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Specialized Terminology

Specialized Terminology:

Unique words used by a specific subject or discipline

Every subject and discipline has its own unique vocabulary or set of words for talking about its topics. Specialized terminology is useful because it provides an effective way to communicate information within a particular field of study.

💡 It's Always a Good Idea to 💡 Look Up Specialized Terminology:

- In the body of the text
- In the glossary of key terms
- In a dictionary

Terminology Chart

New Terminology – Start with a section for new terminology. List the terms and their definitions.

Prefixes, Roots, & Suffixes – Then, list the word parts commonly found in the new terminology, along with their meanings, and an example for each, to help you to identify patterns.

Acronyms – Finally, create a section for frequently used acronyms. An acronym is an abbreviation formed from the initial letters of other words.

It's also a good idea to keep track of all the specialized terminology for a specific course, subject, or discipline by creating a Terminology Chart.

Sample Terminology Chart

New Terminology

Executive Branch – The branch of government charged with the execution and enforcement of laws and policies and the administration of public affairs

Legislative Branch – The branch of government having the power to make laws

Judicial Branch – The branch of government charged with the interpretation of laws and the administration of justice

Prefixes, Roots, & Suffixes

Prefix	Meaning	Example
Bi-	two	bicameral
Con-	with, jointly	consensus
Root	Meaning	Example
Jud	law	judgement
Poli	city	police
Suffix	Meaning	Example
-cracy	rule	democracy
-ial	relating to	judicial

Acronyms

FDA	Food and Drug Administration
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
DOD	Department of Defense