# How to Make a KIM Chart

**Owl:** Welcome to How to make a KIM Chart, an instructional video on reading comprehension brought to you by the Excelsior College Online Writing Lab.

0:00 One way to improve your vocabulary is to create a KIM chart for the new words you encounter.

0:11 This will help you improve your reading comprehension and keep track of new terms.

0:22 “KIM” is an acronym that stands for:

- **Key Word**
- **Information**
- **and Memory Cue**

0:29 A KIM chart has a column for each of these categories and rows for each new word.

0:35 To make a KIM Chart, take a sheet of paper and draw three columns.

0:39 At the top of the first column write “Key Word.”

0:43 At the top of the second column write “Information.”

0:47 Beneath that write “Definition of the Word” in parentheses.

0:51 At the top of the third column write “Memory Cue.”

0:56 Beneath that write “sentence or picture” in parentheses.

1:00 Then draw a bunch of lines from left to right to indicate rows.

1:05 In the first row, write a key word in the first column.

1:09 For instance, let’s write “prevaricate.”

1:13 Now, in the second column write the following definition:

1:17 to speak or act in an evasive way

1:21 Finally, in the third column practice using the new word in a sentence.

1:25 Here’s one:

1:26 The diplomat was a master of prevarication; he never said what he meant, and he hardly meant what he said.

1:34 Make the chart as long as you need it by adding additional pages to list all of the new words you encounter.

1:39 That’s it!

1:41 With a KIM Chart in your notebook, you’ll be ready to look up and add new words any time the need arises!

1:47 Click here for a KIM Chart template that you can download and take with you.

1:52 Thanks for listening to this instructional video on How to Make a KIM Chart!

1:57 Visit the Excelsior College Online Writing Lab for more support with reading and writing skills.

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