Vocabulary Development - Prevoke (also known as Vocabogram)

Purpose:

Challenges students to use designated words from a text narrative or essay to sort into designated categories and to predict various aspects of the upcoming reading. Encourages prediction, an important aspect of proficient and engaged reading, as well as vocabulary development.

Procedures:

- 1. Select a text that you wish students to read. Identify 10–20 important words or short phrases from the text. Identify these words and phrases to students.
- 2. Choose categories into which you want to students to sort words (e.g. words related to plot, setting, tension of the story, characters, good words, bad words, descriptive and nondescriptive words, interesting words, essential and nonessential words, feeling words, nonfeeling words, etc.)
- 3. Introduce students to word set. Ask them to work in groups or alone in sorting the words into the categories you specific. Discuss the categorization when completed.
- 4. Once students have become familiar with the words and their meaning, through the categorization, have students make predictions about some aspect of the text to be read, or about the entire text. Share the predictions and explanations for the predictions.
- 5. Read the text to the students, or have them read it themselves. The predictions should act as purposeful questions that will engage students in making sense of the text.