

Knowing vocabulary:

1. Why is knowing vocabulary more than just knowing a definition?
It's important to be able to actually use the word, not just memorize a definition.
2. Why is it important to be able to write a creative or descriptive sentence?
It is putting the word into actual use.
3. What would a creative or descriptive sentence include?
It would include characteristics or elements mentioned in the definition.

Practice:

Which is a creative or descriptive sentence shows the writer knows the definition of "BFF"?

"I spoke on the phone with my BFF."

"I spoke for hours on the phone with my BFF and told her everything about the party."

Why? What is included in the sentence that tells the meaning?

It includes a time duration and a subject that would be characteristic of a "BFF" (otherwise, in the first sentence, a BFF could be a stockbroker!).

Which is a creative or descriptive sentence shows the writer knows the definition of "river"?

"The river was a swiftly flowing channel of fresh water."

"The barge floated down the river from St. Louis to New Orleans."

Why? What is included in the sentence that shows it is creative or descriptive?

It includes how the river is used, what kind of transportation is appropriate with water, and that it can take you from place to place. The other sentence is merely a definition.

4. With a partner, use the term assigned to you in a creative or descriptive sentence that shows you know the meaning of the term:

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| A. pencil | F. dog | K. spaghetti |
| B. football | G. dancing | L. nurse |
| C. bed | H. globe | M. volcano |
| D. panther | I. disease | N. mountain |
| E. shirt | J. trail | O. island |

See below for non-examples and examples for each word.

A. Bad: I lost my pencil.

Good: When I lost my pencil, I couldn't write the answers on the math test.

B. Bad: The boys played football.

Good: When I watched the boys play football, I saw throwing, kicking, running, and tackling.

C. Bad: I went to bed.

Good: I got a good night's sleep stretched out on the fluffy bed.

D. Bad: We saw a panther.

Good: When we were at the cat house at the zoo, we saw a sleek, black panther.

E. Bad: I like your shirt.

Good: The long-sleeved shirt I bought can be worn with both a skirt and a pair of pants I have.

F. Bad: I love my dog.

Good: I love the softness of my dog's fur but I dislike her barking.

G. Bad: My friends and I went out dancing.

Good: I got so tired from all the dancing I did, but the beat from that kind of music really makes me want to move!

H. Bad: The globe helped me learn.

Good: I spun the globe to get a sense of how the earth worked.

I. Bad: She had a disease.

Good: She was diagnosed with a disease that made her feel sick, weak, and look very pale.

J. Bad: We talked while we were on the trail.

Good: It was difficult walking on the narrow, rocky trail while we hiked.

K. Bad: I love spaghetti!

Good: The combination of spaghetti's long pasta and spicy tomato sauce really makes my mouth water!

L. Bad: I had to go to the nurse.

Good: When I scraped my knee, the nurse cleaned it off and put a bandage on it.

M. Bad: We saw the volcano.

Good: When the volcano erupted, we saw the fire and ash come out of the top and cover the city.

N. Bad: We went up the mountain.

Good: We climbed the mountain 'til our legs hurt from the steepness but we had a great view.

O. Bad: We visited the island.

Good: Our boat wrecked and we were stuck on the island with nothing but water all around us.