



The Lexile Framework for Reading in Action

Vocabulary Squares

- Pre-Reading
- During Reading
- Post Reading

Description: Because the semantic dimension of any text is a critical factor in influencing readability, Vocabulary Squares are a useful practice for identifying key words or concepts, defining them in relation to the text, and relating those words to their relevant contexts.

How It Works: Vocabulary Squares comprise multiple four-part grids that are labeled as part of speech, synonyms & antonyms, symbol/icon, and definition. For each identified vocabulary word, the student is required to fill in the appropriate information in each section of the grid and then formulate a sentence employing the word in the relevant context. Vocabulary Squares are typically used as an individual reading activity that provides additional support to a text.

How It Can Be Used: Vocabulary Squares can be useful across all content areas.

- ◆ Vocabulary Squares is best used for texts that are at or slightly above a student's Lexile measure.
- ◆ Vocabulary Squares are an effective strategy in cases where the semantic dimension of a text may impede reading fluency.