



Fill in the front of your vocabulary booklet.

Challenge: Can you complete the recap grid on the first page?





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:

BUILDING
BRILLIANT
VOCABULARY

Enlighten

Verb: enlighten

Noun: enlightenment





Word example: read the story and discuss

BUILDING
BRILLIANT
VOCABULARY

Task 1: Chelsea's story

Chelsea had been kept in the dark about what they would be doing for her birthday. Her parents didn't want to tell her because they wanted it to be a surprise. On her birthday, she woke up and her mum told her that they were going to drive to a theme park for the day. Chelsea was very excited, and glad that she finally knew where they were going!

Discuss:

Have you ever been kept in the dark about something like Chelsea was?



Introduce the meaning:

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Chelsea didn't know what she was doing for her birthday until her mum told her. When her mum gave her the information and explained what they were doing, Chelsea finally understood. When someone is provided with information about something, they are **enlightened**. When we **enlighten** people about things, we explain something to them so that they understand.

Definition:

To **enlighten** means to explain something so that someone else understands.

Checking your understanding:

BUILDING BRILLIANT VOCABULARY

Look at the sentences below. Put a tick in the box if you think the sentence uses the words 'enlighten', 'enlightened' or 'enlightening' correctly. Put a cross in the box if you think it uses the words 'enlighten', 'enlightened' or 'enlightening' incorrectly.

1. The book was very enlightening.
2. Enlighten me about your plans for the future.
3. I enlightened my bike on the way home.
4. She refused to enlighten him about her past.
5. Our conversation was very enlightening.
6. Did you see the thunder and enlightening last night?
7. Teachers love to enlighten their students.
8. Do you watch TV to be enlightened or to relax?
9. The coffee made her feel very enlightening.
10. I feel enlightened whenever I lose a bit of weight.

✓ / ✗



Explore the Word

Where does the word 'enlighten' come from?

The word 'enlighten' comes from the Old English word *inlihtan*, which means 'to shed light on' something. In the 1660s, people started to use this word to suggest that they had discovered something new, as if a light had been switched on in their heads.



Read about the word:

BUILDING
BRILLIANT
VOCABULARY

The Age of Enlightenment

In the 18th century, people across Europe started to make lots of scientific and philosophical discoveries. Famous philosophers such as René Descartes, and important scientists such as Sir Isaac Newton, believed that knowledge and reason were most important. We call this period of time 'the Enlightenment' because everyone started to become more enlightened about the world.

The most important idea from the Enlightenment was that all people have the ability to think. Because we can think, we can learn new knowledge and ideas, and use our knowledge to voice dissent against ideas that we disagree with.

Lots of new ideas were developed during the Enlightenment. For example:

- We can't know for certain whether God exists. Before the enlightenment, most people believed in a god.
- We should be allowed to dissent and stand up to people who are higher than us in the social hierarchy.
- We should all be treated equally in society.

Many Enlightenment ideas were very important for people fighting in the French and American Revolutions, which happened after the Enlightenment. The USA was founded on the Enlightenment principle that everyone should be treated equally. In the American Constitution, it says, 'All Men are created equal'. This was a revolutionary idea at the time. (In practice, however, many people including women, African-Americans and Native Americans were not viewed or treated equally.)

Read about the word:



A lot of ideas we take for granted today (such as equality) come from the Enlightenment. We owe the Enlightenment a lot for the world we live in today.



Writing about the word:



Answer the questions in your booklet.

1. What was the Age of Enlightenment?
2. What ideas did we get from the Enlightenment?
3. Who were some important Enlightenment thinkers?