

# Stage 2 Writing Tips for Parents



# Vocabulary



## Syllabus Links

**EN2-9B:** A student uses effective and accurate sentence structure, grammatical features, punctuation conventions and vocabulary relevant to the type of text when responding to and composing texts.

**Content:** - understand that the choice of vocabulary impacts on the effectiveness of writing.

- learns extended and technical vocabulary.
- experiments with vocabulary choices to engage the listener or reader.

## Advice for Parents

A child's vocabulary differs depending on a range of factors. These include their life experiences, hobbies, texts they enjoy reading and the activities they participate in on the weekend and in holidays. In order to help your child improve their vocabulary, it is important to offer them a range of rich experiences and to talk to them regularly, not shying away from using words they may not understand. Another way to improve vocabulary in writing is by providing your child with appropriate books to read. Authors such as David Walliams, Roald Dahl and Enid Blyton use a range of wonderful vocabulary in their stories which will greatly benefit their writing.

## Activities at Home

Here are some activities that you may want to try at home to help your child improve their vocabulary.

### Clarify it, Use it

Using a novel of their choice, students practice the reciprocal reading role 'clarifier' to find interesting or challenging words within the text. Once they have clarified some words, it is their turn to write their own story; however, they must use their newly discovered words.

### Synonyms

**Definition:** Words that mean exactly or nearly the same as another word.

**E.g., big = gigantic**

Using a thesaurus or online tool, students look through their writing and must find 5 synonyms for words they have used and change them. Students must make sure that new word doesn't change the meaning of the sentence.

### Activity Word Wall

When your family has participated in an activity, gone on a holiday or done something new, encourage your child to create a list of all the words that could relate to that activity, highlighting any of the new words they may have learned.

conservation

environment

### Prefixes and Suffixes

Prefix – A word or letters placed in front of another.

**E.g. re - rewind** (re,pre,semi, un, dis, mis etc)

Suffix – Words or letters placed behind another.

**E.g., reversible** (ible, es, ed, ing, tion, sion etc)

Students can use prefixes and suffixes to expand their vocabulary. Challenge them to make a list of each, finding as many words as they can.

<https://www.myenglishteacher.eu/blog/prefixes-suffixes-list/>