



SHADES

A teaching sequence that illuminates vocabulary!

S

See it

H

Hear it

A

Articulate it

D

Define it

E

Exercise it

S

Scribe it

See it -

Establish visual recognition

Introduce the word in its written form to help pupils recognise and remember it.

- Show the word clearly on the board or screen.
- Encourage pupils to look closely at the spelling and shape of the word.

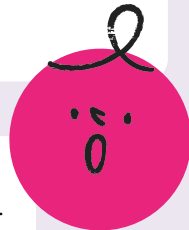


Hear it-

Tune in to pronunciation and context

Provide accurate pronunciation alongside clear definitions and examples.

- Say the word several times so pupils can hear it spoken fluently.
- Share a few short definitions and example sentences using the word in context.



Articulate it-

Build confidence in saying the word

Support pupils to pronounce the word correctly and fluently.

- Say it together as a class (choral repetition).
- Use call-and-response to echo the word multiple times.

Define it-

Check for understanding

Ask pupils to explain the meaning in their own words.

- Pupils share a definition with a partner, putting it into their own words.
- Encourage them to rephrase it rather than recite.



Exercise it-

Use the word aloud in context

Promote active use of the word in spoken language and creative tasks.

- Pupils say a sentence aloud using the word.
- Practise, refine and repeat in small groups or pairs.
- Act out the word to deepen understanding through movement.

Scribe or Sketch it-

Reinforce meaning through writing or drawing

Encourage written or visual expression of the word's meaning.

- Pupils write a sentence using the word accurately.
- Pupils draw a simple sketch or doodle to represent the word's meaning.