

BUILDING
BRILLIANT
VOCABULARY

Learning Objectives



Be able to use the word in a sentence

Understand the meaning of the word

Know the word (be able to read and pronounce it)

SO THAT...

I can understand how the word is used in a text, use it in my own writing and improve my vocabulary.

Introduce the word:

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Hierarchy

Noun : Hierarchy

Adjective: Hierarchical



Word example: read the story and discuss

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Task 1: Lhad's friends

Lhad lots of great friends. She was thinking about what made them so great, but she couldn't decide which quality was most important: was it loyalty? Trust? Honesty? Being fun? Eventually, she decided that kindness was the most important quality in a friend. Next, she chose fun, then loyalty, then honesty and then trust.

Discuss:

What do you think is the most important quality in a friend? If you could rank these qualities in order from most to least important, what would you choose?

Introduce the meaning:

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We often like to put things in order from best to worst or from most important to least important. When we rank things from most to least important, this is called a **hierarchy**. A hierarchy is a system of putting things in order of importance. If something has a hierarchy, we say that it is **hierarchical**. For example, many people believe that society is hierarchical, because some people are more important and powerful than others.

Definition:
Hierarchy is...

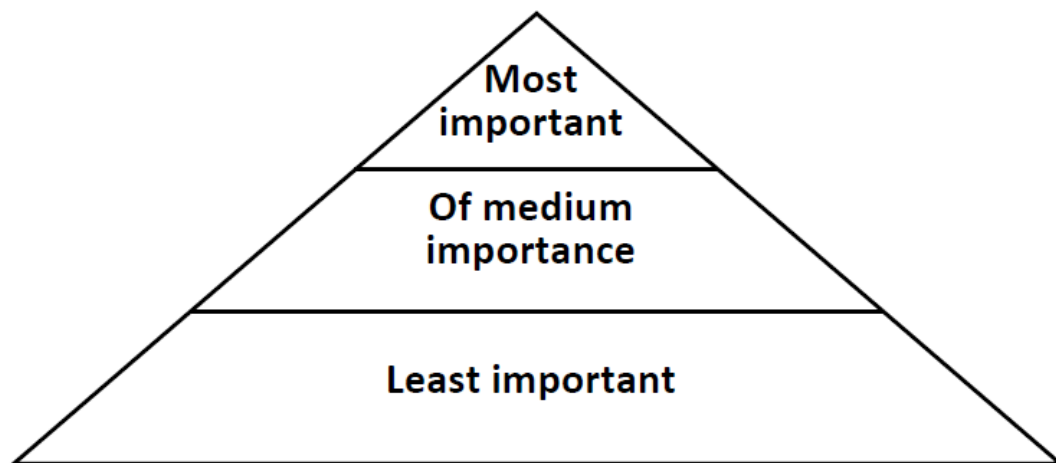


Using the word:

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Task 2: Hierarchy pyramid

Here is a way of showing a hierarchy.



As you can see, the most important person or thing in the hierarchy goes at the top, and the least important goes at the bottom.

Discuss:

Where would you put the following people in the hierarchy of society, according to their importance: policeman, teacher, doctor?

Using the word:

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Task 3: Examples of hierarchy

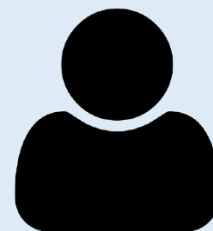
Many things in life are hierarchical, for example:

- The government has a hierarchy: the Prime Minister is at the top, followed by Members of Parliament, and civil servants.
- A school has a hierarchy of teachers: the head teacher is at the top, followed by the deputy and assistant heads, then the heads of year and heads of department, with teachers and then teaching assistants at the bottom.
- The army has a hierarchy. The highest rank is Field Marshal, followed by lots of ranks of officers. At the very bottom are the newest soldiers, who are called 'Privates'.

Discuss:

Can you think of any other examples of things in society that we might consider to be hierarchical?

Check our understanding:



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Task 4: Tick or cross in the box

Look at the sentences below. Put a tick in the box if you think the sentence uses the word 'hierarchy' correctly. Put a cross in the box if you think it uses the word 'hierarchy' incorrectly.

- | | ✓ / ✗ |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Birds of prey are at the top of the bird hierarchy. | ☐ |
| 2. In the playground, there is a clear hierarchy: the bullies are at the top! | ☐ |
| 3. She won the race so she was hierarchy. | ☐ |
| 4. Helena rode hierarchy up the mountain. | ☐ |
| 5. In most workplaces, there is a hierarchy that everyone must respect. | ☐ |
| 6. Firemen have ladders so that they can climb up the hierarchy. | ☐ |
| 7. In patriarchal societies, women are lower in the hierarchy than men. | ☐ |
| 8. One of my friends is more hierarchy than the other. | ☐ |
| 9. My history teacher taught me about the hierarchy in the army. | ☐ |
| 10. Most people believe that social hierarchy is an old-fashioned idea. | ☐ |

Challenge: Can you correct the incorrect examples?

2:00

Knowledge boost:

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Task 5: Knowledge booster

Where does the word 'hierarchy' come from?

The word 'hierarchy' comes from two Greek root words:

hier + *arch*

holy + rule

So the word 'hierarchy' means 'holy rule'. We put things in order by putting the 'holiest' thing at the top.

Last lesson, we learned the word 'patriarchy', which means 'ruled by men'. The root *patri* means father, and the root *arch* means 'rule'. Can you think of any other words that use the Greek root *arch*?



