

Creating Your Personal Dictionary

Some people call this a “word journal”. Others call it a “personal dictionary”. Either way, it is the same idea. You collect here any word you come across in assigned texts and make them your own.

What does it mean to “make a word your own”? Glad you asked!

First, write the word.

Second, copy the dictionary definition. Here are three recommended sites. An extra bonus of both of these is that you can click on the speaker and hear the word spoken aloud.

- [Cambridge Dictionaries Online](#)
- [Merriam-Webster Online](#)
- [Word Central](#) - This is a dictionary for younger students. If you checked the other dictionaries and they made no sense to you, check this one.

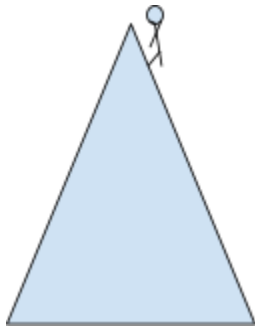
Third, write the definition in your own words, insert a picture of it, use the word in a sentence. Do all three if you like!

EXAMPLE:

Word: altitude

Dictionary definition: height above sea level.

My definition: Altitude is just a fancy way of saying how high up you are. If you are in a plane in the sky you are at a high altitude. If you are just standing on the ground on the prairie, the altitude is not very high.



Me, on top of a mountain. That's a high altitude!

[Here is a link to an example of a personal dictionary.](#)

Chokecherry Dictionary Activity

Add these words to your personal dictionary.

Agent

Agriculture

Altitude

Botany

Climate

Drizzle

Extension

Ingredient

Original

Quantity