

Reading is fundamental. **Comprehension or understanding** is the key. Reading questions means nothing if students have **NO CLUE** what the question is asking them. In an effort to assist our students as they begin standardized testing, we are going to teach you 12 key words that are often used on these tests. Here are some examples of the importance of helping your student(s) learn these words.

1. If an item asks a student to **compare** objects, often the students tell how they are different. Their answer is going to be incorrect. To **compare** means students must **focus** on how the things **are alike or similar**.
2. If a student is asked to **infer**, the answer is **not found in the text**. The students must know that they should **look for clues** within the story to get the correct answer.
3. When items require students to **evaluate** to answer questions, they must understand that they must make a **judgement** based on the facts presented—much like inferring.

Larry Bell visited our school district on February 9, 2018 and gave teachers additional techniques in incorporating the twelve words into their lesson plans. Research has taught us that students often learn material long term when it is set to music. Please join a few of our JCHS students as they teach the 12 key words. You and your student(s) can sing this in the car on your way to school and their teachers will be incorporating the 12 words in their lesson plans. You can also find one of the words each day in our daily announcements. Lyrics are below, please sing along with us.

“12 WORDS!”

To **predict**, is what's next

To **support**, back it up

Then to **trace**, list the steps

To **explain**, to tell how

Analyze, break it down

Summarize, sum it up

To **infer**, between the lines

To **compare**, it's alike

Evaluate is to judge

To **contrast**, it is different

Formulate, to create

These 12 words, they are key

To **describe**, tell about

I'mma start over, sing them
with me