

Vocabulary Activities

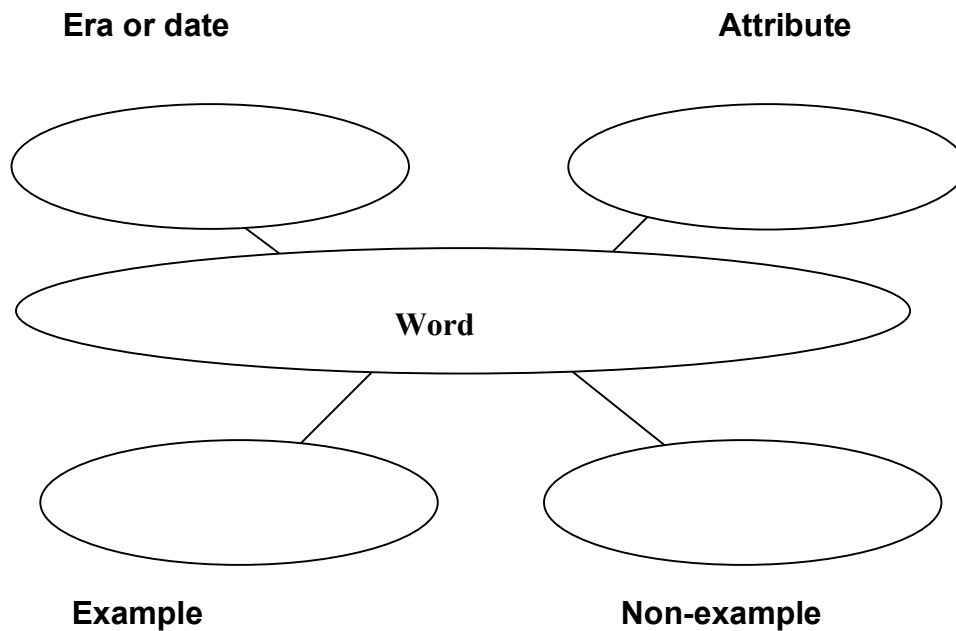
To understand the concepts presented on the OGT, students must understand the vocabulary that is used. The Miami University Hamilton Teaching American History project has assembled supports for your use in class. The activities are designed to help students interact with words. It is not enough that they know “the” definitions; rather they must know how to use them and add them to their working vocabulary. (Blachowicz, 2002)

Word Knowledge Check

	I never saw it before	I heard it but don't know what it means.	I recognize it in context as related to something I know.	I know it well.	I can use it in a sentence.
campaign					
industrialization					
Free market					

Word Concept map

Provide a graphic organizer and have students build a map for it.



Word Cards

Print out the PDF files for the words (front and back). Paste the definition on the back of the appropriate word. (You might have your class do this! The activity will help them practice the words they have to learn.) Avoid using just as flash cards. Students learn definitions best if they use and interact with the words for a reason.

Word Wall

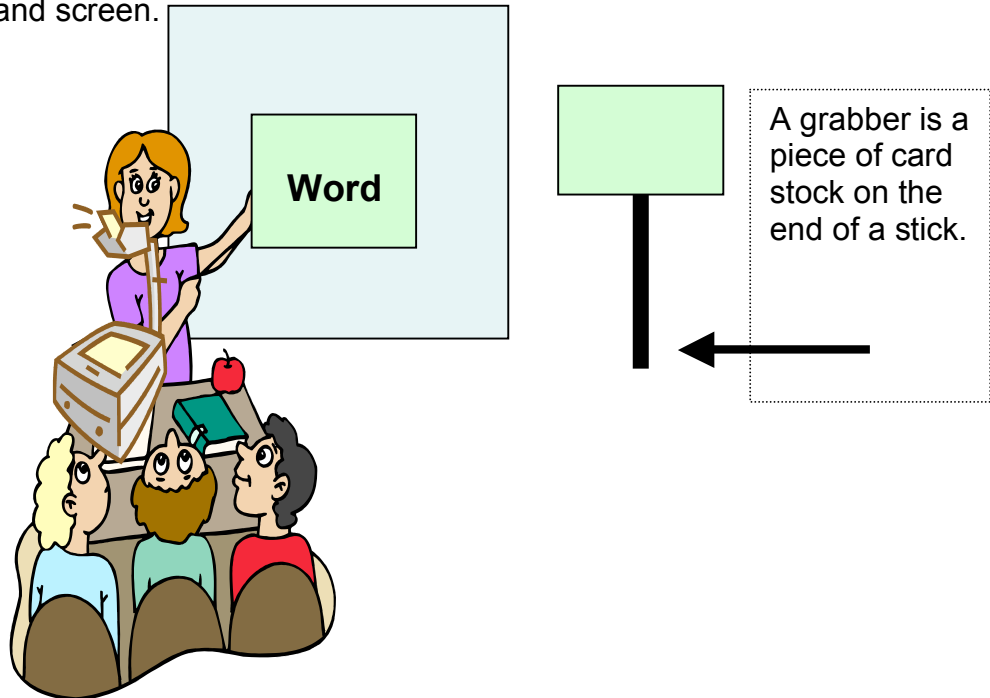
- Devote one wall to the word wall. Divide the space into **TEST WORDS**, **CHALLENGE WORDS**, and **HISTORY WORDS**. Place appropriate cards under each heading.
- When studying a lesson, put the word(s) for the day in a visible, highlighted space.
- Have students use the words in sentences/essays. Review them. It is a ready-made activity at your disposal at all times.

Challenge a Classmate

- Take petition word (test words) and history words and have students create their own questions. Then have them pair with another student and give each other the question they created. They write the answer, and can discuss the answers and go through the steps of the “Write for Success” process they went through to answer the question.

Vocabulary Grabber

- Use an overhead or ELMO to project a document. Use a “grabber” to bring out a single word for students by placing a grabber in between the projector and screen.



Vocabulary Squares

Provide students with a graphic organizer and instruct them to fill in the four boxes with the required information.

Use in sentence	Variations on the Word
Picture/Logo	Definition

A central empty rectangular box is positioned at the intersection of the four quadrants.