

Verbs for “Says” *NONFICTION*

Reading Process: Read for Comprehension

Instructions: Use this verb list to help you talk about ideas in a text. Instead of using the word “says” or “said,” consider using the verbs below. For each word, there are alternatives that are similar in meaning.

challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none">● criticizes● questions	use this verb when explaining a speaker/writer’s concern with a particular group, idea, or belief.
claims <ul style="list-style-type: none">● argues● asserts● contends	use this verb when summarizing one or more positions held by a speaker/writer.
defines <ul style="list-style-type: none">● names● categorizes	use this verb when paraphrasing a speaker/writer’s definition or understanding of a word, concept, or idea.
explains <ul style="list-style-type: none">● states● lists	use this verb when summarizing a speaker/writer’s main ideas.
narrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">● describes● illustrates	Use this verb when describing a story told by a speaker/writer.
reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">● reviews● summarizes● states	use this verb when summarizing a speaker/writer’s research findings.

What are some other verbs you know or have learned during your discussions that you can use to replace “said”?
