Listen focus heed overhear "listen in on" listene

Talk chat gossip speak whisper discuss/*discu*

Look see stare peek watch search "look forw

Walk prowl tread dash stroll "on foot" adva

Write jot compose draft scrawl author "dro

Check confirm probe s ment/*docu*

Ask request de vite petiti

Learn und quire rea

Attentive ale athetic/*s*

Quiet placid uffled h

Loud noisy gar " strider

Good fine decent o goo

Bad unruly deprav *ior* dr

Change mutate subst ange

Finish end complete "ca push through

Want demand covet de waste not want no

Fast speedy sudden on the fast track" rapid/*rapido* e

Slow protracted "slow lane" sluggish calm careful rel

Happy delighted blissful fortuitous/*fortuito(a)* glad l

Sad sorrow pathetic "sadder but wiser" melancholy/

Right confirm exact/*exacto* true appropriate "right

Said proclaimed whispered "easier said than done"

Think ponder reckon analyze/*analizar* consider be

Give transfer bestow "what gives?" provide secret

Teach explain educate/*educar* info in t inat

More extra supplementary/*suplementaria(a)* the

Less few "less is more" miniscule/*minúsculo(a)* so

Time eternity whenever awhile moment duration/

Imagine conjecture brainstorm "use your imagination

Focus concentrate/*concentrar* "out of focus" direct foca

Find locate reveal "finders keepers" bargain innovation

Show display "s

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

8:00
9:00
10:00
11:00
12:00
1:00
2:00
3:00
4:00
5:00

Written by
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TextProject

textproject.org

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

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TextProject, Inc.

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TextProject, Inc.
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA

Contents

Introduction

VOCABULARY IS A FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT OF COMPREHENDING TEXT. It is also basic to knowledge acquisition in any topic. Without a rich vocabulary, individuals are limited in their participation in the workplace and their communities.

Teachers agree that vocabulary is critical but, in an already overcrowded school curriculum, fitting in even more vocabulary instruction can be a challenge. Teachers, however, do not have to feel pressured or disheartened because there is a source for vocabulary learning that often is underused—the daily events of classroom life. Language is the tool that is employed throughout the day. Thousands of words are spoken each day during classes. As teachers, we control the language of the classroom. When teachers use and support rich vocabulary in the course of everyday events, students have opportunities to strengthen and expand their facility with words. While vocabulary lessons are also important, the richness of everyday talk in the classroom can go a long way to developing strong vocabularies among students.

What Vocabulary Proficiencies Can Be Enhanced Through Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events?

The fundamental aim of *EXCEPTIONAL EXPRESSIONS FOR EVERYDAY EVENTS* or *E4* is to support students in becoming curious about and aware of the richness of language. What makes language both useful and intriguing are the many relationships among words and the interconnections of words to ideas. Human experience is complex, and word choices can be critical in helping people better convey new concepts or subtle differences in meaning. A broader vocabulary naturally allows improved understanding of an increasingly complicated world.

E4 is aimed at offering students "the gift of words," to use the metaphor of Scott, Skobel, and Wells (2008). Following are some of the ways in which even quite ordinary words can be interrelated and complex, and which are highlighted in *E4*.

Polysemy or multiple meanings

Often, the most common words in a language have multiple meanings, a feature that is called polysemy ("many meanings"). A good example of this is the word **set**, which in the *Oxford Unabridged Dictionary* has 464 definitions. That is an unusually high number, but quite a few everyday words (e.g., **find**, **change**, **good**) have a surprising number of nuanced, or distinct, meanings.

Multiple parts of speech

When a word takes on a different meaning, it often becomes a different part of speech as well. For example, some definitions of the word **set** are verbs, as in **set an example** or **set the vase down**. In other situations, **set** is a noun, as in **a set of dishes** or **a TV set**.

Synonyms

Words may be clustered in groups by their meanings. Consider the word **good** as an adjective that means **pleasant** or **fine**. A search in a thesaurus produces some of the members of the word cluster for **good**: **acceptable**, **commendable**, **pleasing**, **gratifying**, **satisfactory**, **marvelous**, **splendid**, **wonderful**. In *E4*, we use the term synonym to describe words that have similar meanings, not necessarily the identical meaning. This distinction is very important for teachers and students to recognize, because it is learning how to use the words within a cluster that brings precision to thinking, writing, and oral expression. Words such as **acceptable** and **marvelous** have a related meaning but not the same meaning. The words within a semantic or word cluster share a general meaning but differ in intensity and specificity. By focusing on words within clusters, *E4* supports students in recognizing the elaborate networks and relationships among words.

Word origins (Morphology)

English words come primarily from two sources: Anglo-Saxon/Germanic or Romance/French. These origins are important to know as they influence the ways in which words are extended. Examples of words with Anglo-Saxon and Romance origins in the table below illustrate how words with these two different etymologies act:

TABLE 1

Examples of Generation of English Words of Anglo-Saxon and Romance Origins

	Anglo-Saxon	Romance
Word	check	verify
Word Formation	checkmark checkbook raincheck	verification verifiability verifiableness verifiable verifier nonverifiable preverify preverified reverify unverifiability unverifiable

There are some prefixes and suffixes used with Anglo-Saxon words but these are usually quite simple (e.g., *un-* in *unchecked* or *a-* in *asleep*). The primary way in which new words are formed in Germanic languages is by combining words into compound words. As an Anglo-Saxon/Germanic language, English has numerous compound words (although proficient English speakers are so accustomed to these words that they are often unaware of them). A few of the thousands of compound words in English include *cowboy*, *doghouse*, *greenhouse*, *into*, *playground*, *neckline*, *seaweed*, *tiptoe*, and *timetable*.

By contrast, the Romance words in English use a great many affixes, including several affixes simultaneously (e.g., *verifiableness*). Romance words are used in compound phrases such as "scientific method" but Romance words themselves are never joined together as a compound word.

Knowing how words with the two primary historical origins of English behave is an aid to vocabulary proficiency. As the example of *verify* illustrates, recognizing one Romance word will often assist in grasping the meanings of an extensive group of words.

Other morphological features

One feature of English morphology that was not discussed in the previous section has to do with inflected endings and comparatives. Words from both Anglo-Saxon and Romance language origins add *-s*, *-ed*, and *-ing* to root words (although sometimes these endings have unique spellings). One morphological cluster that is unique to the Anglo-Saxon words are comparatives such as *happy*, *happier*, *happiest* and *fast*, *faster*, *fastest*.

Uncovering for children the first level of morphology—inflected endings and comparatives—should happen in the primary grades. Making compound words explicit is also important. Words such as *haircut* and *hairbrush* make sense. Many compound words, however, fall into another category—word idioms. Why are there cowboys and cattlemen but not cowmen or cattleboys? Some language developments can't be explained but, overall, there tends to be a sense of the original meanings of both words within a compound word.

As students move through elementary school, increasing attention is given to words of Romance origins with closely related meanings. For example, students may examine similarities and differences among words that share the root *facile*—such as *facilitate*, *facilitation*, *facilitator*.

Phrases and idioms

We have emphasized idioms, common phrases, and popular or famous quotations in each of the *E4* lessons. The phrases "ask someone out" and "speak outside" have very different meanings, but are clear to most fluent speakers of English. Learning groups of words that typically are associated with one another is an aspect of vocabulary instruction that is often forgotten but critical for students, especially non-native speakers of English.

The words in phrases have at least some direct association with the meaning of the group of words. In idioms, the meanings of individual word and the group of words are more indirect and often seem far-fetched and even silly. For example, when someone is described as having "put all his eggs in one basket," the meaning will not be obvious on first hearing or reading. The idioms of a cultural group are many. While the idioms that are provided in *E4* are not the current ones of sub-groups such as teenagers (or teenagers who are also surfers, a sub-group within a sub-group), the inclusion of idioms will give students a sense of the inventiveness of daily language. For non-native speakers of English who have idioms in their own languages, awareness of this critical aspect of language will go a long way to increasing their vocabulary prowess.

Key quotations revolving around a word or concept are also included in *E4*. A quotation like, "Ask me no questions, and I'll tell you no lies," may baffle a person hearing it for the first time. Becoming facile with phrases, idioms, and quotations can be one of the hardest aspects of language learning for non-native speakers of a language since they form a type of "private" language within a language. Developing sensitivity to such expressions is a critical part of vocabulary development and instruction.

How Can E4 be Used in a Classroom?

E4 is intended to give teachers examples of the richness available in their classrooms on a daily basis. That is the fundamental aim of the material in the 32 lessons that follow. We talked with thousands of teachers across the country who were intrigued with the idea of enhancing their everyday classroom talk. They requested more background and ideas, which *E4* provides.

As we identified words for these lessons, we encountered much potential grist for instruction. Our hope is that *E4* ratchets up the level of language use in classrooms, inspiring teachers to be more aware of their own vocabulary and to promote students' curiosity about and use of words. Rather than being an added obligation or burden for teachers, our content is intended to be supportive, illustrative, and a source of encouragement.

We see at least three possible approaches to using the *E4* lessons. (Each successive level would include the previous level.)

Level 1: Weekly focus word and its word cluster

At the most basic level, we encourage teachers to pick one word per week to emphasize as part of everyday events. The teacher could develop a word map of the different synonyms for the focus word. Reminders and discussions about this weekly focus cluster could occur during the many transition in a school day such as getting organized for a task and moving around the school for different activities.

We have provided blank forms on which students can record information about the words. Students might note the number of times they use the focus

word in and out of the class-room, or they could record when they hear synonyms of the focus word. Teachers might encourage students to develop their own systems for keeping track of new words or of new meanings for words they already know.

A school principal might suggest that the whole school share a weekly focus word. Some schools have even chosen to put words from the weekly cluster on the school announcement board (e.g., **commendable**, **gratifying**, **congenial**, **recherché**, **stupendous**).

Moreover, once a word has been "used," it should not disappear. A display of learned words from previous weeks can be kept visible in the classroom on chart paper or a white board. Teachers could encourage students to add to the word cluster over the course of a school year. The photo above comes from a fourth-grade classroom where students added word cards with synonyms. The goal is for daily classroom language use to be rich and enriching.

