TELPAS Alternate Glossary

This glossary explains how the following terms are used with respect to TELPAS Alternate.

Academic: *Academic* relates to ideas or language used on tests and assignments during instruction in reading, writing, science, and social studies. Examples of academic terms include, but are not limited to, *analyze*, *compare*, and *conclude*.

Attend to: This term refers to the ways a student shows active engagement with a task and a presenter. Examples include, but are not limited to, eye gaze, head turn, vocalization, gestures, and changes in facial expression.

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC): *AAC* refers to means other than traditional communication by which a student can share a spoken or written message with others. Examples include, but are not limited to, gestures, facial expressions, picture cards, picture boards, sign language, speech-generating devices, alternative pencils, print flip charts, switch-based output devices, and real objects.

Cloze: A cloze activity is a reading comprehension activity in which words are omitted from text and students are required to fill in the blanks.

Combined words: *Combined words* refers to two or more words, often from different parts of speech, that are meaningfully joined together (e.g., *new red book*, *big fast truck*).

Consistently: *Consistently*, when used to describe student behavior, means that the student almost always acts, behaves, or responds in the same way.

Content-based: *Content-based* can refer to instruction, vocabulary, discussion, or other academic tasks related to the content areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies.

Environmental print: This term refers to the printed text that students frequently encounter in everyday life, both inside and outside of the classroom. Examples include the print on signs, labels, logos, street signs, and food wrappers.

Gist: *Gist* refers to the general topic or basic idea of something said or written; it doesn't include all of the words, supporting ideas, or details.

High-frequency/high-need vocabulary: This term includes words that students encounter frequently and that are used regularly for instructional or personal needs (e.g., *book*, *cafeteria*, *teacher*). Emergent bilingual (EB) students can be helped to understand these words through content, gestures, and pictures.

Media presentation: A media presentation is a presentation that includes more than one medium, such as text, graphic, audio, visual, etc.

Onset and rime: *Onset* refers to the initial phonological unit of any word (e.g. *c* in *cat*), and *rime* refers to the string of letters that follow, usually a vowel and final consonants (e.g., *a* and *t* in *cat*).

Original message: An original message is a message that includes a combination of words put together by a student in a unique way. It may be prompted by a picture.

Predictable text: Predictable text repeats the same sentence pattern multiple times with minor (one or two) changes in each sentence, often represented by a picture. Each predictable text has a different pattern for the student to read.

Prompting: Prompting is action intended to initiate or continue a task that the student is being asked to complete. Prompting is not the same as leading, which is an action intended to get the student to respond in a specific way or with a specific answer.

Sight words: This term refers to words that a reader automatically recognizes without having to use picture clues or sound them out. Sight words are both common, frequently used words and foundational words that a student can use to build vocabulary.

Word families: Word families are groups of words with a common feature or pattern; these words contain some of the same combinations of letters and a similar sound (e.g., *brain*, *chain*, *gain*, *pain*).