Alliteration

Alliteration is the repetition of a consonant sound at the beginning of words.
Examples:

The sweet smell of success

It's now or never

Simile

A comparison between two unlike things that have something in common is called a *simile*. A simile always uses the words **like** or **as** to make a comparison.
Examples:

Paul Bunyan was as strong as an ox.

The forest was as quiet as a falling leaf.

Metaphor

A metaphor is a figure of speech comparing two unlike things that have something in common. The comparison is made **without** the use of *like* or *as*.
Examples:

My voice was a cannon breaking the silence.

Her hair was silk.

Personification

Personification is giving human traits (qualities, feelings, action, or characteristics) to non-living objects (things, colors, qualities, or ideas).
Examples:

The sun smiled at me as it popped up.

The rain kissed my cheeks as it fell.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is exaggeration. It puts a picture into the "reader" mind. Hyperbole is frequently used in humorous writing. Examples:

I nearly died laughing.

I tried a thousand times.

Imagery

To make an imaginary world seem real, an author often makes use of words and phrases that appeal to the senses. These words and phrases, called images help a reader mentally experience what the characters in the literary selection are actually experiencing.

Sight-orange glare, green meadows, wilted and dry willows

Smell-dusty odor of the dry Earth

Taste-a tall frosted glass of lemonade, the bland taste of starchy bananas

Sound-crackling underbrush

Touch-hot July sun, damp jeans, tepid water

Onomatopoeia

The use of words to imitate sounds is called onomatopoeia.

Examples:

Bang, pop, hiss, and sizzle

Idioms

An idiom or idiomatic expression refers to a construction or expression in one language that cannot be matched or directly translated word-for-word in another language. It is not literal.
Examples:

She is green with envy.

It's a piece of cake.

Puns

A Pun is the humorous use of a word or words, which are formed or sounded alike but have different meanings, in such a way as to play on two or more of the possible applications; a **play on words**
Examples:

I used to be a transplant surgeon, but my heart just wasn't in it.

What did the toy store sign say? Don't feed the animals. They are already stuffed.
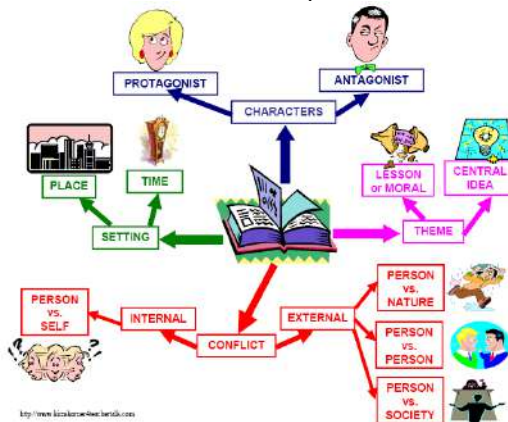
Palindromes

Palindromes are words or phrases which read the same backwards as forwards.
Examples:

Racecar

go dog

Was it a car or a cat I saw?

4th Grade Story Elements

Setting
The setting of a story is the place where the story happens and the time when it happens. The setting answers the questions of where and when. The setting doesn't have to be a real time and place. It can be imaginary, like the island, Never land, in the story of Peter Pan.
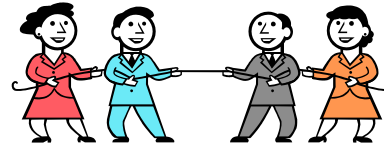
Character
Every person or animal who takes part in the action of a story, poem or play is called a character. The most important characters are called major characters. Everyone else is a minor character.

Character Traits
A quality that a character exhibits is called a character trait. This trait can be indicated by the character's statements, actions, or thoughts.

4th Grade Story Elements

Conflict in Plot
The plot is what happens, concretely, as though it were placed on a history time line. Conflict is essential to plot. Without conflict there is no plot. It is the opposition of forces which ties one incident to another and makes the plot move.

Theme
Theme is the life lesson, meaning, moral, or message about life or human nature that is communicating by a literary work. Themes are not explicit (clearly stated). Themes are bigger than the story.

Dialogue
Dialogue is a discussion or conversation between two or more characters.

4th Grade Fiction Genres

Fables
a type of traditional literature, are short stories written in verse or prose. The characters are often animals or inanimate objects. Their distinguishing organizational trait is an ending that strives to teach a moral or lesson. Examples of fables would include *The Tortoise and the Hare* or *The Ant and the Grasshopper*.

