

At-Home Learning Guide

Grade: Sixth Grade
Subject: English/
Language Arts
Topic: Figurative/
Connotative Meaning

With some practice...

An important skill in sixth grade is the ability to analyze a text- describing what an author is telling a reader through a text and how.

Here are the literacy skills and vocabulary your learner can practice as you share, discuss and write about different kinds of texts, including books, photographs, videos, articles, poems, and websites.

- ✓ I can determine the connotation of words and phrases used in a work of literature.
- ✓ I can determine the meaning of figurative language (simile, metaphor, personification, and hyperbole) in a work of literature.
- ✓ I can analyze the impact of a specific word choice on the meaning and tone of a text.

Question

Potential Answer(s)

Chat

Here are some handy questions to get conversation started.

Question	Potential Answer(s)
What are some types of figurative language you've learned about?	Your learner may say the definition of different types of figurative language (such as: simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, etc.).
What does "tone of a text" mean?	Tone indicates a particular feeling and reflects a writer's mood. Tone can be sad, angry, happy, romantic, melancholy-pretty much any emotion you can think of.

Coach

Got a little more time? Check out this quick description of what your learner needs to know, advice for how to help them, and 1-2 websites for further learning.

Word choice in writing is very important. Words have connotative and denotative meanings. The denotative meaning refers to the dictionary definition of a word. It is precise, literal and most people will have the same understanding of the word. Connotative is the figurative or emotional meaning of the word.

Help your learners better understand a writer's tone, as well as understand character in a text, by having them be mindful of the connotative meanings of the words writers choose and characters use (as you come across words in texts, for example "frightened"). Ask your learner to tell you two more words/phrases that mean the same thing, one word that's neutral and one that has a positive or negative connotation (for example: "scared" {neutral}, "afraid of their own shadow" {negative connotation, meaning they are scared unnecessarily}).

You can also do this exercise in general conversation. However, the words we use when talking are much more limited than what we're exposed to in writing. So, read or listen to texts like [The Giver](#) (Audiobook) and [PDF Version](#), to provide you lots of words to discuss.

Create

Get inspired by ideas and create your own at-home learning experiences.

Help your learner expand their vocabulary by having them [create their own custom thesaurus](#). First, have them list common themes they want or have to write about. Each theme can be a different page. For example, they may write or need to write about emotions like sadness. Then write down words and phrases as well as [synonyms](#) that mean the same as your word (sad=dejected, sorrowful, depressed, despairing, feeling blue, reduced to tears, etc.).

Now your learner has something they can turn to to make writing easier.

Congratulations!
Thanks for enhancing the educational experience of your learner.
We couldn't do it without you!

At-Home Learning Guide

Grade: Seventh
Subject: Math
Module 4: Percents and Proportional Relationships
Topic A: Finding the Whole

Big Idea: An important skill in seventh grade is the ability to calculate percentages of whole numbers, especially in real world scenarios.

With some practice...

Here are some things your learner will be proud they can do!

- I can use the equation **part = percent × whole**, to solve percent problems.
- I can use reasoning to solve percent problems.
- I can figure out the benchmark percents (1%, 5%, 10%, 50%) for whole numbers to solve problems and help me with estimation.

Chat

Here are some handy questions to get conversation started.

Question	Potential Answer(s)
How is 50% related to 100%?	Answers might include: 50% is half of 100%, $50\% + 50\% = 100\%$
What is the fraction and decimal form of 50%? 25%?	50/100 or $\frac{1}{2}$ & .50. 25/100 or $\frac{1}{4}$ & .25 Click here for a chart to help your learner memorize fraction decimal equivalence.

Coach

Got a little more time? Check out this quick description of what your learner needs to know, advice for how to help them, and 1-2 websites for further learning.

It is important that learners use mental math and basic computational skills to solve percentage problems. To help your learner **always have them estimate before calculation**. Click [here](#) for commonly used values shown in Percent, Decimal and Fraction form. These may be worth memorizing!

What is 25% of 40? 25% of the students on the field trip love the museum. If there are 40 students on the field trip, how many love the museum?			
First, pick a benchmark percentage to calculate mentally.	Next, calculate the benchmark percentage.	Then, use addition, subtraction, multiplication and division to estimate.	Finally, calculate the percentage in the problem.
I might choose 50%, because 50% is double 25%.	50% is half- so half of 40 is 20.	25% is half of 50%. So I need to do $\frac{1}{2}$ of 50%. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 20 is 10.	part = percent × whole $? = .25 \times 40$ $.25 \times 40 = 10$

Create

Get inspired by ideas and create your own at-home learning experiences.

For activities that your learner does often- have them give a password to do that activity (e.g., opening a certain door, getting a snack, and turning on the TV, etc.). The password will be the answer to a math problem or a decimal/fraction/percentage equivalent to be memorized.

You can say, "The password to (insert activity) is the answer to..." (a percentage problems) or the decimal equivalent of 10%.

Click [here](#) for some percent word problems.

Click [here](#) for online practice fraction, decimal and percentage equivalents.

Click [here](#) for more practice solving percent problems.

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