

WALT create a range of characters using vocabulary choices.

WILF:

- Understand how vocabulary choices change the reader's view of a character.
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- Choose your vocabulary carefully to create a character.
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- Compare two different viewpoints by language used.



"SPAG-tacular" De- Prefixes

What are spelling rules for adding a de- prefix to a word?

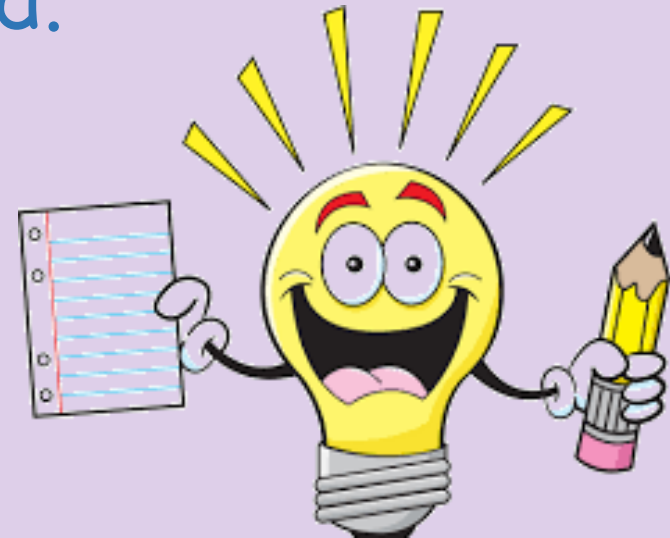
How does it change the root word's meaning?

Try adding the de-prefix to words and then explain any spelling rules and how the meaning is changed.

E.g:

Deactivate = de + activate - Antonym

Deaccelerate = de + accelerate - ?



The vocabulary you use changes the way that the reader views the character. Think of your favourite villains and heroes - what makes them seem so positive or negative?

Your choices of vocabulary decide this.

Let's have a look...



The aquatic god glistened like the sea on a summer's day as he approached the river bank. While the floods he summoned simmered down into silt, his hands stretched forward. Food at last.

VS

The blue demon hurtled towards the river bank, snatching scornfully the vibrant vegetables to drown as he burst the river bank. Everything was submerged. Ruined.



Which one of the paragraphs makes you like Hapi?

This one makes him a hero, saving the land and making floods positive.

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This one makes him a villain, ruining the land and showing floods as negative.



The choice of descriptive vocabulary (powerful verbs, adjectives, adverbs) alongside the choice of how the narrator sees what the character is doing will change the way that the reader views them.

Myths were originally made to explain natural things that occur.

Sometimes these things, like floods for example, could much more easily be seen as bad. It is therefore how the story is told/written that changes it to something positive and useful for the reader.

Let's look at the language that changes it. Can you identify the important word classes to consider in our vocabulary choices?

The aquatic god glistened like the sea on a summer's day as he approached the river bank. While the floods he summoned simmered down into silt, his hands stretched forward. Food at last.

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Alliteration

Adverb

Adjective

Powerful verb.

Simile

The choice of noun at the beginning, as well as all the descriptive language devices in the box here are really important to think about when you are creating a character or setting - they change the reader's opinion completely. They will not form a different opinion if you use these, as they trust the author to tell them who to trust. Important job, eh'?

Your Activity for today:

Today I would like you to use the image of the wizard (from *Quest* by Aaron Becker) to *write two detailed paragraphs*:

One should introduce them as a hero, with positive descriptive vocabulary about them.

The other should introduce them as an anti-hero, or villain, who is disliked by the reader.

Then, write a sentence or two describing the importance of the vocabulary used by the author (you) in helping the reader to form an opinion of the character.

Challenge: read your paragraphs and see if you can upscale any of your descriptive language with a thesaurus.