Level 2: Using the weekly focus word for a lesson on a word feature

Vocabulary expansion involves learning the underlying systems of words, not simply the specific words. This approach is a primary focus of *E4*. According to the British National Word Corpus, there are approximately 750,000 words in English (Leech, Rayson, & Wilson, 2001). Many of these words either are archaic words (e.g., **firkin**, **prithee**) or share a root word with a group of words (e.g., **adapt**, **adapting**, **adapted**, **adaptation**, **adaptations**, **adaptively**). But even if about half the words are eliminated as archaic or morphologically "redundant," 325,000 words still constitute quite a large group. If schools used a "word a day" approach for each of the 180 days of a school year to teach these 325,000 words, students would need 1,806 years to cover all the words! All the while, even more new words would be entering the language. In 2010, the *Oxford English Dictionary* added new words such as **overleveraged** (having taken on too much debt) and **defriend** (removing someone from a list of friends or contacts on a social networking site).

Fortunately, as we have pointed out, words can be taught in clusters or networks. In *E4*, however, but we are emphasizing more than that. The aim of *E4* is to support students in understanding the underlying systems or features of vocabulary—those characteristics we described above:

- Polysemy or multiple meanings
- Multiple parts of speech
- Synonyms
- Word origins (Morphology)
- Other morphological features
- Phrases and idioms

Teachers could conduct a weekly lesson on a particular feature using the information that students captured about the weekly focus word. In these discussions, we encourage teachers to provide students with statements that summarize the features. The following chart provides short reminders that teachers can use with students for review.

Word Reminders™

Word Networks: Words are part of families or networks. When you learn the members of word families or networks, your vocabulary grows.

Synonyms: Often, the meanings of words are connected to the meanings of other words. Many new words in books have meanings that are close to those of words you already know.

Morphology: Many words belong to families of words that have the same root words and meanings.

Multiple Meanings: Often, the same word has different meanings and uses.

Phrases: When a word is part of a compound word or a phrase, its meaning can change.

Word Origins: Many words in English came from French. French has a close connection to Spanish. The French/Spanish connection can often give clues about an English word's meaning.

Level 3: Using everyday words for intensive word study

We have provided a substantial amount of information about word features in each lesson to aid in intensive word study. We provide guidelines for the selection of words and for the focus of the lessons, but the particular direction of a lesson is left to the discretion of the teacher. We stress that these lessons do not need to be long. We recommend short but consistent lessons, with appropriate discussions and repetitions of the Word Reminders. Consistent and short is better than infrequent and long.

Selection of words. The choice of which words and which features of words to emphasize in a lesson will depend on the levels of the students. While Romance words will be more appropriate for middle graders (i.e., third through fifth graders) than for K–2 students, we do recommend choosing words that give students insights into several of the features of words simultaneously.

Word features are listed in Table 1. Since the words have been chosen to emphasize their semantic richness, attending to synonyms will be a part of any lesson. But other features from the list in Table 1 can also be developed.

For middle graders, words such as ***imagine***, ***focus***, or ***attentive*** are particularly appropriate since these words come from the Romance layer of English. As such, they are members of morphological families that are relatively large. Thus, in addition to the semantic links that these words have to synonyms, students can learn and review how Romance-based words are generated. These three words also have clear Spanish cognates that permit students who are native Spanish speakers to understand the strong foundation that they have in academic and literary English. These links to Spanish are also useful for native speakers of English and speakers of non-Spanish languages because they help uncover basic underlying features of our language.

For K–2 students, words such as ***happy*** and ***sad*** or ***quiet*** and ***loud*** might be combined in a compare/contrast mode. Illustrating the ways in which words add endings (e.g., happier, happiest) could also be included in a lesson.

Applying words. Students should be provided ample opportunity to employ words in different situations, such as in writing, in a discussion, or in some form of word play. These techniques are much better for helping children own a word, in comparison to merely listening to a teacher-led question-and-answer session. Here are some of our favorite word-learning strategies:

• *Word lines:* Students order a group of words based on a dimension such as intensity. For example, how might the following words be placed on this line from ***ask*** to ***interrogate***?

<div style="text-align:center">question, inquire, interview, quiz, probe</div>

ask   **interrogate**

• *Can you draw it?* For students to draw images of words that are nouns is relatively easy. Drawing words that are verbs can be harder, but students could be encouraged to make drawings of people engaged in particular actions (e.g., lumbering). The products that we've seen from students for words such as ***courageous*** (e.g., a picture of a fireman) and even words such as ***resilient*** (a picture of a hard hat) indicate that students can often be more inventive than adults in extending their knowledge of words.

• *Describe it in a sentence:* Margaret McKeown (1993) described the need for "child-friendly" definitions. Who better than a child to define a word in a friendly fashion? McKeown cautions, however, that a frequent ploy on the part of children (college students, too!) is to take the path of least resistance, as in: ***A majordomo is a person.*** While it is true that a majordomo is a person, what is unique about a majordomo goes beyond his or her humanness. Students should be encouraged to extend their definitions so that others understand the essence of the word, e.g., ***I would love to have a majordomo in my home to make certain we have good meals and that everyone gets to school and work on time.***

References

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Scott, J.A., Skobel, B., & Wells, J. (2008). *The word-conscious classroom: Building the vocabulary readers and writers need.* New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc.

Listen

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

An everyday event in classrooms revolves around listening—listening to peers, teachers, CDs, DVDs, announcements on the school sound system, and so on. Listening is an integral part of learning.

Listen is typically used as a verb. For example, teachers may ask students to listen carefully to a guest speaker. In this instance, *listen* is used as "to hear attentively." Another use of the word *listen* can be exemplified by a student complaining to a friend or teacher that someone isn't listening to what is being said. In this instance, *listen* is used to describe the act of paying attention. This second use of *listen* is as a command as when someone says, "Listen! It's important to hear the announcement."

Although *listen* is commonly used as a verb, *listen* can also be used as a noun. A person can ask that someone give an idea or a song a listen. In this case, *listen* is used to describe trying something out by listening to it.

Follow-Ups

- How is listening different from hearing?

- How might vigilant listening differ from observant listening? Listening circumspectly and listening respectfully?

- What are some things we can do to help others listen to our ideas?

The Spanish Connection

Listen comes from an Old English word that was spoken in the northern region of the British Isles—*lysna*. The Spanish word that means *to listen* is *escuchar*. *Lysna* and *escuchar* are not cognates. None of the synonyms for *listen* have Spanish cognates.

