

Pre-reading Activity
Teacher Guide**Title: Vocabulary Quick Writes**

1. Write the required vocabulary words, a writing prompt (see sample prompts below), and the allotted time on the board.
2. Review the Quick Write rules with students (see below).
3. Distribute the student worksheet.
4. Students complete the assignment by discussing their Quick Write with a partner or by sharing them with the class to compare thoughts and understanding of the word or concept.

Extension: Collect the Quick Writes and put them into each student's portfolio for ongoing assessment.

Sample Prompts:

- *"This word reminds me of . . ."* (to emphasize making connections between the topic and personal knowledge and experiences).
- *"I wonder . . . what . . . if . . . why . . . whether . . ."* and so on (to stimulate questions that occur to students about the word/topic).
- *"What seems especially important to me . . ."* (to help students narrow into key concepts and ideas).
- *"I was interested in . . ." or "I feel that . . ."* (to engage students in examining personal responses to a vocabulary word).
- *"I think that . . ."* (to encourage conclusions or generalizations about the article).

Quick Write Rules:

- Students are given a set amount of time (a one or two-minute write, for example).
- Students begin writing immediately and use the entire time period.
- Students quickly write down thoughts that occur to them as they respond to the vocabulary prompt.
- Writing form isn't as important as expression.