Fairy Tales
are a type of traditional literature filled with magical settings, events, and/or transformations. Their structure includes a "happily ever after" ending, where good is rewarded and evil is punished. Examples include *Cinderella* and *The Tinderbox*.
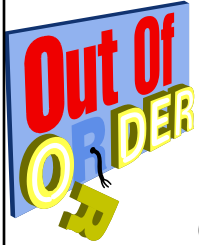
Folktales
are a type of traditional literature focused on common people. The characters are usually structured to represent human frailties. Elements of magic may be incorporated, but the story will honor logic over magic. Some examples of folktales are *Baba Yaga and Johnny Appleseed.*
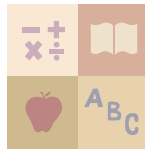
Tall tales
a type of traditional literature, are told with the intent of "fooling" the reader. They are structured so that there is a balance between the serious and the humorous. They are full of daring feats accomplished by brave heroes so great that the reader might be "fooled" into believing they are real. Examples: *Paul Bunyan and Pecos Bill*

4th Grade Organizational Structures

Chronological Order

Chronological order presents ideas according to the time in which they occurred. This type of organization is especially effective if you are describing a process, relaying a series of actions, or telling a story. For instance, to convey the plot of a novel or the procedures of an experiment, you would tell readers what happened first, second, etc.

Logical Order

Logical order is the most common method of organizing your written thoughts in an essays. When you use this method you group related ideas together and discuss each group, one after the other. Therefore remember to group your ideas into common groups and this will help your writing coherence

Cause and Effect

Cause is something that makes something else happen. Out of two events, it is the event that happens first. To determine the cause, ask the question "Why Did it Happen?" An *effect* is what happens as a result of the cause. Of two related events, it's the one that happens second or last. To determine the effect, ask the question "What Happened?"

4th Grade Vocabulary Acquisition

Root Word

Root word is a word that has nothing added at the beginning or the end. It stands on its own as a word, it has a meaning. New words can be made from root words by adding beginnings (prefixes) and endings (suffixes).

Prefix

A prefix is a group of letters which you can add to the **beginning** of a root word***** to change the meaning of the word. e.g. **mis** + fortune = **mis**fortune

Prefix	Meaning
mis	means 'wrong' or 'badly'
sub	means under
pre	means 'before in time', 'in front of' or 'superior'
un	means not (there are also several other prefixes which mean not)

Suffix

A suffix is a word ending. It is a group of letters you can add to the **end** of a root word***** **e.g.** walk**ing**, help**ful**

Suffix	Example
ed	walk + ed = walk**ed**
ing	say + ing = say**ing**
er	tall + er = tall**er**
tion	educate + tion = educa**tion**
sion	divide + sion = divi**sion**
fully	hope + fully = hope**fully**
est	large + est = larg**est**

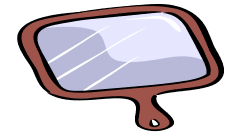## 4th Grade Vocabulary Acquisition

Antonym

a word opposite in meaning to another. *Fast* is an antonym of *slow*.

Synonym

a word having <u>the</u> same or nearly the same meaning as another in the language, as *joyful, elated, glad*.

Homophone

a word pronounced <u>the</u> same as another but differing in meaning, whether spelled the same way or not, as *heir* and *air*.

4th Grade Conventions

Type of Sentence	Use	Punctuation Mark
Declarative	Makes a statement	Period (.)
Interrogative	Asks a question	Question Mark (?)
Imperative	Gives a command or makes a request	Period (.)
Exclamatory	Expresses strong feeling	Exclamation Mark (!)

Fragments

A sentence fragment is an **incomplete sentence**. Some fragments are incomplete because they lack either a subject or a verb, or both. **Dependent clauses**—they have a subject and a verb, so they look like complete sentences, but they don't express a complete thought. Examples: **Because his car was in the shop** **After the rain stops** **When you finally take the test**

Run-ons

You are making a run-on when you put two complete sentences (a subject and its predicate and another subject and its predicate) together in one sentence without separating them properly. Example: *My favorite Mediterranean spread is hummus it is very garlicky.*

Modifier

A **modifier** can be an <u>adjective</u>, an <u>adverb</u>, or a <u>phrase</u> or <u>clause</u> acting as an adjective or adverb In every case, the basic principle is the same: the modifier adds information to another element in the <u>sentence</u>.

Verb Tenses

An action which indicated a time of occurrence
Past: Already happened
Present: Is currently happening
Future: Will happen in the future

SIMPLE SENTENCE
A simple sentence, also called an independent clause, contains a subject and a verb, and it expresses a complete thought. Examples:
Some students like to study in the mornings.
Juan and Arturo play football every afternoon.
Alicia goes to the library and studies every day.

