

# 8 TYPES OF DEFINITION DETAILS

---

**1** Authors sometimes print a simple definition to an unfamiliar term.

Among the corals, you'll also discover thousands of species of **invertebrates**—**animals without backbones**.

---

**2** Sometimes an author will restate the word in a simpler way.

My favorite color is **fuchsia**. **That's a fancy way of saying purple**.

---

**3** Explanations can come before or after the term.

But Ted wanted to be great. He wanted to hit a .400. He knew he wouldn't get a hit every time he got up to bat – no major leaguer has ever done that. In fact, major leaguers don't even get hits half the time they're at bat. **But getting a hit 40 percent of the time—batting .400**—Ted thought it might be possible.

---

**4** Some authors include a literal translation of the word's meaning.

Slugs, like snails, are **GASTROPODS** (gas-trah-pods), **which means "stomach-foot"** (although they don't digest with their feet).

---

**5** Authors may describe the purpose of something to make it more clear.

Unlike snails, which have a shell to duck into, slugs have only a **head-covering called a mantle, a loose flap of skin they can hide under if they get scared**.

---

**6** Authors include an example of the term to help to clarify meaning.

Some feared that it could be dangerous to object. **Vigilante groups, like the Ku Klux Klan**, reacted violently against those who tried to change the way blacks were treated.

---

**7** Authors often put related words/ideas in a series separated by commas. The recognizable words may be a clue as to the meaning of the unfamiliar word.

The four-sided shapes included **squares, rectangles, and rhombuses**.

---

**8** Authors might define a word by using an antonym in the same or nearby sentence.

Some senators offer only a **few words in support of an issue**, while others provide a **filibuster**.