

Keyword Mnemonics Checklist

It can be difficult to remember all of the people, places, and concepts that are required to understand subjects like social studies and science. Keyword mnemonics is one strategy you can use to learn and remember new vocabulary words. Just like a key unlocks a door, a keyword unlocks the definition of an important vocabulary word.

The keyword mnemonics strategy has several important parts: a target vocabulary word, a keyword, a simple picture, a connecting phrase, and a plan. Use this checklist to ensure that you have a key that will unlock the correct definition of the target vocabulary word!

1. Target Vocabulary Word

___ Difficult to remember or use correctly

___ Important for understanding a specific topic or text

2. Keyword

___ Easy to visualize

___ Sounds similar to the target word

3. Picture

___ Easy to remember

___ Illustrates the keyword (**not** the target word)



4. Connecting Phrase

___ Connects the keyword and picture to the target word

___ Sounds similar to the target word

5. Plan

___ Explains how the keyword, picture, and connecting phrase will be used to remember the definition of the target word