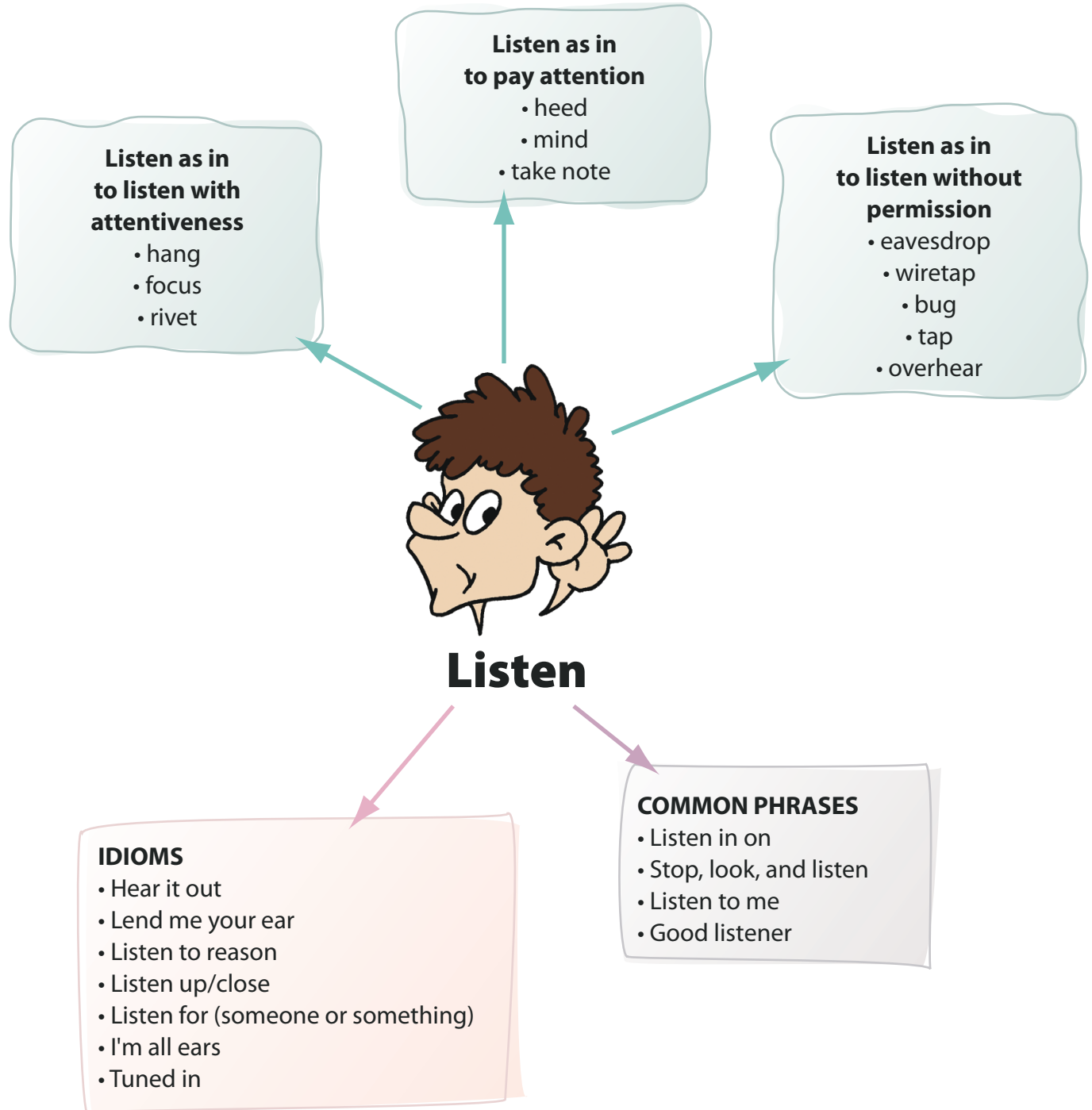## Word Changes

- The idiom "lend me your ears" comes from Shakespeare's JULIUS CAESAR. The meaning of the idiom is to ask people to listen to what is about to be said. The idea is that the speaker wants the listener's undivided attention and is asking for the listener's metaphorical ears.
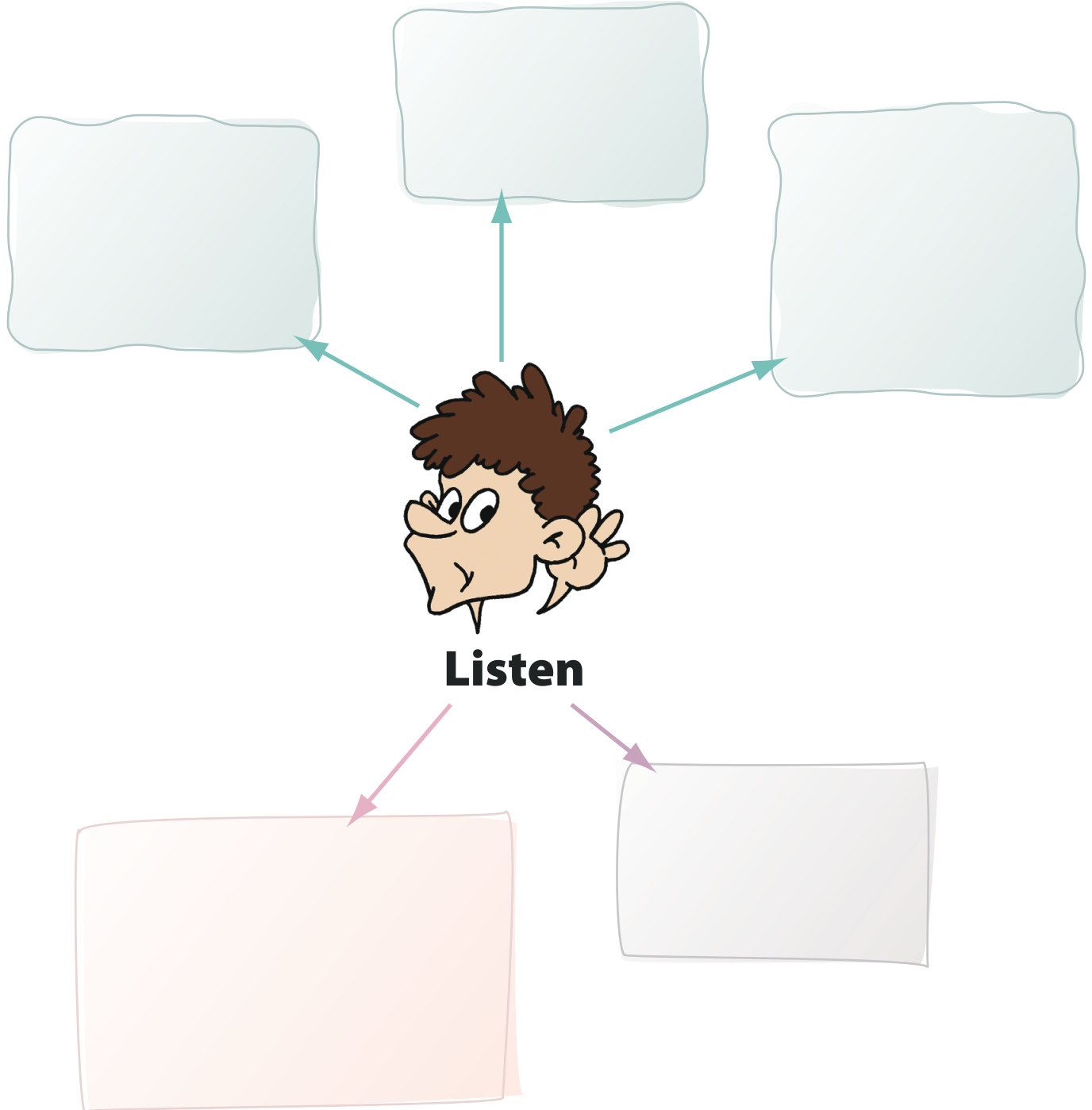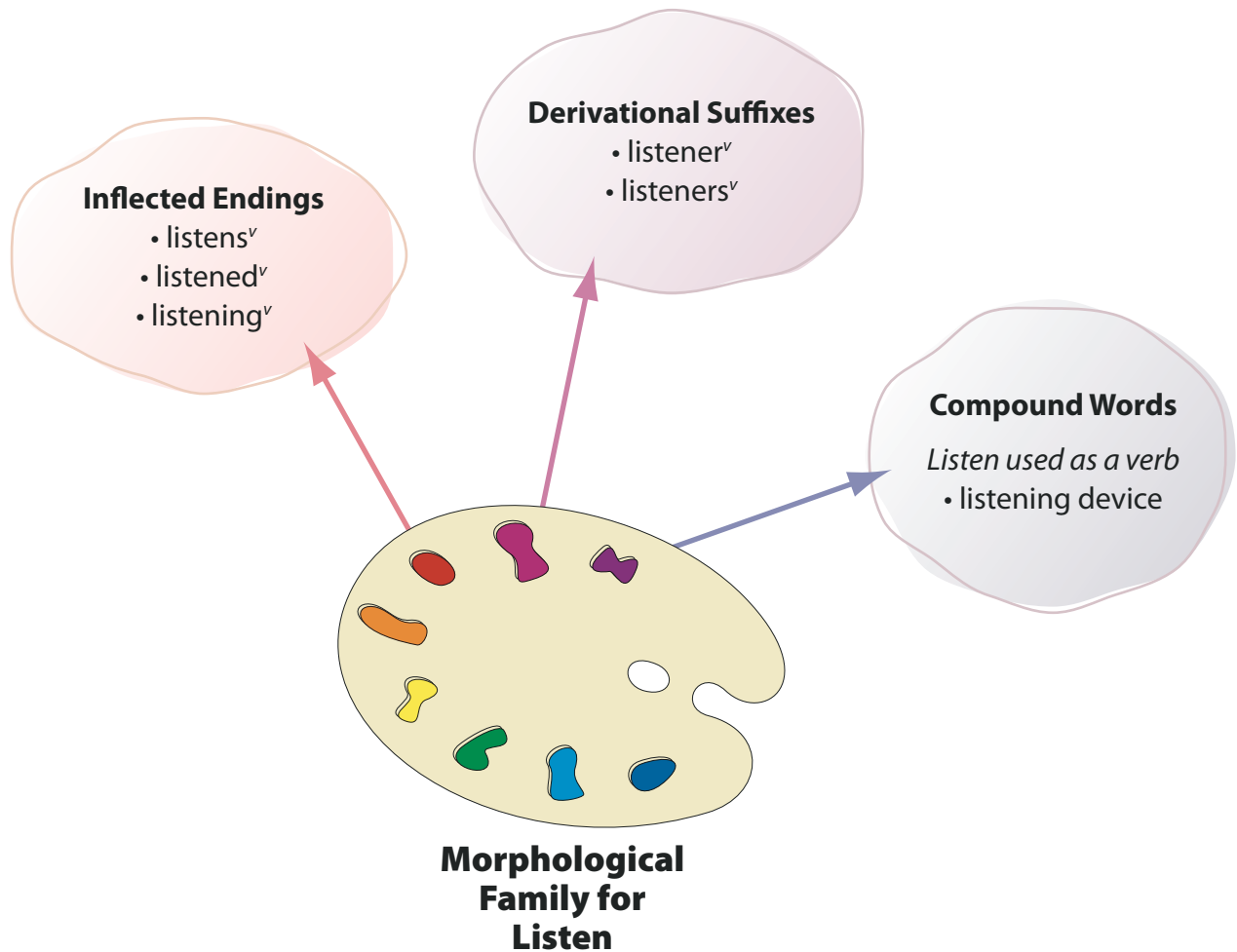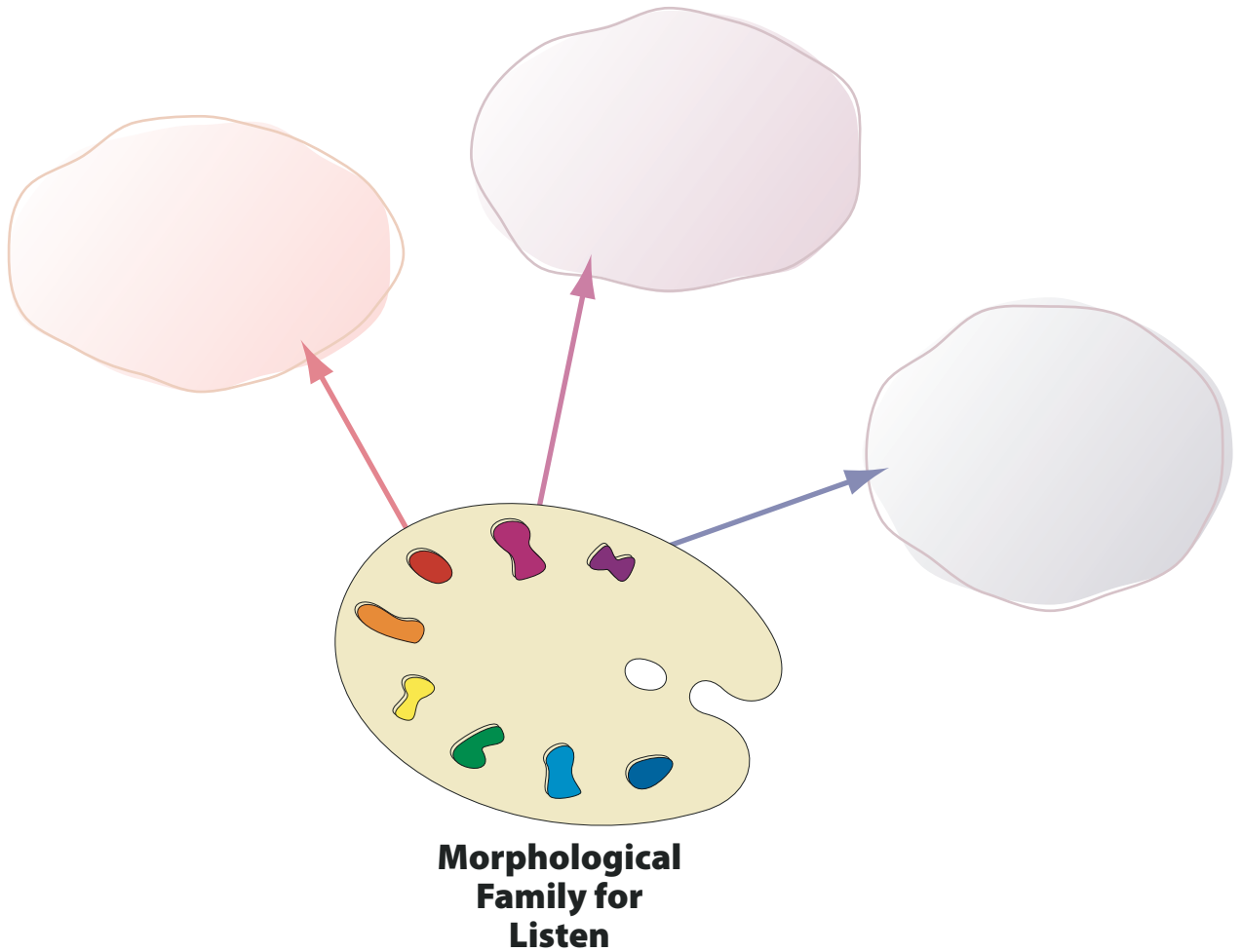
Listen

Listen as in to pay attention
- heed
- mind
- take note

Listen as in to listen with attentiveness
- hang
- focus
- rivet

Listen as in to listen without permission
- eavesdrop
- wiretap
- bug
- tap
- overhear

Listen

IDIOMS
- Hear it out
- Lend me your ear
- Listen to reason
- Listen up/close
- Listen for (someone or something)
- I'm all ears
- Tuned in

COMMON PHRASES
- Listen in on
- Stop, look, and listen
- Listen to me
- Good listener

Listen

Exceptional
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Events™

Tuesday 17

Listen

Listen

Exceptional
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Inflected Endings
- listens[v]
- listened[v]
- listening[v]

Derivational Suffixes
- listener[v]
- listeners[v]

Compound Words

Listen used as a verb
- listening device

Morphological Family for Listen

[v] Listen used as a verb

www.textproject.org/e4

Listen

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

8:00
9:00
10:00
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4:00
5:00

**Morphological
Family for
Listen**

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Talk

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

Talking is, of course, a ubiquitous human activity. In schools, students talk to one another in the classroom, on the playground, or in the lunchroom. Teachers talk to give instruction or to counsel students. Students talk to teachers to respond to questions or to express a concern. Describing different types of talking is one way to bring exceptional expressions into everyday events.

