

# 85 Lesson Launchers



Vocabulary  
Basics

**SAMPLE PAGE**

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# Introduction

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Walch Education's 85 Lesson Launchers series is a wonderful way to turn extra classroom minutes into valuable learning time. Use the 85 quick activities at the beginning of class to focus students on instruction; near the end of class to make good use of transitional time; in the middle of class to shift gears between lessons—or whenever you have minutes that now go unused.

85 Lesson Launchers are a natural lead-in to more in-depth activities.

85 Lesson Launchers are easy to use. Simply photocopy the day's activity and distribute it. Or, make a transparency of the activity and project it on the board. Use the activities for extra credit points or to check your students' skills as they are acquired and built over time.

85 Lesson Launchers are a convenient and useful supplement to your regular class lessons. Make every minute count!

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# Positive Action

**Verbs** are words that show action or state of being. The following verbs show action. The definitions involve growth or regaining something lost. These words all have a positive **connotation**, or feeling to them. Read the verbs in the box below. Then write a sentence for each word pair.

progress (v.)—to move forward  
expand (v.)—to open wide and unfold  
extend (v.)—to stretch or lengthen  
recover (v.)—to get back or regain  
reappear (v.)—to come into sight again

1. students/progress \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. balloons/expand \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. arms/extend \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. patients/recover \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. magician/reappear \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

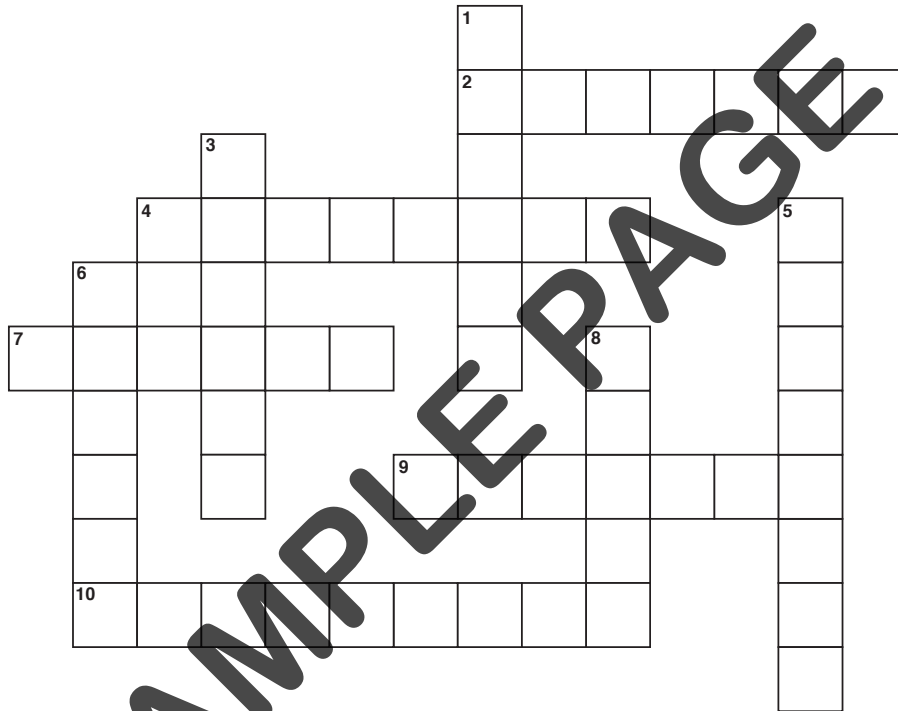
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# Making Progress

Match each clue with a vocabulary word from the box. Write the correct vocabulary word in the puzzle.

avoid	disregard	expand	progress	recover
detach	exhaust	extend	reappear	repeal



## Across

2. to tire out completely
4. to come into sight again
7. to open wide and unfold
9. to get back or regain
10. to pay no attention to

## Down

1. to do away with by legislative action
3. to separate from something else
5. to move forward
6. to lengthen
8. to keep or stay away from



# Groups Galore

To make communication easier, people often talk about people, animals, and things in groups. These groups are usually divided by what its members have in common. For example, a team is made up of people who play the same sport and have the same goal. Here are some other types of groups. Read the nouns in the box below. Then fill in each line with the word from the box that best completes the sentence.

species (*n.*)—a class of things of the same kind; a type

gender (*n.*)—a grouping and separation into usually two groups: masculine and feminine; sex

league (*n.*)—an association of people or groups with common interests or goals

unit (*n.*)—a single thing, person, or group forming part of a whole

cluster (*n.*)—a number of similar things growing, collected, or grouped closely together; a bunch

1. The words male and female identify \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Grapes grow on a vine in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Scientists have just found a new group of animals in the rain forest and are trying to determine its \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Both teams on the baseball field belong to the same \_\_\_\_\_.
5. These men served in the same army group \_\_\_\_\_.



