

Academic and Domain-Specific Vocabulary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10



Quick Review

In school, you use **ACADEMIC** words like *compare*, *describe*, *explain*, *identify* and **DOMAIN-SPECIFIC** words from subjects like science or social studies (*habitat*, *climate*, *citizen*). Knowing these helps you understand directions and texts.

PRACTICE

Pick or write the **BEST** answer.

1. If a question asks you to **compare** two animals, you should —
 - A. draw both animals
 - B. tell how the animals are alike AND different
 - C. pick your favorite
 - D. list the animals' names only
2. If a question asks you to **describe** a place, you should —
 - A. tell what it looks, sounds, or feels like with details
 - B. list its phone number
 - C. say only its name
 - D. say only the date
3. If a question asks you to **explain** an idea, you should —
 - A. repeat the question
 - B. tell HOW or WHY something works in your own words
 - C. give one short word
 - D. skip the question
4. If a question asks you to **identify** the main idea, you should —
 - A. pick or name the main idea clearly
 - B. guess at random
 - C. leave the answer blank
 - D. rewrite the whole passage



- 5. In a science book, **habitat** means —
 - A. the food an animal eats
 - B. the place where a plant or animal lives
 - C. the size of an animal
 - D. the noise an animal makes
- 6. In a social studies book, a **citizen** is —
 - A. a kind of car
 - B. a person who belongs to a country
 - C. an old building
 - D. a season of the year
- 7. In a math book, **estimate** means —
 - A. count exactly
 - B. make a close, careful guess
 - C. ignore
 - D. round numbers always to zero
- 8. Which is an ACADEMIC verb often used in directions?
 - A. analyze, summarize, predict
 - B. skip, ignore, forget
 - C. laugh, eat, run
 - D. play, draw, sleep
- 9. Which is a DOMAIN-SPECIFIC word from a science topic?
 - A. food
 - B. photosynthesis
 - C. pretty
 - D. happy
- 10. Pick ONE academic word from this list: *compare*, *describe*, *summarize*, *explain*. Write a sentence telling what you would do if asked to use that word on a test.



Answer Keys

- 1 A B C D
- 2 A B C D
- 3 A B C D
- 4 A B C D
- 5 A B C D

- 6 A B C D
- 7 A B C D
- 8 A B C D
- 9 A B C D
- 10

Explanations

| | |
|------|--|
| 1. B | Compare = show similarities and differences. |
| 2. A | Describe = give details that help a reader picture it. |
| 3. B | Explain = give a clear how/why. |
| 4. A | Identify = point out / name. |
| 5. B | Habitat = home/place where it lives. |
| 6. B | Citizen = member of a country. |
| 7. B | Estimate = a reasonable guess. Counting exactly is not estimating. |
| 8. A | Analyze/summarize/predict are common in academic directions. |
| 9. B | Photosynthesis belongs to science. The others are general words. |
| 10. | Answer: Example: If a question asks me to summarize, I would write the main idea and the most important details in my own words. Accept any clear explanation of the chosen academic action. |



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