The word **talk** can be used as a verb as well as a noun. **To talk** is to communicate verbally, through speaking rather than writing. Since the way we talk carries with it our emotions and goals, spoken communication can take many forms. Shouting, whispering, and preaching convey very different attitudes on the part of the speaker, which in turn will affect the reactions of those who hear what is said.

Talk as a noun is the act of verbally communicating. A teacher can have a talk with his or her students about bullying. As with the verb **talk**, there are a variety of synonyms for the noun **talk**. For example, a teacher can have a serious discussion or conversation about bullying.

Follow-Ups

- How is articulating different from talking?

- How might a discussion be different from an utterance? A speech?

The Spanish Connection

Talk comes from a Middle English word, *talkien* or *talken*. The Spanish word for **to talk** is *hablar*. *Hablar* is not a Spanish cognate of **to talk**.

Word Changes

- Some synonyms of **talk** are also used as both verbs and nouns, for example, **chat**, **lecture**, and **gossip**.

- Many of the idioms and common phrases for **talk** incorporate the mannerism and intent of the speaker. For example, a person who "talks big" is someone who is boasting. "To talk in circles" is to repeat the same idea in a different manner that reveals nothing new and may even confuse the listener.

Talk

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Talk as in to speak casually (verb)

- chat/chatter
- scuttlebutt
- gossip
- comment
- smooze
- mention
- say
- utter
- remark

Talk as in to speak (verb)

- speak
- verbalize
- converse
- vocalize
- articulate
- communicate
- confer
- dialogue

Talk as in to speak in a specific way (verb)

- whisper
- flirt
- snap
- shout
- yell
- orate
- lecture
- pontificate
- address
- drone
- stammer
- bark
- slur
- bay
- jabber
- chant
- preach
- boast
- debate
- enunciate
- pronounce
- question
- ask
- declare

Talk as in a conversation (noun)

- conversation
- chat
- discussion
- slang
- dialogue
- chatter
- lecture
- address
- speech
- meeting
- conference
- summit
- utterance
- gossip
- comment
- debate

Talk

COMMON PHRASES

- Talk to me
- Talk back
- Talk over
- We need to talk

THE SPANISH CONNECTION

- conversation / conversación
- discussion / discusión
- to discuss / discutir
- dialogue / diálogo
- to have a dialogue / dialogar
- comment / comentario
- to comment / comentar
- to mention / mencionar
- to verbalize / verbalizar
- to converse / conversar
- to communicate / comunicar
- communication / comunicación
- pronounce / pronunciar
- to debate / debatir
- debate / debate
- enunciate / enunciar
- pronounce / pronunciar
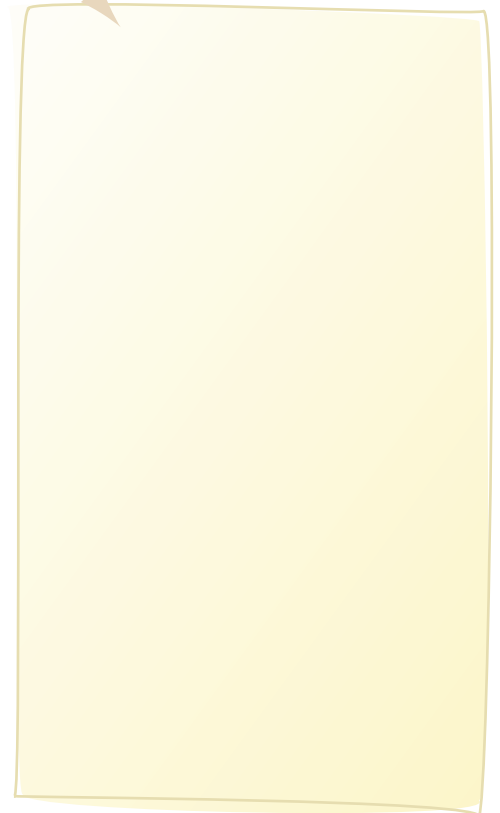- declare / declarar

IDIOMS

- Talk a mile a minute
- Spit it out
- Talk big
- Talk sense
- Dance around the topic
- Speak up
- Talk it up
- Talk down
- Talk is cheap
- Talk it over
- Talking to a brick wall
- Talk of the town
- Small talk
- Speak of the devil
- Sweet talk
- Talk your ear off
- Talk in circles/riddles
- Talk shop
- Walk the talk
- Talk your way out of a paper bag
- Talk until your blue in the face
- You're a fine one to talk
- Shooting the breeze

Talk

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Talk

Talk

Derivational Suffixes
- talker^v
- talkative^v

Inflected Endings
- talks^{n,v}
- talked^v
- talking^v

Compound Words

Talk used as a noun
- pep talk
- sweet talk

Talk used as a verb
- fast talker
- talk show
- walkie-talkie
- talking point
- small talk
- crosstalk
- talking head
- baby talk

Morphological Family for Talk
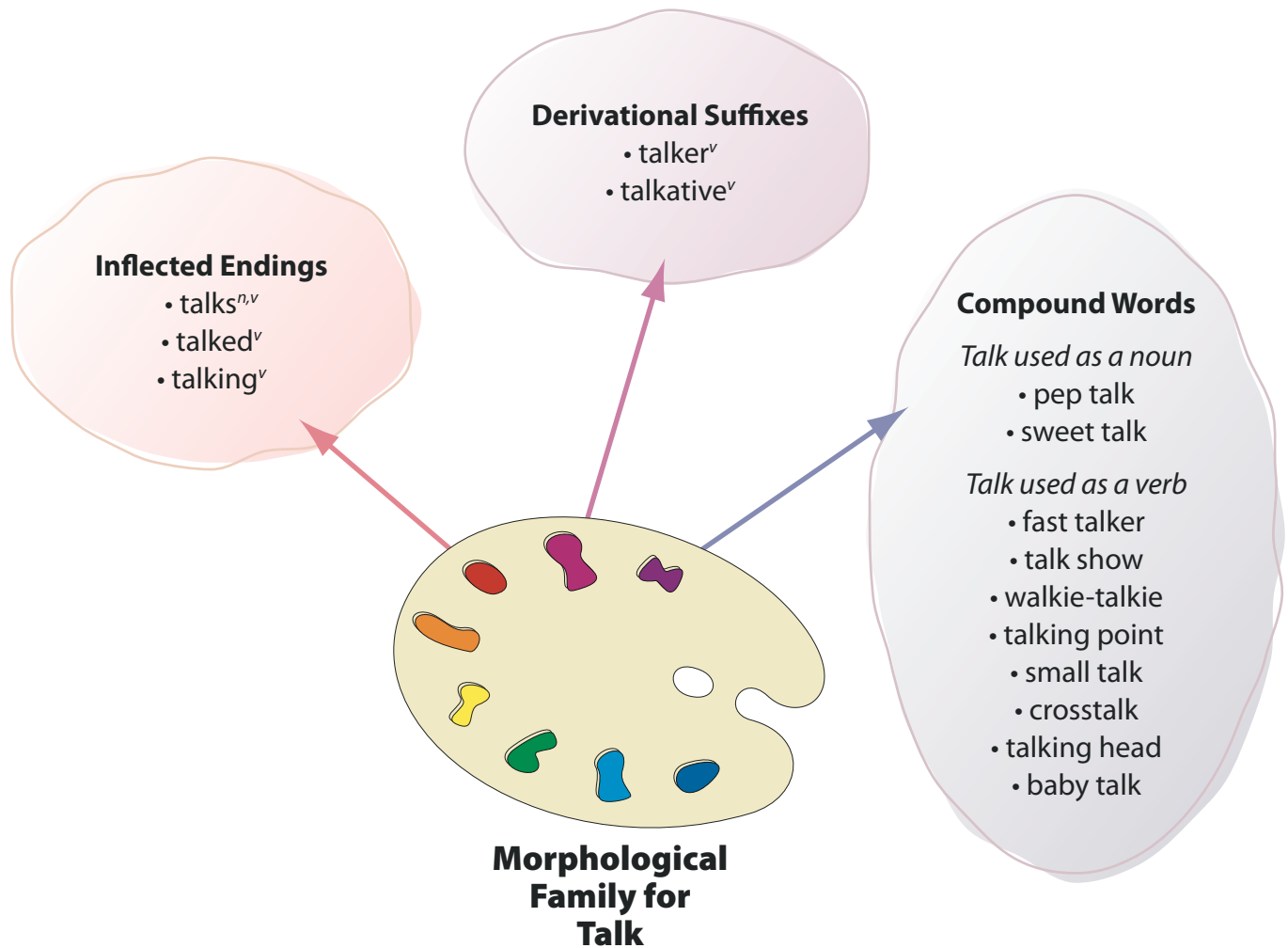
^{n} Talk used as a noun
^{v} Talk used as a verb

