize key text features (e.g., bold print, captions, italics, guide words, topic sentences, etc.)

Example: Students can make posters that identify key text features. The posters should include a clear label for each feature and can be displayed.



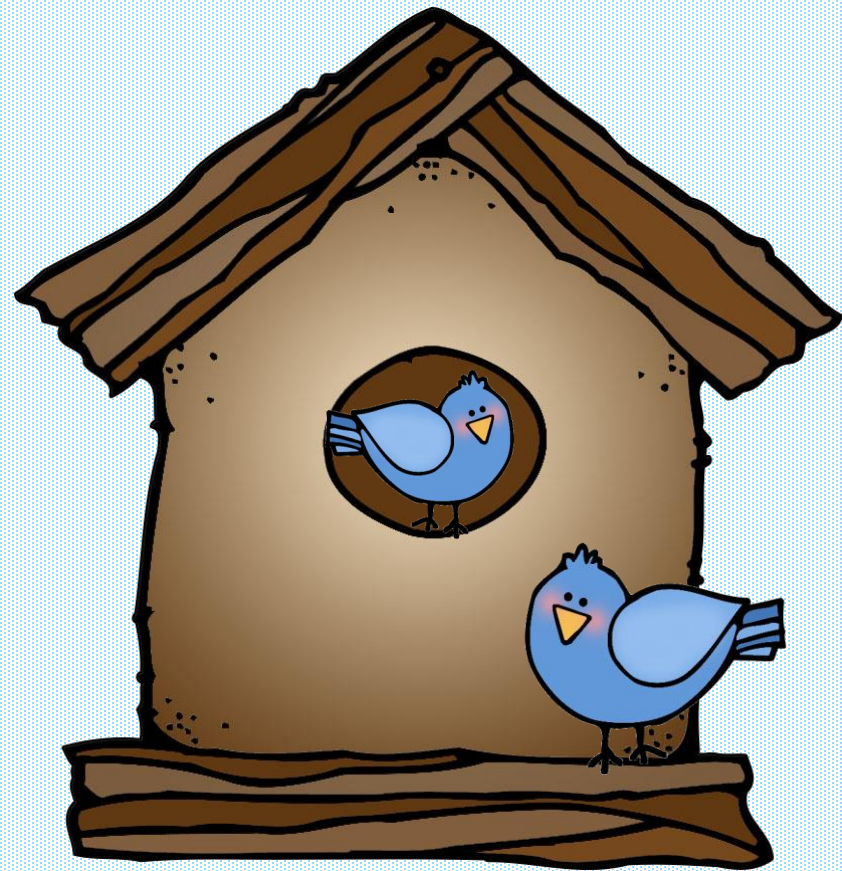
Reading Strategies

(continued)

- Have students generate questions that reflect on their reading. Their questions should include certain reading concepts and ideas from the text.

Example: What is the author's purpose in this passage?

- Have students draw the meaning of a vocabulary word and challenge others to determine which word is defined in the picture.
- Have students summarize a passage. Students should use their own words. Students should also eliminate extra information from their summary, focusing on the main ideas of the passage.



Grade 4 Writing Vocabulary

abbreviation	detail	passage	sentence
action/linking verb	draft	period	sentence fragment
adjective	edit	plan	sentence structure
adverb	engaging idea	planning	silent letter
affix	essay	plural	simple sentence
apostrophe	exclamation point	plural possessive	singular
awkward sentence	expository	point of view	singular possessive
beginning	fiction	possessive	spelling
body	focus	predicate	strategy
capitalization	grammar	prefix	style
central idea	homonym	preposition	subject-verb agreement
clarity	homophone	prepositional phrase	suffix
coherence	imperative	prewriting	supporting detail
comma	incomplete sentence	prompt	tense
complete sentence	introduction	pronoun	topic sentence
composition	introductory paragraph	proofread	transition
compound sentence	irregular verb	punctuation mark	verb
conclusion	language	question mark	verb tense
conjunction	main idea	quotation marks	vocabulary
contraction	narrative	relevant details	word choice
coordinating conjunction	nonfiction	relevant information	word structure
correction	noun	revise	word usage
descriptive	paragraph	rewrite	write
	parts of speech	run-on sentence	writing process

To perform their best on any writing assessment, students must understand the language of writing. The following list includes many of the writing words that students will encounter on the STAAR®.



Ten Skills for Success in Preparing for Grade 4 Writing:

Skill 1: Know the following parts of speech: nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, articles, and conjunctions.

Skill 2: Know what makes the structure of a sentence (subject, verb, predicate), and be able to use a complete subject and a complete predicate in a sentence.

Skill 3: Know subject-verb agreement. Students should master the “singular” versus “plural” concept to ensure tense agreement.

Skill 4: Be familiar with prepositions and prepositional phrases, including the use of commas with prepositional phrases.

Skill 5: Know capitalization rules for both common and proper nouns.



Ten Skills for Success in Preparing for Grade 4 Writing:



Skill 6: Be able to use and identify end punctuation, commas, and apostrophes.

Skill 7: Understand what root words are as well as affixes (prefixes and suffixes).

Skill 8: Be familiar with common homophones (to/ two/too, brake/break, there/their, heal/heel, etc.)

Skill 9: Know the difference between a plural and a possessive. Students should be aware that if a word has an "s" on the end it is either a plural or a possessive.

Skill 10: Understand the clear usage rules for "it's/its" and "then/than."

Grade 4 Reading

Sample STAAR® passages and questions can be found [HERE](#) on the TEA® website.



Grade 4 Writing

More information about constructed response questions, including rubrics and sample student responses, can be found [HERE](#) on the TEA® website.



STAAR MASTER[®]

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Student Practice Book
Grade 4 RLA Teacher Guide.

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