Read about the word:

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Task 6: Reading

Maslow's hierarchy of needs

In 1943, a psychologist called Abraham Maslow looked closely at human beings to work out whether we needed some things more than others. He came up with the idea of a 'hierarchy of needs'. This idea suggested that humans needed some things much more than other things in life. For example, we can live without a smartphone, but we can't live without food.

Maslow said that we must have all of the basic needs in place before we can start meeting the needs at the top of the hierarchy.

The basic needs are things like food, water, warmth and sleep. If you don't have these basic things, you can't even start thinking about other things you might need to feel happy.

Next in the hierarchy is safety: without safety and security, we can't move further up the hierarchy. After safety, we need friends and family, and to feel loved. Next, we need to feel successful in life. Finally, at the top of the

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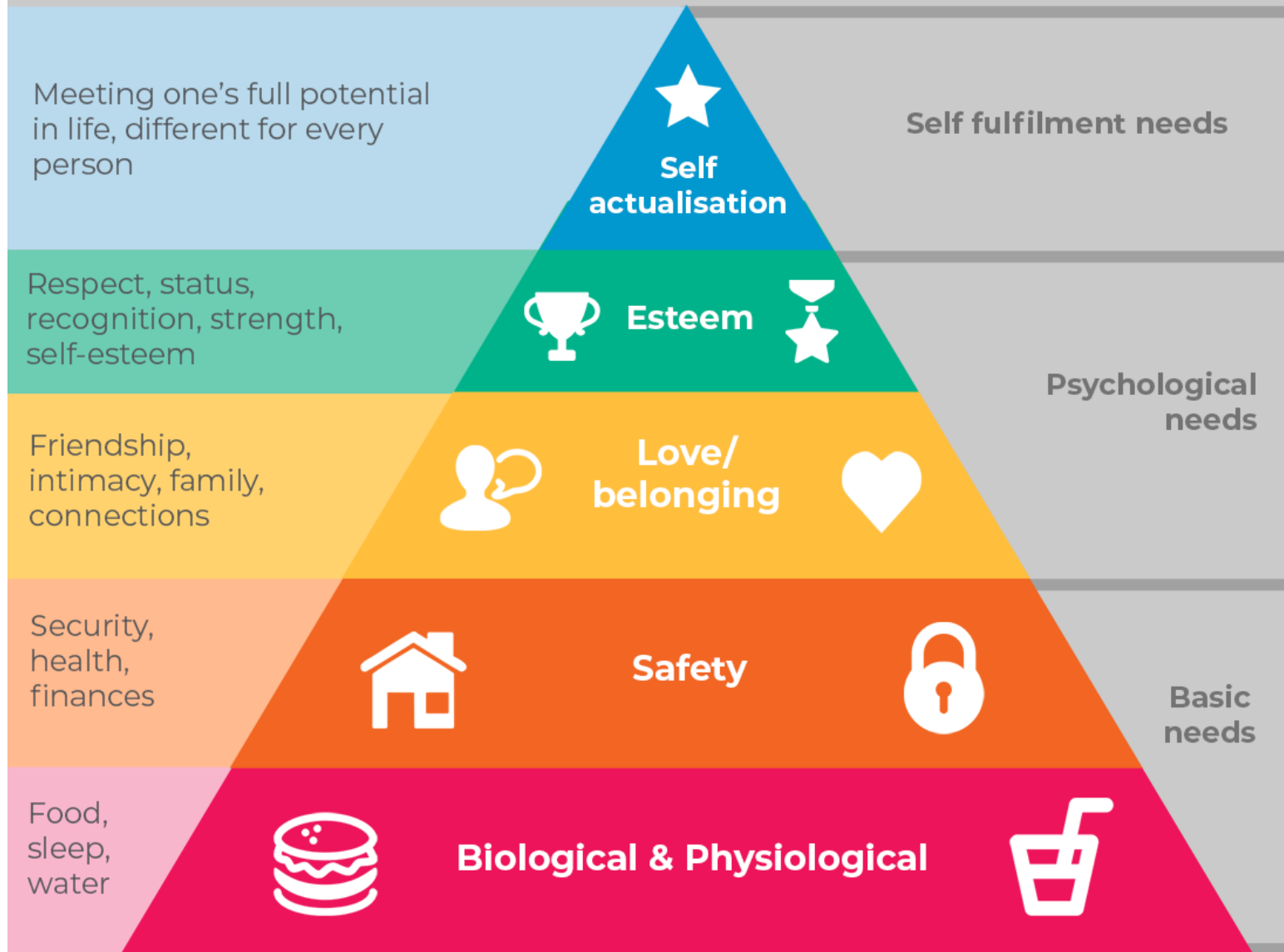
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Next in the hierarchy is safety: without safety and security, we can't move further up the hierarchy. After safety, we need friends and family, and to feel loved. Next, we need to feel successful in life. Finally, at the top of the hierarchy, is the idea that we need to feel like we are achieving our full potential: that we are being creative and doing all the things we want to do to make us feel happy.

Many people believe that people living in poverty do not have their basic needs met. This is why lots of people from wealthier countries give to poorer countries: so that we can help meet people's basic needs.

MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS



Write about the word:

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Task 7: Writing about what you have read

Look at the following sentence:

They need.

This sentence is really boring. We can improve this sentence by adding extra information.

Use the information you have just read to help you add more information to the sentence:

1. Who?

.....

2. What?

.....

3. Why?

.....

Now put all of this information together to make a much more interesting sentence.

Write your new sentence in the space below:

.....