Talk

Tuesday 17

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8:00
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**Morphological
Family for
Talk**
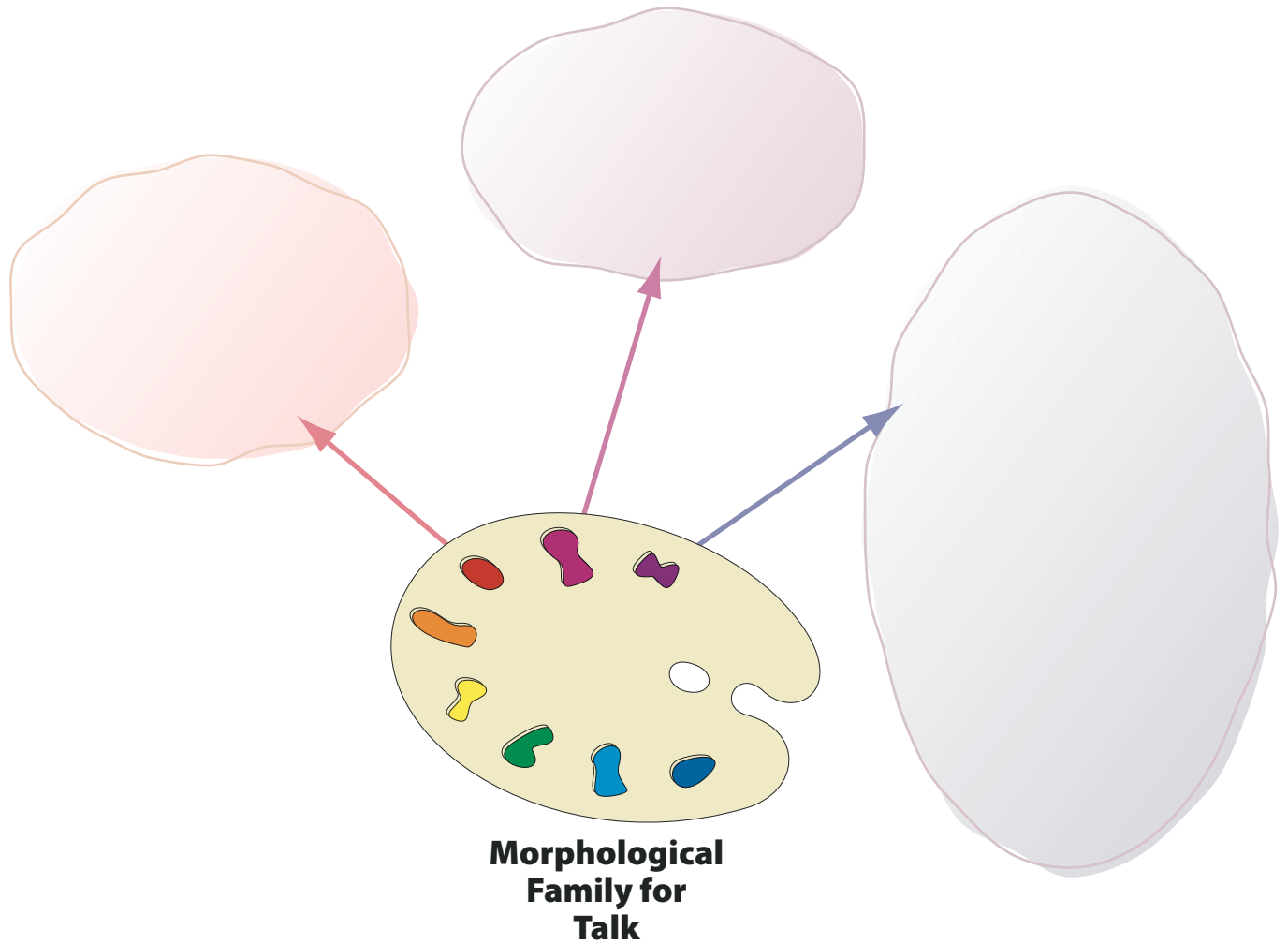
Look

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

There are all sorts of looking that takes place over a school day. Students look up when there is a loud noise, they look out of the window, and they look for their books when it's time to change subjects.

Look can be used as both a verb and noun. The most common use of *to look* is the process of using the eyes to see something. However, there are several other common uses for *to look*.

Look can also be used as a noun. For example, a teacher may ask to take a look at a student's assignment.

Follow-Ups

- What is the difference between staring and glancing at a book?

- Would you imagine or observe a science experiment unfold?

- How is glancing at a book different than browsing a book?

- What does it mean to rubberneck or gawk?

The Spanish Connection

The word *look* is an Old English word *lócian*. The Spanish word for to look is *mirar*. *Look* and *mirar* are not cognates. However, some synonyms for look have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- The different ways a person can *look* at something are also reflected in many different idioms and common phrases. A person who is complacent about something is "looking the other way." A person who is being optimistic is "looking on the bright side." Someone who looks great "looks a million bucks."

Look

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Look as in to look quickly
- peek
- peep
- glimpse
- glance
- glint
- browse
- scan
- skim

Look as in to see
- see
- view
- witness
- view
- spy

Look as in to observe
- watch
- notice
- follow
- note
- observe
- peer

Look as in to search for something
- search
- find
- seek
- hunt
- forage

Look as in to look for a long time
- stare
- glare
- glower
- gaze
- gawk
- rubberneck
- leer
- ogle
- gape
- watch

Look as in to imagine
- picture
- visualize
- envision
- imagine

Look as in to look critically
- examine
- inspect

Look

IDIOMS
- Look out
- Look after
- Look a gift horse in the mouth
- Look alive/sharp
- Look down (one's) nose at/on
- Look forward to
- Look in on
- Look the other way
- Look up to
- Look on the bright side
- Things are looking up
- Look what the cat dragged in!
- Look who's talking!
- Looking for a needle in a haystack
- Look like a million dollars
- If looks could kill
- Look good on paper
- Look high and low
- By the looks of it
- Look me in the eye/face
- Once over
- Eyeball it

COMMON PHRASES
- Look after
- Look around
- Look at
- Look back
- Look down
- Look for
- look forward
- Look into
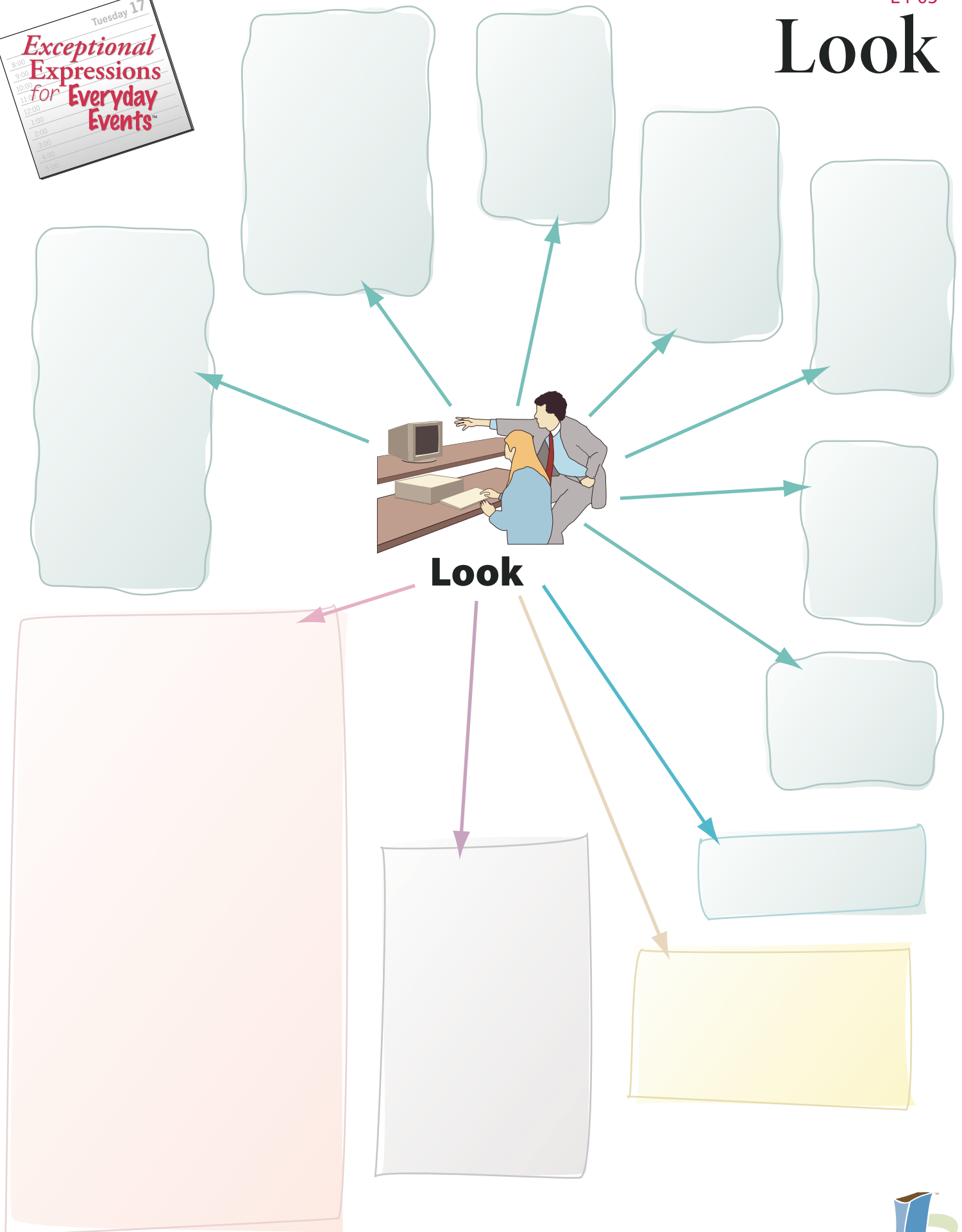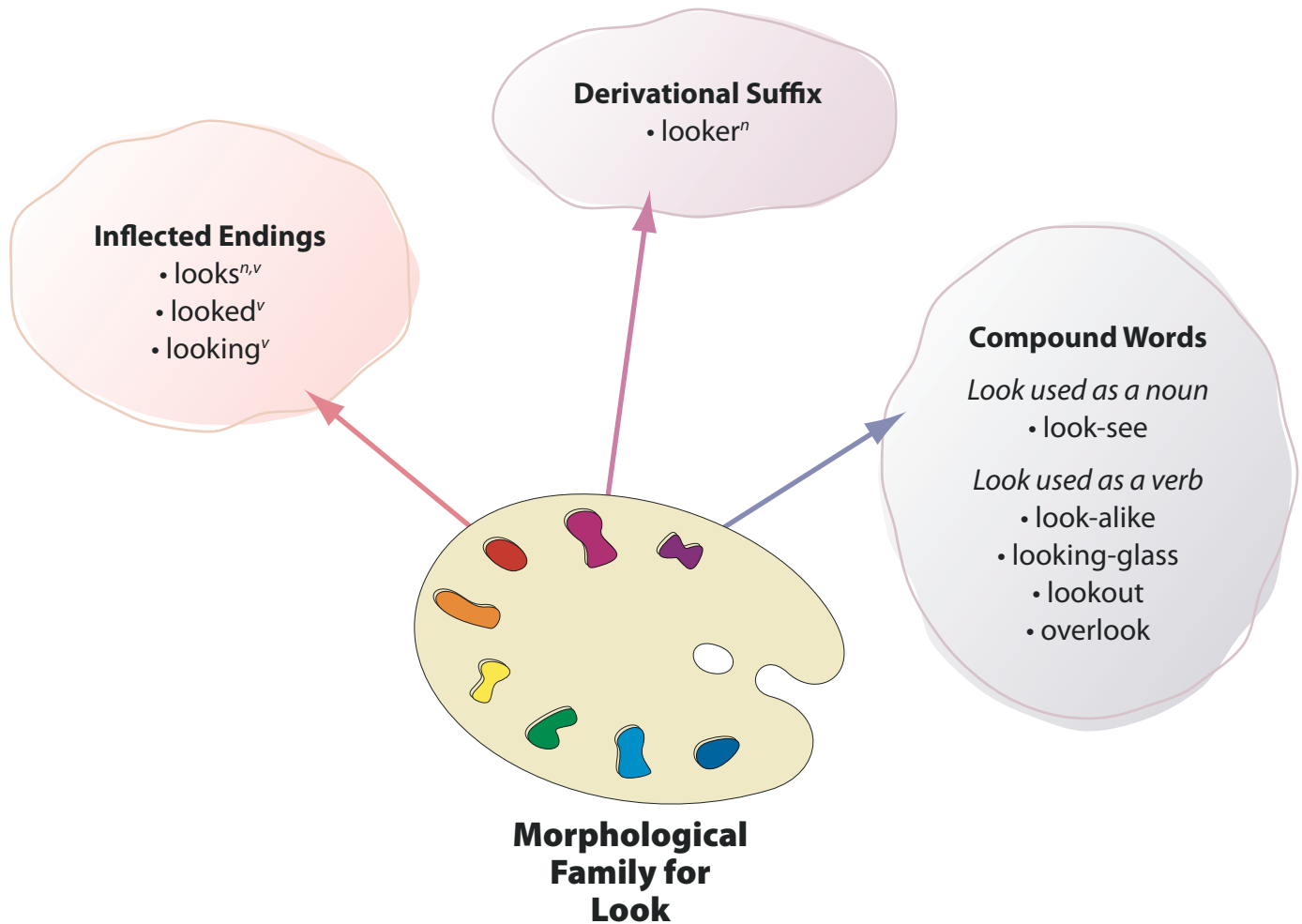- Look over
- Look through
- Look up

