Source Matchup

Choose the best tool for each language question.

12.L.V.3.d "Use available print and/or digital resources, including reference materials, style guides, digital tools (e.g., online searches, embedded word processing features) to determine, clarify..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

DICTIONARY

Use a dictionary when you need to determine or compare a word's or phrase's meaning. Read the definitions and choose the one that fits the context.

Check a dictionary to learn whether obdurate means stubborn.

STYLE GUIDE

Use a style guide when you need to verify a writing convention, such as citation format, capitalization, punctuation, or layout. A style guide does not primarily define words.

Consult a newsroom style guide to see whether a state name is spelled out in a news article.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the best tool for each question, then choose two items and explain in one or two sentences each why that tool fits.

1. What does "laconic" mean in this review? DICTIONARY GUIDE

2. In this sentence, does "draft" mean an early version or moving air? DICTIONARY GUIDE

3. Should the publication title be italicized in an MLA Works Cited entry? DICTIONARY GUIDE

4. What does the phrase "on the verge" mean here? DICTIONARY GUIDE

5. Does Chicago style use a comma before "and" in this series? DICTIONARY GUIDE

6. Should a block quotation be indented in APA format? DICTIONARY GUIDE

7. Does "credible" mean believable or gullible? DICTIONARY GUIDE

8. Is the abbreviation "et al." punctuated correctly in MLA prose? DICTIONARY GUIDE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new question that needs a dictionary and one new question that needs a style guide.

DICTIONARY _____

GUIDE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that includes a word or phrase to check in a dictionary, then add one style-guide question about punctuation or formatting in that same sentence.

ANSWER KEY # Source Matchup

GRADE 12 · 12.L.V.3.d

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	What does “laconic” mean in this review?	**DICTIONARY**	A dictionary provides definitions for laconic.
2	In this sentence, does “draft” mean an early version or moving air?	**DICTIONARY**	A dictionary helps compare the word's multiple meanings with the context.
3	Should the publication title be italicized in an MLA Works Cited entry?	**GUIDE**	MLA formatting conventions are found in a style guide.
4	What does the phrase “on the verge” mean here?	**DICTIONARY**	A dictionary can define this phrase.
5	Does Chicago style use a comma before “and” in this series?	**GUIDE**	Chicago punctuation conventions are style-guide rules.
6	Should a block quotation be indented in APA format?	**GUIDE**	APA layout rules are found in its style guide.
7	Does “credible” mean believable or gullible?	**DICTIONARY**	A dictionary distinguishes these meanings.
8	Is the abbreviation “et al.” punctuated correctly in MLA prose?	**GUIDE**	MLA conventions govern the punctuation and use of et al.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **DICTIONARY**: What does “equivocal” mean in the editorial?
- **GUIDE**: Style guide: Should a newspaper headline capitalize the word “with”?

Challenge: Sentence: The committee may sanction, amend, or reject the proposal. Dictionary question: Does sanction mean approve or impose a penalty here? Style-guide question: Does APA style require the comma before or in this series?

For Part 2, accept explanations that connect definitions or context-based meanings to a dictionary and writing conventions to a style guide. The wording of student-created questions may vary as long as each question clearly matches its tool.