

USING DEFINITIONS IN ACADEMIC WRITING

- Used to provide comprehension for a term that the audience may not be familiar with.
- Used when a term has multiple layers to understand it fully.

Definition Techniques

The technique that a writer will choose depends on the paper's goal and the audience.

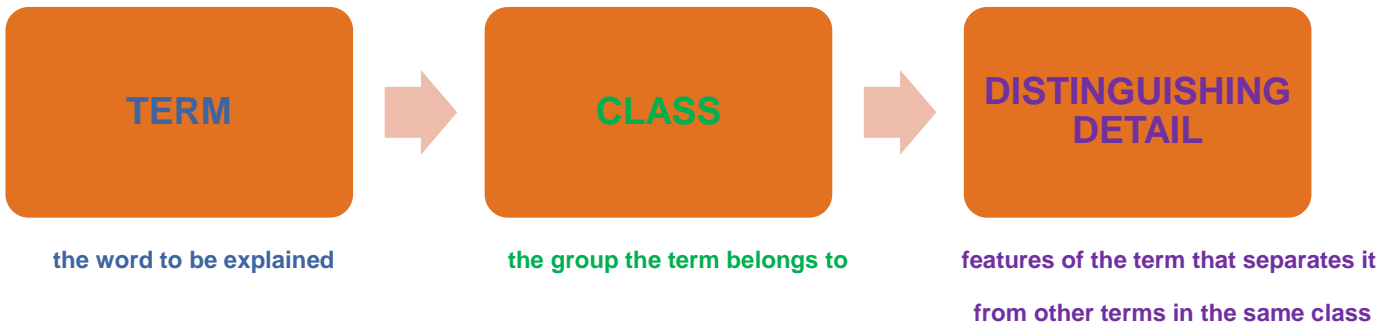
1. Gloss (short definition)
 - Details about a term may be located within parentheses or commas.
 - Details may be presented using transition signals such as *e.g.* or *i.e.*
 - Details may be presented with specific phrases (*known as*, *defined as*, *called*).
 - ***Music@Harbourside Park (festival) occurs on Fridays during the summer.***
2. Formal Sentence Definition
 - Concise definition and look like a definition found in a dictionary.
 - ***A music festival is an event where people assemble to celebrate and share music.***
3. Extended Definition (long definition)
 - Details are presented in a group of sentences, thus providing a lot of details about the term.
 - ***A music festival is an event where people assemble to celebrate and share music. Spectators gather around to listen to the musicians. Food, drink, and merchandise are often available to the public.***

Vocabulary used in Definitions

<i>name</i>	limited to the term itself
<i>denote</i>	used with notation
<i>call</i>	present new information
<i>known as</i>	uncommon for definitions
<i>define</i>	used with detailed definitions and when a word can be explained numerous ways
<i>refer</i>	used with terminology explanations



Formal Sentence Definition



- *A music festival is **an event** where people assemble to celebrate and share music.*
- *A university is **an institution** that provides academic instruction.*
- *Music@Harbourside is **the festival** that occurs on Fridays during the summer.*

NOTE:

- **a, an** – classifies the term and does not refer to a particular group.
- **the** – identifies the term showing that there has been previous discussion

Extended Definition

- It is an expansion of ideas through as many sentences as needed following the formal sentence definition, demonstrating knowledge of the term.
 - Types, applications, history, or examples can be included in the expansion.
- *A music festival is an event where people assemble to celebrate and share music. Spectators gather around to listen to the musicians. Food, drink, and merchandise are often available to the public.*
 - *Music@Harbourside is the festival that occurs on Fridays at lunchtime during the summer. It features styles such as folk, rock, pop, traditional and country. Every lunchtime performance begins with a youth performer.*

REFERENCES

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- Recreation and Culture (2022). *Music@Concert Series*. City of St. John's. Retrieved July 25, 2023, from <https://www.stjohns.ca/en/recreation-culture/music--concert-series.aspx>

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