PROVERB
"Look before you leap."

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to examine / examinar
- to observe / observar
- to visualize / visualizar
- to imagine / imaginar

Look

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Look

Exceptional
Expressions
for **Everyday**
Events™

Look

Derivational Suffix
- looker^n

Inflected Endings
- looks^{n,v}
- looked^v
- looking^v

Compound Words

Look used as a noun
- look-see

Look used as a verb
- look-alike
- looking-glass
- lookout
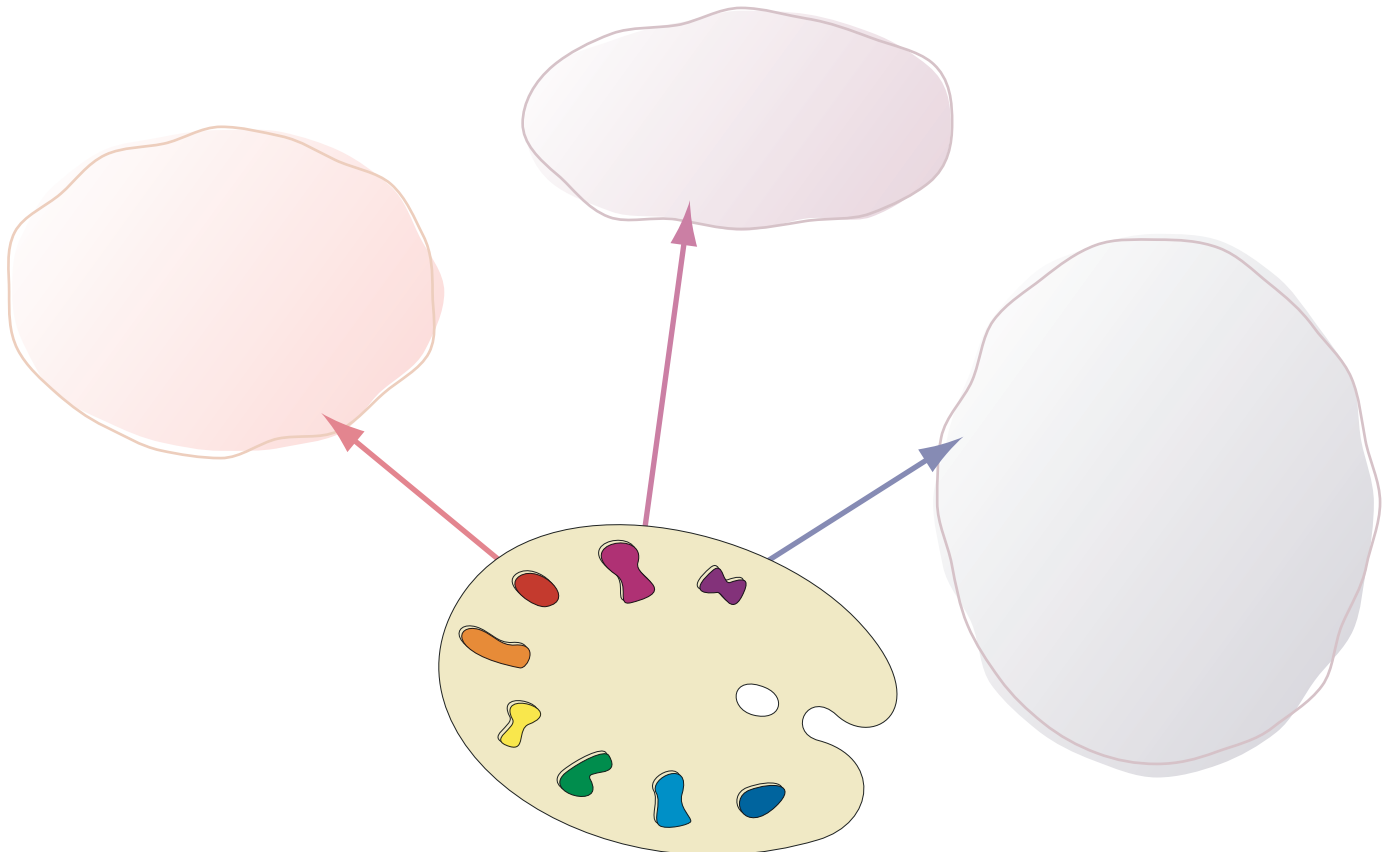- overlook

**Morphological
Family for
Look**

^{n} Look used as a noun
^{v} Look used as a verb

Look

**Morphological
Family for
Look**

Walk

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

The way we move our body as we walk can convey emotion and meaning. Students who are tired from activities on the playground may walk slowly into the classroom. Students who have argued with one another on the playground may walk in an agitated fashion.

Encourage students to recognize the different ways in which people can walk. One way to understand the distinctions in movement is for students to "practice" walking in particular ways. For example, while plodding and strolling are both slow, the two ways of moving have distinctions.

Follow-Ups

- How might a person walk if he/she was trying to be quiet?

- Someone who is skipping may be feeling happy. How would you describe someone who is shuffling along?

- If people have an injured leg, would they be hobbling or stomping?

The Spanish Connection

The word **walk** is a merging of two different Old English words that are cognates of the Middle Dutch word *walken*. The Spanish word for **to walk** is *caminar*. **Walk** and *caminar* are not cognates. However, some of the synonyms for walk do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- **Walk** can be used as a verb and as a noun. As a verb, **walk** is one of the ways people move on land.

- **Walk** can also be used as a noun. As a noun, **walk** is often used to describe a path or a place where people can walk on, or the act of walking.

- Interesting thing to note is that some synonyms of the verb **walk** are also synonyms of the noun **walk**. For example, a person can stroll through a park, or they can take a stroll through a park.

- Don't forget **walk**, used as a noun and a verb, also has a particular meaning in baseball!

- "To hoof it" is to walk. This idiom comes from the fact animals do not drive a car or a boat, ride a bike, or fly a plane as a mode of transportation.

- "To walk the plank" is to move slowly from a place of safety to a place that you don't wish to go. For example, Sally walked to the principal's office like she was walking the plank. It comes from the days when pirates forced prisoners or people to walk the plank so that they would fall to their death into the sea.

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Walk

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Walk as in to walk with purpose
- tread
- step
- march
- advance
- trample
- stomp
- prance
- strut
- swagger

Walk as in to walk hurridly
- dash
- dart
- scamper
- skip
- run
- stride

Walk as in to walk slowly
- pace
- plodding
- stroll
- mosey
- amble

Walk as in to walk in a specific manner
- wade
- weaving
- waddle
- wobble
- falter
- stumble
- saunter
- toddle
- plod
- lumber
- hike
- traipse
- moonwalk
- sleepwalk

Walk as in to walk quietly or secretively
- prowl
- tiptoe
- creep
- stalk
- scurry
- skulk
- slink

Walk as in to walk with injury
- hobble
- limp
- shuffle

Walk

IDIOMS
- Walk a mile in my shoes
- On foot
- Hoof it
- Walk of life
- Walk away from
- Walk off/away with
- Walk on air
- Walk out on
- Walk (someone) through
- Walk the plank
- Walk it off
- Take a hike
- Go the extra mile
- Walk a thin line
- Walk a tightrope
- Walking on ice
- Walk and chew gum at the same time
- Walk on eggshells
- Walk on water

COMMON PHRASES
- Walk out
- Walk over
- Walk through
- Tread carefully/softly

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to march / marchar
- to advance / avanzar

PROVERB
"We must learn to walk before we can run."