COMPOUND SENTENCE
A compound sentence contains two independent clauses joined by a coordinator. The coordinators are as follows: *for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so*. (Helpful hint: The first letter of each of the coordinators spells *FANBOYS*.) Examples:
I tried to speak Spanish, and my friend tried to speak English.
Alejandro played football, so Maria went shopping.
Alejandro played football, for Maria went shopping.

Print Features

Print Features
Guide readers through the patterns of organization

Feature	Helps the Reader...
Table of Contents	Identify key topics in the book and the order they are presented in
Index	See everything in the text listed alphabetically, with page numbers
Glossary	Define words contained in the text
Preface	Set a purpose for reading, get an overview of the content
Pronunciation Guide	Say the words
Appendix	By offering additional information

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Noun	Pronoun	Adjective	Verb
Describes a person, place, thing, event, idea, etc.	A word used in place of a noun.	Used to describe a noun or pronoun.	Tells of an action, a state of being, or an event.
Examples: Mom, coach, Toledo, book, party, storm, moment.	Examples: She, he, it, they, us, I, you, we, them.	Examples: Green, blue, fearless, quick, enormous, wonderful.	Examples: Am, is, are, run, jump, play, raining, reading.

Adverb	Preposition	Conjunction	Interjection
Used to describe everything except nouns and pronouns. It answers questions such as *how, when, where* or *why* and often ends in *ly*. Examples: Near, far, today, now, very, easily, quietly.	Tells the relationship between nouns, pronouns, or other words in a sentence. Most often used before the noun. Examples: He jumped *over* the fence. I sat *beside* the fire. We went *into* the store.	Joins words, phrases or sentences together. Some are used in pairs. Some are adverbs, being used as conjunctions. Examples: And, but, so, either, or, neither, nor, because, finally, still, yet.	A word expressing emotion. Strong interjections are followed by exclamation points. Mild interjections are followed by commas. Examples: Hey! Wow! Ouch! Oh, I think I've got it.

Articles - The words *a, an,* and *the.* These are used to signal the presence of a noun.

4th Grade Computer Technology Vocabulary

Software is the <u>programs</u> that run on a computer.

Memory is temporary storage space on chips in your computer.

Disk Drive is a part of the computer that operates the disks that store information.

Hard Drive is the hard disk is a round, metal platter in the hard drive of the computer; it stores large amounts of information.
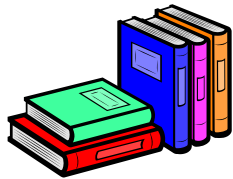
4th Grade Reference Sources

Dictionary
A **dictionary** provides information about the meaning, pronunciation, and spelling of words. **Guide words** appear at the top of each dictionary page. The word in the left corner is the first entry on the page and the word in the right corner is the last entry on the page. Guide words enable you to locate a word quickly.

Thesaurus
A **thesaurus** contains synonyms for commonly used words. A thesaurus can help you precisely express your ideas when writing.

Encyclopedia
An **encyclopedia** contains articles on a variety of subjects. The articles are written by experts on each of the subjects. In addition to articles, encyclopedias may include illustrations and diagrams, definitions of some words, and references to additional information.

Almanac
An **almanac** is an annual single-volume reference source that contains useful facts about a wide range of topics. You can learn about countries of the world, government, historical events, and many other topics. Because almanacs are revised each year, the information is current.

4th Grade Reference Sources

Atlas
An **atlas** is a collection of maps. The most common atlas contains maps that show the political and physical features of countries throughout the world. A political map shows government boundaries. A physical map shows the features of the earth's surface such as mountains, deserts, and bodies of water.

Magazine
A magazine is a publication issued at regular intervals, usually weekly or monthly, containing articles, stories, photographs, advertisements, and other features.

Newspaper
Newspapers are a publication containing news and comment on current events, together with features and advertisements, that usually appears daily or weekly and is printed on large sheets of paper that are folded

4th Grade Text Features

Headings
Usually found at the top of the page or paragraph; usually printed in a larger or colored font; describes the topic or paragraph in a one- or two-word phrase

Captions
One to two sentences that describe an illustration or photograph; usually appears underneath the picture, but sometimes above or to the side of it

Labels
Often added to photographs or illustrations to provide more information to the reader

Diagrams, charts, graphs, tables
Used to show written or additional information in a different and simple way; provides visual appeal to a two-page spread

Photographs and illustrations

Adds visual appeal to the page; provides support for the written text