

World Languages Glossary

adapted text - Text that is rewritten from the original with simplified language.

appropriate forms of address - Salutations that are linguistically and culturally accepted.

authentic; authentic materials [texts/passages/settings/sources/entertainment media]

Original, unchanged, intended for native speakers. Those materials which originate in the same language and culture as that being studied or taught and are presented as representative of the real world.

cognates - Words from two languages that are similar in spelling and meaning, or sound and meaning.

context - The setting and situation in which a spoken or written message occurs.

courtesy expressions - Expressions of politeness which are culturally appropriate.

culturally-appropriate - Reflecting culturally accepted norms.

familiar context- A setting or situation for communication that is already known and understood by the student.

guided conversations - Conversations in which the teacher provides prompting questions and/or thoughts prior to or during the conversation.

guided exchanges - Short oral interactions in which the teacher provides prompting questions and/or thoughts prior to or during the interaction.

idiom/idiomatic expression - Words used in a special way that may be different from their literal meaning. (e.g., Rush-hour traffic moves at a snail's pace.)

intonation - The sounds that create the rhythm of the language.

literary devices

English Language Arts: The techniques by which an author manipulates language for rhetorical effect and to evince style (e.g., figurative language).

World Languages: Clues that help one read and comprehend literature.

native speaker - A person who speaks the language as a first language.

nature of language - The basis of the systems that make up the language.

non-cognate - A reference to languages that do not share any words or symbols.

non-manual markers - The use of various facial expressions, head tilting, shoulder raising/shifts, mouthing, and similar signals which are added to sign vocabulary to create meaning.

perspectives of a culture - Viewpoints held by native speakers of the same or similar cultural groups.

practice of a culture - Activities or rituals that occur among native speakers of the same or similar cultural groups.

presentational format - The creation of spoken or written communication for people (an audience) with whom there is no immediate personal contact, or a communication that occurs in a one-to-many mode (e.g., a PowerPoint slide show, a visual aid presentation, a speech, or a written article or report).

primary sources - Original and usually authentic sources of information in the target language and culture.

products of a culture - Items that a culture produces or creates both tangible (e.g., food, clothing, works of art) and intangible (e.g., educational systems, laws, dance).

proficiency - Communicative competence in all forms of language and cultural interaction.

state of being - The various feelings and emotions associated with being alive.

syntax - The branch of the language system that is concerned with the pattern or structure of word order in phrases, clauses, and sentences.

target culture - The culture being studied by the student.

target language - The non-English language being studied by the student.

virtual travel - Simulated language and cultural experiences that take place through multi-media.

word borrowings - Words taken from one language for use in other languages.

language systems - The various aspects of language (e.g. grammar, lexicon, syntax, phonology).

writing process - The many aspects of the complex act of producing a written communication; specifically: pre-writing, drafting, conferencing, revising, editing, and publishing.

writing systems - The ways in which languages are represented graphically.