



Analyzing Word Choices

Today's Standard

11-12.RL.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including words with multiple meanings or language that is particularly fresh, engaging, or beautiful. (Include Shakespeare as well as other authors.)

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing the language in Shakespeare's plays to understand character motivations.; Examining the use of figurative language in modern poetry to interpret themes.; Discussing how word choices in political speeches influence public perception.; Comparing the tone of different news articles on the same event to evaluate bias.; Creating original short stories using varied word choices to evoke different emotions.

Today I Learned

Today we learned how to understand the meaning of words and phrases in stories. We also talked about how the words an author chooses can change how we feel about the story.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes kids think that words only have one meaning, but words can mean different things in different stories. Another tricky part is that special language, like metaphors, can be understood in many ways.

Quiz Me

- What is a metaphor?
- Can a word mean more than one thing?
- How do we know what a word means in a story?
- What does 'tone' mean?
- Why do authors choose special words?

Help Me

When reading stories, authors choose words carefully to make us feel a certain way or to show us something special. For example, in a funny story, the words might make us laugh. In a scary story, the words might make

us feel scared. By looking at the words an author uses, we can understand the story better.