At a Glance

- Developing general academic vocabulary students will encounter in school
- Developing vocabulary, such as new words, key terms, place names, etc.

Differentiated Instruction: Lesson 2

For struggling students, ask for a one-sentence definition of each word rather than a paper.

LESSON 1 SUPPORT FOR READING

Step-by-Step Strategy

1. Display the graphic organizer for students and enter the letter A in the corner box. Tell students to skim the chapter or selection and identify unfamiliar words that begin with the letter A.

2. Return to the graphic organizer and ask three volunteers to identify words for the three boxes across the top of the page.

3. Conduct a group brainstorming session in which students offer synonyms for each of the three words.

4. At the end of the group discussion, ask students to write a sentence defining one of the words they found when reading the assignment.

5. Have students use a Personal Thesaurus Diagram with other letters of the alphabet as they read additional chapters or selections.

LESSON 2 SUPPORT FOR WRITING

Step-by-Step Strategy

1. Before students read a chapter or selection, ask them to look for difficult words beginning with a particular letter—specify the letter based on the words you know they will find.

2. Using the graphic organizer, have students identify three words and then synonyms for each word.

3. Ask students to write a brief paper, giving them a choice of two or three topics related to the text.

4. Tell students that their papers must include at least two of the three words the class identified on the Personal Thesaurus Diagram.