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E4-04

Walk

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Walk

Walk

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Events™

Tuesday 17

Inflected Endings
- walks^{n,v}
- walked^{v}
- walking^{v}

Derivational Suffix
- walker^{v}

Compound Words

Walk used as a verb
- walking shoes
- walking stick
- walkway
- walkie-talkie
- sleepwalk
- moonwalk
- sidewalk
- jaywalk
- jaywalking
- jaywalker
- crosswalk

**Morphological
Family for
Walk**

^{n} Walk used as a noun
^{v} Walk used as a verb

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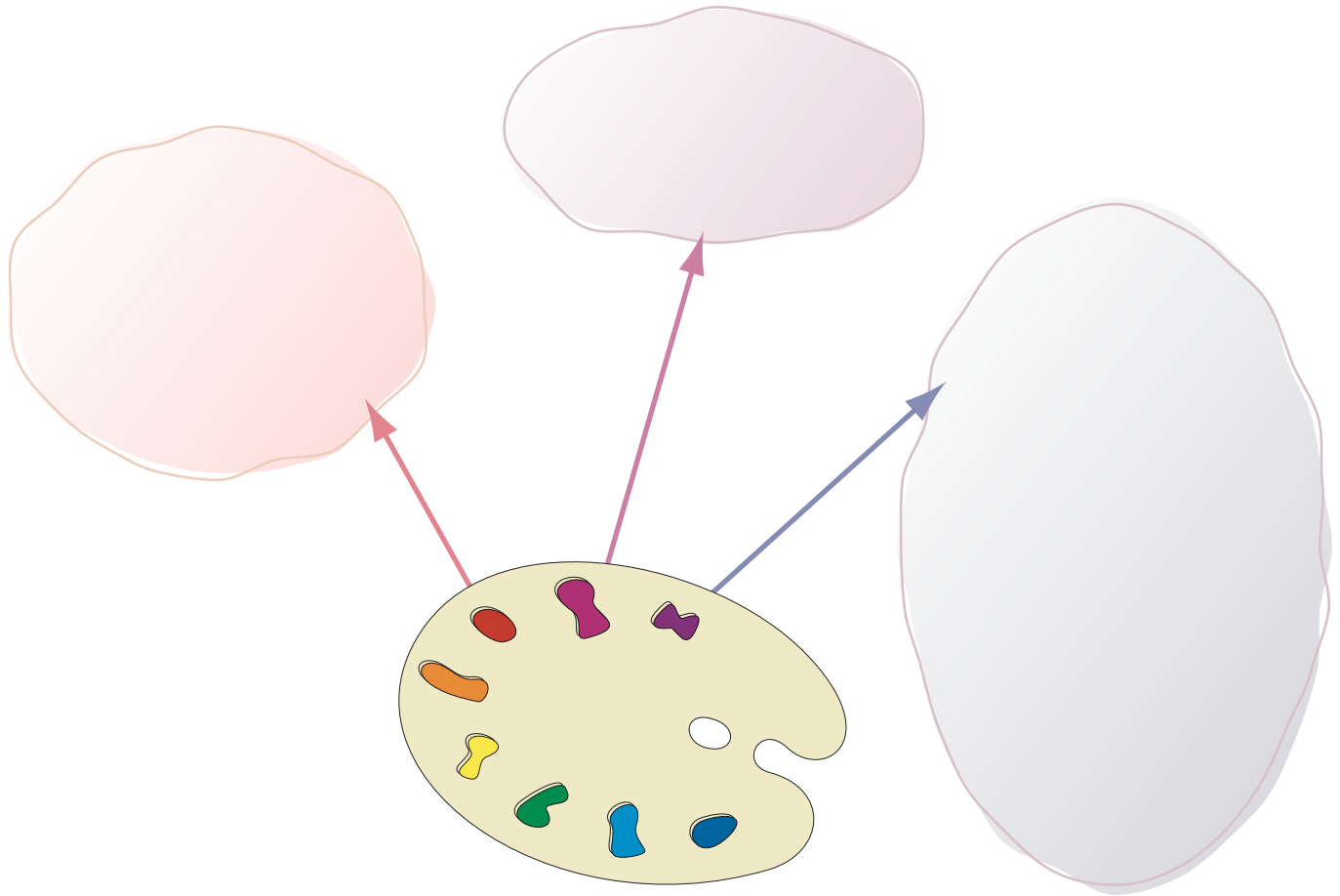
Walk

**Morphological
Family for
Walk**

Write

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Writing is a form of communication that people use everyday. It can be as simple as jotting down a list of groceries, or it can be as complex as producing a research paper. Writing can also be as full of emotions as a love letter.

In a classroom, students have many opportunities to write. Students can write in their notebooks about a science experiment, or they can write on a computer a class report about Ancient Egypt. Look at the different ways people can write. Encourage students to use a new word everyday.

Follow-Ups

- If someone is in a hurry, would he or she: (a) scribble a note or (b) compose a message?

- How is typing different from writing?

- Is signing a note the same as drafting a note?

- When might someone engrave a message rather than write a note?

- Would someone pencil in a report on the Rocky Mountains or would someone compose the report?

- At what time might you want to jot something down?

The Spanish Connection

The word **write** comes from an Old English word, *writan*. *Writan* came from an Old Frisian word, *writa*, that means "to score, write." The Spanish word for **to write** is *escribir*. Write is not a cognate of *escribir*, however, *escribir* comes from the Latin word *scribere*. It is suggested that the word **scribe** came from the Latin word *scribere*. One definition of **scribe** is a person whose official duty is to write or record text. **Scribe** is also the root for words such as **describe**, **inscribe**, and **prescribe**. The definitions of these three words are tied to writing or communication through words. *Scribere* is also the origin of the words **scribble** and **scrabble**.

Word Changes

- **Write** is most commonly used as a verb.

- There are nouns derived from the word **write**, such as **writing** (a written work) and **writ** (a type of legal document).

- The surface or the device used for writing might be associated with specific words. For example, when people use a computer to write a report they are typing the report, or a writer may pen a letter.

Write

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Write as in to write using a device that makes the text permanent
- inscribe
- carve
- engrave

Write as in to write music
- record
- compose
- arrange

Write as in to write literature
- pen
- draft
- author
- draft
- publish
- outline

Write as in to write quickly
- jot
- note
- drop a line
- scribble
- scrabble
- annotate
- scrawl
- pencil

Write with the use of a specific device
- type
- text
- chat

Write as in to carefully form the letters
- letter
- print
- handwrite

Write

Write as in to write your name
- sign
- autograph

COMMON PHRASES
- Write up
- Write in
- Write out
- Write back

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to inscribe / inscribir
- to autograph / autografiar
- to annotate / anotar
- to publish / publicar

IDIOMS
- Nothing to write home about
- Write one's ticket
- Write something on the back of a postage stamp
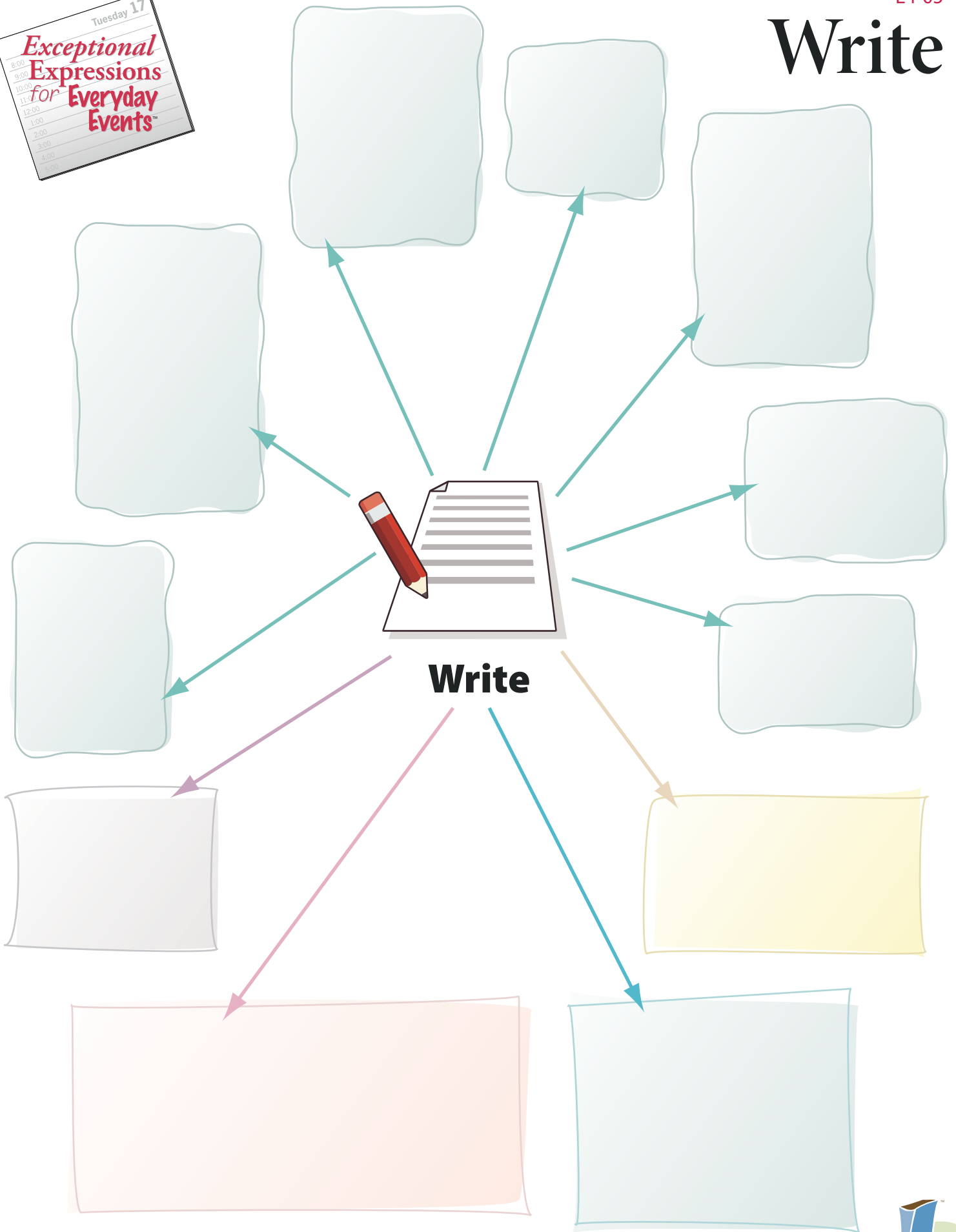- Write (someone/something) off
- Drop a line
- Pencil in

SAME SOUND, DIFFERENT SPELLINGS write, right, & wright
Wright is an old word for worker. It is rarely used by itself but it is used in words such as playwright (someone who writes plays).

