

Definitions of Verbs in the Tested Student Expectations Writing TEKS/SEs – Grades 4, 7, 10 and 11

Verb	Dictionary Definition(s) of Verb in Student Expectation
achieve	to bring about an intended result; accomplish some purpose or effect.
add	to say or write further; to include
apply	to make use of as relevant, suitable, or pertinent to use for or assign to a specific purpose to put into effect: <i>they applied the rules to new members only.</i>
argue	to state the reasons for or against; to maintain in reasoning; to persuade, drive, etc., by reasoning' to show; prove; imply; indicate
build	to establish a basis for; found or ground: <i>build an argument on fact</i>
capitalize	to write or print in capital letters or with an initial capital
check	to investigate or verify as to correctness
choose	to select from a number of possibilities; pick by preference
clarify	to make (an idea, statement, etc.) clear or intelligible; to free from ambiguity
combine	to bring into or join in a close union or whole; unite
communicate	to impart knowledge of; make known; to give to another; impart; transmit
compose	to make or form by combining things, parts, or elements to create (a musical, literary, or choreographic work).
connect	to associate or consider as related
convey	to communicate; impart; make known
create	to evolve from one's own thought or imagination
delete	to strike out or remove (something written or printed); cancel; erase; expunge.
demonstrate	prove, establish the validity of something to describe, explain, or illustrate by examples, experiments, or the like
describe	to give an account of in words; to tell in words what something or someone is like
determine	to conclude or ascertain, as after reasoning, observation, etc.
develop	to elaborate or expand in detail
differentiate	to perceive the difference in or between.
edit	to revise or correct, as a manuscript.
elaborate	to add details to; expand.
employ	to make use of (an instrument, means, etc.); use; apply
enhance	to raise to a higher degree; intensify; magnify
ensure	to make sure or certain
evaluate	form a critical opinion of to judge or determine the significance, worth, or quality of; assess
exhibit	to make manifest; explain
explain	to make plain or clear; render understandable or intelligible to make known in detail
express	to put (thought) into words; utter or state
find	to locate by search or effort
identify	to recognize or establish as being a particular person or thing; verify the identity of
improve	to bring into a more desirable or excellent condition
influence	to exercise influence on; affect; sway
inform	to give or impart knowledge of a fact or circumstance to
make	to produce; cause to exist or happen; bring about to draw a conclusion as to the significance or nature of to judge or interpret, as to the truth, nature, meaning, etc.
match	to cause to correspond; adapt

Verb	Dictionary Definition(s) of Verb in Student Expectation
narrate	to give an account or tell the story of (events, experiences, etc.)
organize	to arrange in a coherent form; systematize; to arrange in a desired pattern or structure
persuade	to induce to believe by appealing to reason or understanding; convince
plan	to arrange a method or scheme beforehand for (any work, enterprise, or proceeding)
problem solve	to use cognitive processing to find a solution to a difficult question or situation; to use deep thought to solve a problem
produce	to create by physical or mental effort
proofread	to read (printers' proofs, copy, etc.) in order to detect and mark errors to be corrected.
punctuate	to mark or divide (something written) with punctuation marks in order to make the meaning clear.
rearrange	to change the arrangement of
recognize	to identify as something previously seen, known
refine	to make more fine, subtle, or precise
reflect	to think, ponder, or meditate
reorganize	to organize again
report	to carry and repeat, as an answer or message; to relate, as what has been learned by observation or investigation
request	to ask for
rethink	to reconsider, esp. profoundly.
revise	to alter something already written or printed, in order to make corrections, improve, or update
select	to make a choice; pick.
spell	to express words by letters, esp. correctly
structure	to give a structure, organization, or arrangement to; construct a systematic framework for.
understand	to perceive the meaning of; grasp the idea of; comprehend; to have understanding, knowledge, or comprehension.
use	to employ for some purpose; put into service; make use of
vary	to change or alter, as in form, appearance, character, or substance; to cause to be different from something else to avoid or relieve from uniformity or monotony
write	to express or communicate in writing; give a written account of

Source:

Dictionary.com. The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2004. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/conventions> (accessed: June 12, 2010).