

Charlotte's Web Micro-Structure Elements

Vocabulary:

Page 21: Linguistic Verbs to communicate tone of voice...suggested, yelled, cried, honked, said, called, screamed.

Page 97-99: The text focuses on vocabulary and "word fit". Templeton searched the dump for advertising material for a new word for Charlotte to write. He suggested "Crunchy" which Charlotte notes may make Zuckermann think of crisp, crunchy bacon and tasty ham. He suggested "pre-shrunk" but Charlotte vetoes it because she wants the Zuckermann's to think of Wilbur as "nicely filled out, not all shrunk up". The word "radiant" is a winner as Wilbur's actions prove on pages 100-101. The dialogue demonstrates the thinking that authors do about the words they use.

Page 144=145: Latin root of a word are explained. Charlotte, in creating her egg sac has termed it a magnum opus and noted that it means "great work" in Latin.

Page 116: The word "versatile" is explained through dialogue and contrasting.

Page 60-61: The word "sedentary" is explained through dialogue and example.

Sentence Development Exemplars:

Page 22: (Conjunctions and embedded clauses) He tried to follow the instructions his friends were giving him, but he couldn't run downhill and uphill at the same time, and he couldn't turn and twist when he was jumping and dancing, and he was crying so hard he could barely see anything that was happening.

Page 34: (Conjunction, relative clause, mental state verb) "He hated to break the lovely stillness of dawn by using his voice, but he couldn't think of any other way to locate the mysterious new friend who was nowhere to be seen."

Page 90 (embedded clauses; part of convincing/persuading through dialogue) "You'll worry all right on a zero morning next January when Wilbur is dead and nobody comes down here with a nice pail of warm slops to pour into the trough."

Page 87: Mental state verbs (noticed, thinks, "fallen for it" (believe), want, "dare say" (think); embedded clauses; perspective (a trick involves perspective taking).

"Now, all of you must have noticed what's been going on around here the last few days."

The message I wrote in my web, praising Wilbur, has been received.

The Zuckermans have fallen for it, and so has everybody else.

Zuckerman thinks Wilbur is an unusual pig, and therefore he won't want to kill him and eat him.

I dare say my trick will work and Wilbur's life can be saved."