

What is Abstract Vocabulary?

Worksheet

Abstract vocabulary refers to words representing ideas, concepts, qualities, and theories — like 'freedom,' 'justice,' 'theory,' 'analysis' — rather than physical objects.

Questions

1. Which word is abstract?
A) Chair
B) Democracy
C) Pencil
D) Dog
2. Which sentence uses more abstract vocabulary?
A) The man walked to the store.
B) The individual navigated through commercial infrastructure.
C) He went to buy things.
D) The person moved to a place.
3. Abstract vocabulary is best used in...
A) Casual conversations
B) Text messages
C) Academic essays and formal writing
D) Children's stories
4. Which list contains ONLY abstract words?
A) Table, chair, desk
B) Freedom, justice, theory, democracy
C) Dog, cat, bird
D) Pencil, book, paper
5. Identify abstract and concrete words: 'The author's concept of freedom transformed society.'
6. Rewrite using more abstract vocabulary: 'The students had a good discussion about bad behavior.'
7. Categorize: Which are abstract? 'theory, table, justice, water, courage, cat'
8. Define: What is abstract vocabulary?
9. Define: What is the opposite of abstract vocabulary?
10. Define: Why is abstract vocabulary important?

Answer Key

1. B) Democracy — 'Democracy' is an abstract idea. The others (chair, pencil, dog) are concrete physical objects.
2. B) The individual navigated through commercial infrastructure. — Option B uses abstract, formal terms like 'individual,' 'navigated,' 'commercial infrastructure' — more academic style.
3. C) Academic essays and formal writing — Abstract vocabulary is the hallmark of academic, formal, and intellectual writing.
4. B) Freedom, justice, theory, democracy — Option B lists only abstract concepts. All others are concrete objects.
5. Abstract words: 'concept,' 'freedom,' 'society' — intangible ideas Concrete words: 'author' — a person you can see Conclusion: The sentence mixes both to explain how an intangible idea has real impact.
6. Original: 'good,' 'bad' are vague and too concrete More abstract: 'The students engaged in a critical discourse on ethical deviations' Abstract terms: 'discourse,' 'ethical,' 'deviations' — academic and formal
7. Abstract: 'theory, justice, courage' — ideas and qualities Concrete: 'table, water, cat' — physical objects you can touch
8. Words representing ideas, concepts, theories, qualities, and intangible things — e.g., 'freedom,' 'theory,' 'justice.'
9. Concrete vocabulary — words for physical objects and things you can see, touch, or experience directly.
10. It enables academic writing, sophisticated discussion of ideas, and communication of concepts beyond the physical world.

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