



TCEA Vocabulary Bee

6th Grade List

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Term	Definition
central idea	What the passage or text is mainly about
supporting details	Details that help to explain the central idea/topic sentence
key detail	supports the central idea in an important way. Authors elaborate using examples or anecdotes.
summarize	Tell in your own words what a passage is about including only the central idea and most important supporting details. Does not include opinions or judgement.
inference	Use your prior knowledge on the subject and information gained in your reading to draw an conclusion.
analysis of text	Detailed examination of text to decide what it means: word choice, character development, and plot.
figurative language	Words that may not literally mean what they say
connotative meaning	Meanings that suggests something other than the literal meaning; figure of speech; Meaning in context
simile	When you use words "like" or "as" to compare ideas
metaphor	When you compare ideas without using the words "like" or "as"
significance	A part of the story that is important
alliteration	Repetition of a single consonant letter in the alphabet ("Peter Piper picked a peck of pickle peppers.")
onomatopoeia	Sound words: Ex: sizzling, slithered

personification	Speaking of something that is not human as if it had human abilities and human reactions
hyperbole	Great exaggeration used to emphasize a point
idiom	Groups of words whose meaning is different from the ordinary meaning of the words. Ex. "Put a lid on it." "Couch Potato"
author's purpose	Reason the author writes: persuade, inform, entertain (PIE)
tone	How the author feels (excited, silly, serious, or angry)
mood	How the text makes the reader feel
cause	What makes something happen
effect	What happens because of something happens
analogy	Relationship between two words: synonym, definition, antonym, etc.
compare	How are texts alike
contrast	How are texts different
characters	People, animals, or creatures in a story or drama
plot	Sequence of events that tell a story from beginning to end
conflict	Problem the character must resolve
resolution	Time when the conflict is resolved at the end of the story
evidence	Text that comes from the story used to support your analysis
theme	Main idea, moral, or message in a piece of writing. Think about character's actions, plot, and repeating ideas in the story.
point of view	Perspective from which a story is told
narrator	Someone who tells the story
1st person point of view	Uses I and is usually the main character in the story
2nd person point of view	Narrator directs the reader as you
stanza	A group of lines in a poem that look like a paragraph
round character	major character in a work of fiction who encounters conflict and is changed by it
textual evidence	text that the author presents as argument
direct characterization	the narrator or a character in the story tells us exactly what we need to know about a character
indirect characterization	we find out about characters indirectly through thoughts, comments, or actions of the characters (STEAL)
absolute value	The distance of a number from zero on the number line. Always

	positive.
algebraic expression	A group of numbers, symbols, and variables that express an operation or a series of operations.
axis	A reference line from which distances or angles are measured in a coordinate grid. (plural - axes)
box plot	A diagram that shows the five number summary of a distribution. (Five number summary includes lowest value, lower quartile, median, upper quartile, and highest value.)
commutative property of multiplication	The product stays the same when the order of the factors is changed. $a \times b = b \times a$, where a and b are any real numbers.
constant	A number with a value that is always the same.
coefficient	A numerical factor in a term of an algebraic expression next to a variable.
commutative property of addition	The sum stays the same when the order of the addends is changed. $a + b = b + a$, where a and b are any real numbers/
coordinates	An ordered pair of numbers that identify a point on a coordinate plane.
dividend	A quantity to be divided
cube	A rectangular solid having six congruent square faces.
decompose	To separate into components or basic elements
distributive property	$a \times (b + c) = (a \times b) + (a \times c)$ and $a \times (b - c) = (a \times b) - (a \times c)$, where a , b , and c stand for any real numbers.
line plot	Also known as a data plot. A diagram showing frequency of a data on a number line.
equilateral triangle	A triangle whose sides are all the same length.
equivalent ratio	two ratios have the same value when simplified
exponent	The number that tells how many equal factors there are.
factor	An integer that divides evenly into another.
equation	A statement that two mathematical expressions are equal.
evaluate	To find the value of a mathematical expression.
expression	A variable or combination of variables, numbers, and symbols that represents a mathematical relationship.
improper fraction	A fraction with a numerator greater than (or equal to) its

	denominator.
inequality	A mathematical sentence that compares two unequal expressions using one of the following symbols $<$, $>$, \leq , \geq , or \neq
integers	The set of whole numbers and their opposites.
interquartile range	The difference between the upper quartile and the lower quartile.
least common multiple	LCM. The smallest common multiple of a set of two or more numbers.
measures of central tendency	An average; a single value that is used to represent a collection of data. Three commonly used types of averages are mode, median, and mean (also called measures of central tendency or measures of average)
lower extreme	The smallest or least number out of a data set, usually farther away from interquartile range than other data in set. (Also known as minimum.)
mean	The sum of a set of numbers divided by the number of elements in the set. (A type of average)
median	The middle number of a set of numbers when the numbers are arranged from least to greatest, or the mean of two middle numbers when the set has two middle numbers.
mixed number	A number with an integer and a fraction part.
multiplicative identity property of 1	The product of any number and 1 is equal to the original number.
numerator	The number or expression written above the line in a fraction.
order of operations	Rules describing what sequence to use in evaluating expressions.
origin	The intersection of the x- and y-axes in a coordinate plane, described by the ordered pair $(0, 0)$.
negative numbers	numbers less than 0
numerical expression	A mathematical statement including numbers and operations.
opposite	having a different sign but the same numeral.
outlier	A number in a set of data that is much larger or smaller than most of the other numbers in the set.
percent	A special ratio that compares a number to 100 using the symbol, %.

polygon	A closed figure formed from line segments that meet only at their endpoints.
prism	A 3-dimensional figure that has two congruent and parallel faces that are polygons. The remaining faces are parallelograms.
proportion	An equation showing that two ratios are equivalent.
quadrants	The four sections of a coordinate grid that are separated by axes.
positive numbers	numbers that are greater than zero
product	the result of multiplication
pyramid	A polyhedron whose base is a polygon and whose other faces are triangles that share a common vertex.
quadrilateral	A four sided polygon
quotient	The result of the division of one quantity by another.
range	The difference between the greatest number and the least number in a set of numbers.
ratio	A comparison of two numbers using division.
reciprocals	Two numbers whose product is 1. Also called multiplicative inverses.
spread	A measure of how much a collection of data is spread out. Commonly used types included range and quartiles.
rate	A ratio comparing two different units
right rectangular prism	A prism with 6 rectangular faces where the lateral edge is perpendicular to the plane of the base.
right triangle	A triangle that has one 90 degree angle.
statistics	The science of collecting, organizing, representing and interpreting data.
surface area	The total area of the faces (including the bases) and curved surfaces of a solid figure.
term	A number, variable, product, or quotient in an expression. A term is not a sum or difference.
substitution	The replacement of the letters in an algebraic expression with known values.
sum	The result of addition.
triangular prism	A prism with three rectangular faces and two triangular bases where the lateral edge is perpendicular to the plane of the base.
unit rate	A rate with a denominator of 1. The value of 1 unit.
vertex	The point at which two line segments or rays meet to form an angle

	(pl-vertices)
upper extreme	The greatest or largest number out of a data set from interquartile range that other data in set.
variable	A quantity that changes or can have different values. A symbol, usually a letter, that can stand for a variable quantity.
volume	The number of cubic units it takes to fill a figure.
base of an exponent	The number that is raised to a power.
simplify	To express a fraction in simplest form.
prime number	A whole number greater than 0 that has exactly two different factors, 1 and itself.
mode	the most frequently occurring number in a data set. There can be more than one or no mode.