# Keeping Order

These nouns express ways things are arranged. Read the nouns in the box below. Then write a sentence for each vocabulary word.

column (n.)—a verticle (up and down) list  
range (n.)—a series of things in a line; a variety of choices within a scale  
section (n.)—a part cut off or separated from  
cycle (n.)—a complete round or series  
layer (n.)—one thickness of something laid over another

1. column \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. range \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. section \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. cycle \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. layer \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# Good Qualities

These adjectives describe some positive character traits. Read the adjectives in the box below. Then name someone who you would describe with each adjective. Explain why the adjective applies to that person.

reliable (*adj.*)—dependable  
responsible (*adj.*)—trustworthy  
generous (*adj.*)—very giving  
reasonable (*adj.*)—not beyond what is usual or expected  
intelligent (*adj.*)—able to learn and understand

1. reliable \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. responsible \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. generous \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. reasonable \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. intelligent \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# What Kind of Able?

Each vocabulary word in the box has been made into an adjective by adding the suffix *-able*. A **suffix** is a group of letters that is added to the end of a word or word part to change its meaning. Read the adjectives in the box below. Then fill in each line with the word from the box that best completes the sentence.

acceptable (*adj.*)—worthy of being accepted, received, or agreed to  
comparable (*adj.*)—similar or about the same  
tolerable (*adj.*)—able to be tolerated or put up with  
dependable (*adj.*)—trustworthy; reliable  
favorable (*adj.*)—showing favor, liking, approval, or preference

1. I know John will show up on time. He is always \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The prices of these items are not the same, but they are \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I hope the new language arts teacher finds my work \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The critic liked the movie and wrote a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ review.
5. The long ride to visit my cousin is \_\_\_\_\_ because we have a great time together.

Now use two of the vocabulary words in sentences of your own.

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# Same and Different

List a synonym and an antonym for each vocabulary word.

Synonym

Antonym

1. pure

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. sane

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. decent

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. civil

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. neutral

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. familiar

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. pleasant

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. constructive

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

9. understood

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. encourage

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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# Which One Fits?

The dictionary is a useful tool for looking up words and their meanings. It also tells a word's part of speech (noun, verb, adjective, and so on).

Here is an example of a dictionary entry.

Example:

pen (n.) 1. a small writing instrument that uses ink 2. an author 3. a small fenced-in area for farm animals (v.) to compose or write

If the sentence is *The pigs were all safe in their pen*, then only definition 3 in the noun (n.) section fits. The following vocabulary words all have multiple meanings. Read the words in the box below. Then fill in both lines in each sentence with the same word from the box.

convention (n.)—1. a way of doing things that is generally accepted and followed  
2. a meeting of people gathered for a common purpose  
combine (v.)—to join together (n.)—a farm machine that harvests grain  
assemble (v.)—1. to meet in one place 2. to put parts together  
associate (v.)—to join or come together as partners, friends, or companions  
(n.)—a fellow worker or partner  
campaign (v.)—to take part in a series of activities meant to achieve a goal  
(n.)—military operations designed to achieve victory

1. I no longer \_\_\_\_\_ with him because he stole from the company when he was a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ is to use formal titles, but formality goes out the window at the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. After the \_\_\_\_\_ collects the grain, we will \_\_\_\_\_ wheat and barley to make bread.
4. We will \_\_\_\_\_ for more supplies before the soldiers' \_\_\_\_\_.
5. They will \_\_\_\_\_ in the gym to \_\_\_\_\_ the bikes.



# Reporting Live!

Imagine that you are a reporter. You have just learned about an important news story. Write a newspaper article on the lines below, using all ten of the words from the box.

investigate	innocent	proof	consequences	evidence
suspect	motive	confession	fugitive	defend

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# How Would You Feel?

Under each of the four situations listed below, write all words from the box that might link with that experience. You may use words more than once. Think of an additional word that fits each situation and add it to the list.

tragic	violence	crisis	despair	grief
tremble	miserable	dreadful	nausea	anxiety

1. a roller coaster ride

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2. a car accident

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3. someone's home burning down

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4. leaving for overnight camp

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