

Word Choice Council

Build precise meaning through purposeful talk.

GRADE 12 • 12.RV

12.RV "The student will systematically build vocabulary and word knowledge based on grade twelve content and texts. Vocabulary Development and Word Analysis Develop and accurately use general academic and content-specific vocabulary through..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Speak from your own cards.

2 Play a card only after using its starter.

3 Build on the group's exact words.

4 Challenge ideas, not people.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one TOPIC card for your group.
2. Each player takes a different ROLE card.
3. Give each player four MOVE cards from printed sets.
4. Draft and revise an answer while using each card starter naturally.
5. Place used cards in the middle. The round ends when all cards are played.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I used context and sentence structure to infer a meaning.

☐ I used roots, affixes, or word parts to analyze a complex word.

☐ I explained why one near-synonym was more precise than another.

☐ I interpreted idiomatic, figurative, or allusive language and used a key word in another context.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Team Deadline How can you draft a two-sentence message about a missed team deadline that uses a precise complex word, compares two near-synonyms, includes an idiom, and reuses a key word in a new context?	School Proposal How can you draft a two-sentence proposal for a quieter cafeteria that uses a precise complex word, compares two near-synonyms, and includes a figurative phrase whose effect you can explain?	Club Launch How can you draft a two-sentence invitation for a new club that uses a precise complex word, compares two near-synonyms, and includes a classical allusion whose effect you can explain?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Clue Scout Listen for context and sentence clues that reveal a word's meaning.	Word Builder Check claims about roots, affixes, and word origins.	Shade Judge Ask the group to distinguish carefully between words with similar meanings.	Meaning Keeper Track whether idioms, figurative language, allusions, and reused words make sense in context.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD CONTEXT CLUE “In our draft, ____ suggests that ____ means ____.”	MOVE CARD CONTEXT CLUE “The sentence structure around ____ helps me infer that it means ____.”	MOVE CARD WORD PARTS “The root or affix in ____ helps show that it means ____.”	MOVE CARD WORD PARTS “The parts of ____ connect its meaning to ____.”
MOVE CARD NUANCE CHECK “____ is more precise than ____ here because ____.”	MOVE CARD IDIOM CHECK “The idiom ____ means ____ here, not ____.”	MOVE CARD FIGURATIVE LENS “The figurative phrase or allusion ____ suggests ____, which adds ____.”	MOVE CARD NEW CONTEXT “In another situation, I could use ____ to ____.”

Print one card sheet per team. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Print enough MOVE card sets for every player to receive four cards, then rotate TOPIC cards across rounds. Require students to place a card only after the starter has been used accurately and connected to the group's draft. If participation is uneven, have the Meaning Keeper pause play until the next speaker is a player with unplayed cards.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	In our draft, "plan" and "divide the remaining research" suggest that constructive means helpful and focused on solving the problem.
Eli	The root struct in constructive means build, so constructive means aimed at building a solution.
Noah	Constructive is more precise than positive here because a constructive plan gives us a way to solve the delay.
Maya	The idiom spinning our wheels means working without progress here, not literally turning wheels.
Eli	In another situation, I could use constructive to describe feedback that helps a writer revise.

LISTEN FOR

- Accurate inferences supported by nearby words and sentence structure
- Accurate explanations of roots, affixes, or meaningful word parts
- Specific distinctions among near-synonyms, not claims that words simply mean the same thing
- Clear interpretations of idioms, figurative phrases, and allusions in their particular contexts

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.