Word Tool Detectives

Use reference tools to clarify precise word meanings.

5.RV.1.J "Use glossaries, beginning dictionaries, and thesauruses, both print and digital, to determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Locate the entry you need. Underline the words in that entry that support each answer.

Signs for the Tide Pool

Maya writes tide-pool exhibit signs. She needs to clarify tube feet and exposed, then choose a precise synonym for amazing.

Short teaching excerpts written for this worksheet. Use a complete print or digital reference for the independent task.

Sample glossary

SAMPLE GLOSSARY

tube feet Small fluid-filled structures on an echinoderm, used in movement and other functions.

Sample dictionary

Guide words: expand - extra (first and last entries on this sample page).

SAMPLE DICTIONARY

expand verb: become larger.
exposed adjective: uncovered or open to view.
extra adjective: additional.

Sample thesaurus

SAMPLE THESAURUS

amazing astonishing; remarkable; surprising. Remarkable means worthy of attention.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Consult the glossary. What are tube feet?

2. Which meaning of exposed fits a pool uncovered by a falling tide?

3. The dictionary guide words are expand and extra. Explain why exposed belongs between them.

4. Choose a synonym for amazing in an exhibit heading and justify the tone.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose one unfamiliar word from something you are reading. Use a glossary or beginning dictionary to find its meaning, then use a thesaurus to find two synonyms. Write exactly two sentences that name your tools, give the meaning, list the synonyms, and use your best synonym correctly.

ANSWER KEY

Word Tool Detectives

GRADE 5 · 5.RV.1.J

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Locate the entry you need. Underline the words in that entry that support each answer. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Consult the glossary. What are tube feet?	**Small fluid-filled structures on an echinoderm, used for movement and other functions.**
2	Which meaning of exposed fits a pool uncovered by a falling tide?	**Uncovered.**
3	The dictionary guide words are expand and extra. Explain why exposed belongs between them.	**The three words start ex; expand (exp-a), exposed (exp-o), and extra (ext) are in alphabetical order.**
4	Choose a synonym for amazing in an exhibit heading and justify the tone.	**Remarkable is suitable for a measured informational tone; accept another justified choice.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I used a digital beginning dictionary to learn that cautious means careful about avoiding danger or mistakes. A thesaurus listed careful and watchful, and I chose watchful: The watchful lifeguard scanned the deep end of the pool.

Accept equivalent wording for the glossary, dictionary, and thesaurus answers when it matches the passage. For the open task, check that the student names appropriate reference tools, gives an accurate meaning and two related synonyms, and uses one chosen synonym correctly in exactly two sentences. Answers must come from consultation of the printed sample entries. These authored teaching excerpts are not quotations from a commercial dictionary. For the independent task require actual reference use.