Stop is a word we use everyday that has multiple meanings. Just as the word stop has multiple meanings in our everyday lives, the word also contains the same complexity within the stories and books students encounter on a regular basis.

Stop can be used both as a noun and a verb. For example, students may read stories that follow a character on a journey. The character may make a stop for a few days and rest in a foreign place. Here, stop is used as a noun. Students may also encounter stories about detectives who stop people to ask them question about a mysterious crime. In this case, stop is a verb. Another common use of the word stop in literature is when a character prevents, or stops, another character from doing something. This use of the word is also a verb.

Follow Up
- What is the difference between stopping after being in motion (like in a car) and stopping as in to stay in a location for a period of time (like a vacation)?
- When you stop to talk to a friend are you trying to prevent them from going somewhere or doing something, or are you asking them a question?

The Spanish Connection
The word stop originates from the Middle Dutch and Middle Low German word stoppen, meaning to plug up or close. Parar and detener are two Spanish verbs that encompass many of the English definitions of the word stop. These words are not cognates of the word stop; however, many synonyms of stop have Spanish cognates. For example, a synonym for stop, as in to close off an opening, is block. The Spanish cognate for block is bloquear.

Word Changes
The idiom “to pull out all the stops” means to make all possible efforts to successfully reach the indented outcome. You would not guess that the definition of stop in this case means to close off an opening, but the origin of this saying is linked to the construction of organs, a musical instrument. The sound of an organ is produced as wind passes through large pipes. Stops are used to control what tones are played. Pulling out all the stops in an organ allows all tones to be played at once. When a person is pulling out all the stops, they are trying to make a big impression with lots of details.
Stop

Stop as in to make someone or something not move after having been moving (verb)
- obstruct
- prevent
- block
- arrest
- check
- impede

Stop as in to not move after having been moving (verb)
- pause
- halt
- break

Stop as in to put an end to an action or activity (verb)
- cease
- conclude
- end
- finish
- terminate
- prevent
- restrain
- prohibit
- impede

Stop as in an event coming to an end (noun)
- end
- ceasing
- stint
- cessation

Stop as in to not do something you had been doing before (verb)
- cease
- discontinue
- quite

Stop as something that hinders motion or activity (noun)
- obstacle
- impediment
- stoppage

Stop as in the state of inactivity following an interruption (noun)
- stay
- halt
- check
- arrest

Stop as in to close off an opening (verb)
- plug
- obstruct
- choke
- clog
- block

Stop as in a pause or trailing off in speech (noun)
- pause

COMMON PHRASES
- Breaking off
- Trailing off
- Stop and go
- To put a stop to
- Stop in
- Stop off
- Stop over

IDIOMS
- Pull out all the stops
- To let up
- Call it quits
- To sign off
- Pull the plug
- To pack in/up

SPANISH CONNECTIONS
- pause / pausa
- obstruct / obstruir
- cease / cesar
- terminate / terminar
- prevent / prevenir
- impediment / impedimento
- prohibit / prohibir
- block / bloquear

www.textproject.org/s4

v.1.0 © 2015 TextProject, Inc. Some rights reserved (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/us/).
Stop as in a halt in journey (noun)

Stop as in to not move after having been moving (verb)

Stop as in to make someone or something not move after having been moving (verb)

Stop as in to put an end to an action or activity (verb)

Stop as in in the state of inactivity following an interruption (noun)

Stop as in to not do something you had been doing before (verb)

Stop as something that hinders motion or activity (noun)

Stop as in an event coming to an end (noun)

Stop as in to close off an opening (verb)

Stop as in a pause or trailing off in speech (noun)

COMMON PHRASES

SPANISH CONNECTION

IDIOMS
Inflected Endings
- stops
- stopped
- stopping
- stopper

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- stoppable
- stoppage
- unstop
- unstopable

Compound Words
- doorstop
- stopwatch
- shortstop

Morphological Family for Stop

^n Stop used as a noun
^v Stop used as a verb
Stop

Morphological Family for Stop

Inflected Endings

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes

Compound Words

\n\n\n\n^ Stop used as a noun
\n\nv Stop used as a verb