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Write

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Write

Write

Derivational Suffixes & Prefixes
- writer
- writers
- written
- unwritten
- rewrite
- rewrites
- rewriting

Compound Words
- write-in
- write-off
- write-up
- write out
- write down
- writer's block
- handwriting
- typewriter
- songwriter
- typewitten
- copy writer
- ghostwriter
- underwritten
- skywriting

Inflected Endings
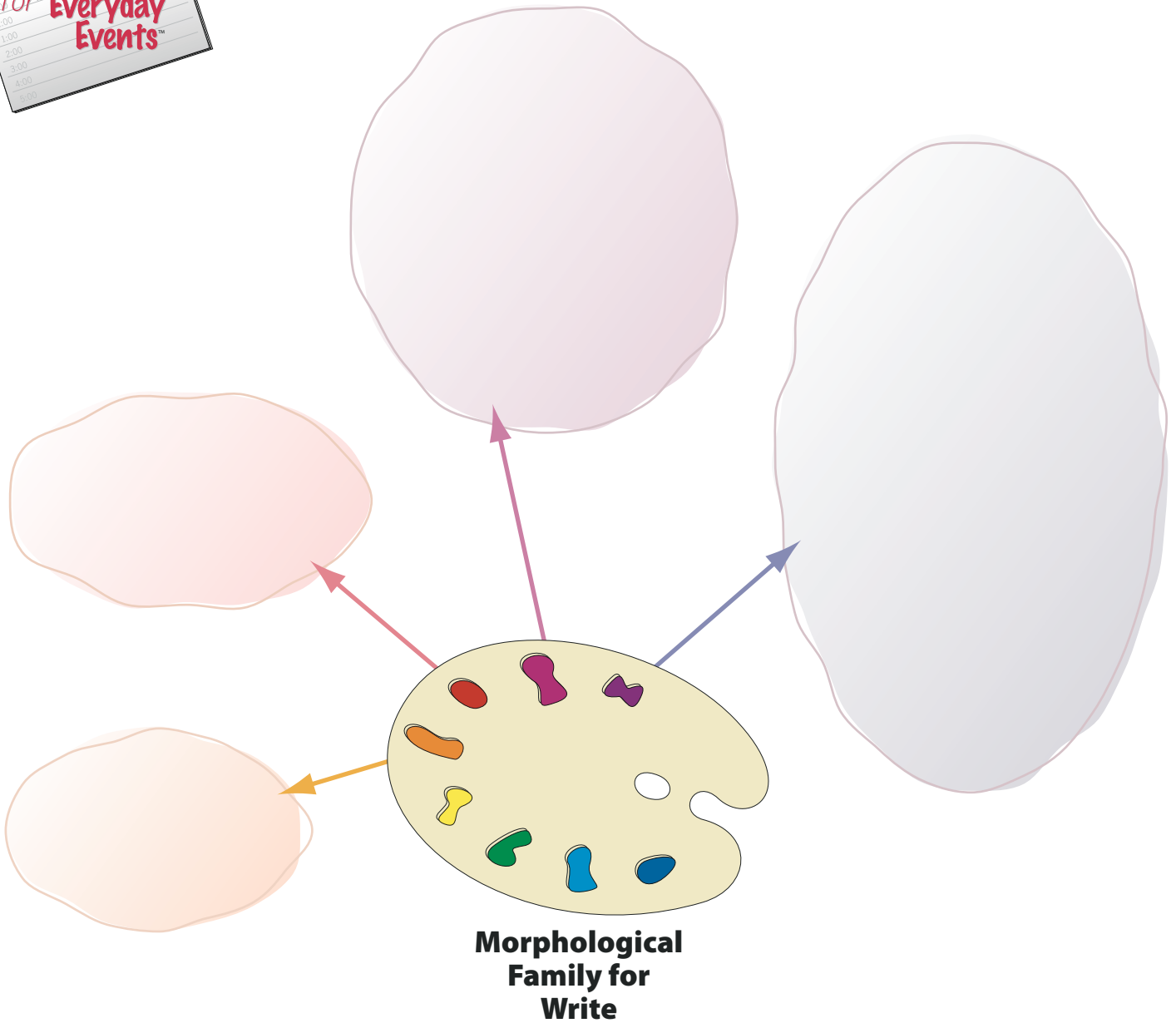- writes
- writing

Irregular Spelling
- wrote

Morphological Family for Write

Write

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17
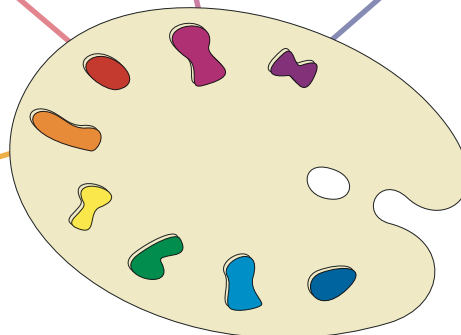
Morphological Family for Write

Check

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Many words can communicate more precisely the kinds of activities in which students engage. In a classroom, *check* is often used to mean confirm or verify. *Check* can also be used in the sense of testing something.

A third use of the verb is to limit or stop (e.g., The new law served to check the amount of funding). See how many of the words in the word web you and your students can integrate into your everyday classroom talk.

Follow-Ups

- How is examining different from scanning?

- How is to validate or to certify different from to check?

- If someone asks you to monitor the fish in the fish tank, what does the person want you to do?

- What does it mean to check your emotion or attitude at the door?

The Spanish Connection

The word *check* comes from the Middle English word *chek-en*, although it was derived from other languages. Originally, *chek-en* was used to describe a move in chess. We still use the word *check* in chess, though this is not the most common usage for the word *check*. The Spanish word for *to check* is the cognate *chequear*.

Word Changes

- *Check* can also be used as an adjective. Some tablecloths have a checked pattern that looks like a chessboard.

- There are two common definitions for the word *checker*. The first refers to the playing pieces used in the game checkers. Although the word *check* was originally used in chess, and the game of checkers is related to chess, the word *checker* is not *check* with the inflected ending *-er*. *Checker* is derived from the original use of the word, which meant to play chess.

- The second common definition for the word *checker* is a person who tallies the cost of items at a store. *Checker* in this definition derives from the use of *check* meaning to confirm or verify.

Check

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Check as in to test out
- probe

Check as in to limit
- stop
- curb

Check as in to make sure
- confirm
- verify
- inspect
- examine
- ensure
- document
- validate
- ascertain
- monitor
- certify

Check

IDIOMS
- Take stock
- Eyeball
- Double-check
- Get down cold
- Take another look

COMMON PHRASES
- Check it out
- Check into
- Check off
- Check in/check out
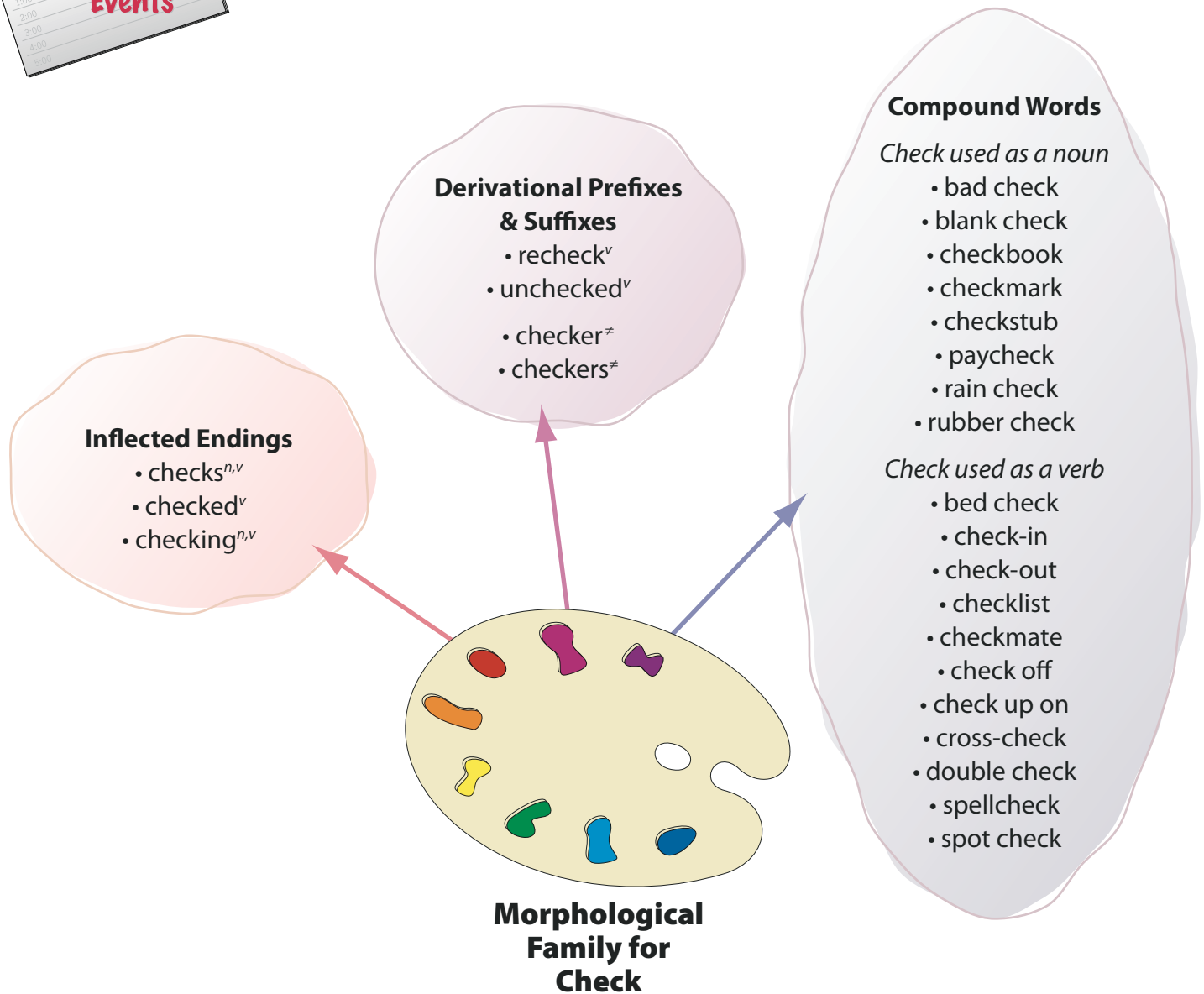- Checking on _____ (e.g., the house)

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to examine / examinar
- to validate / validar
- to monitor / monitor
- to certify / certificar
- to confirm / confirmar
- to verify / verificar
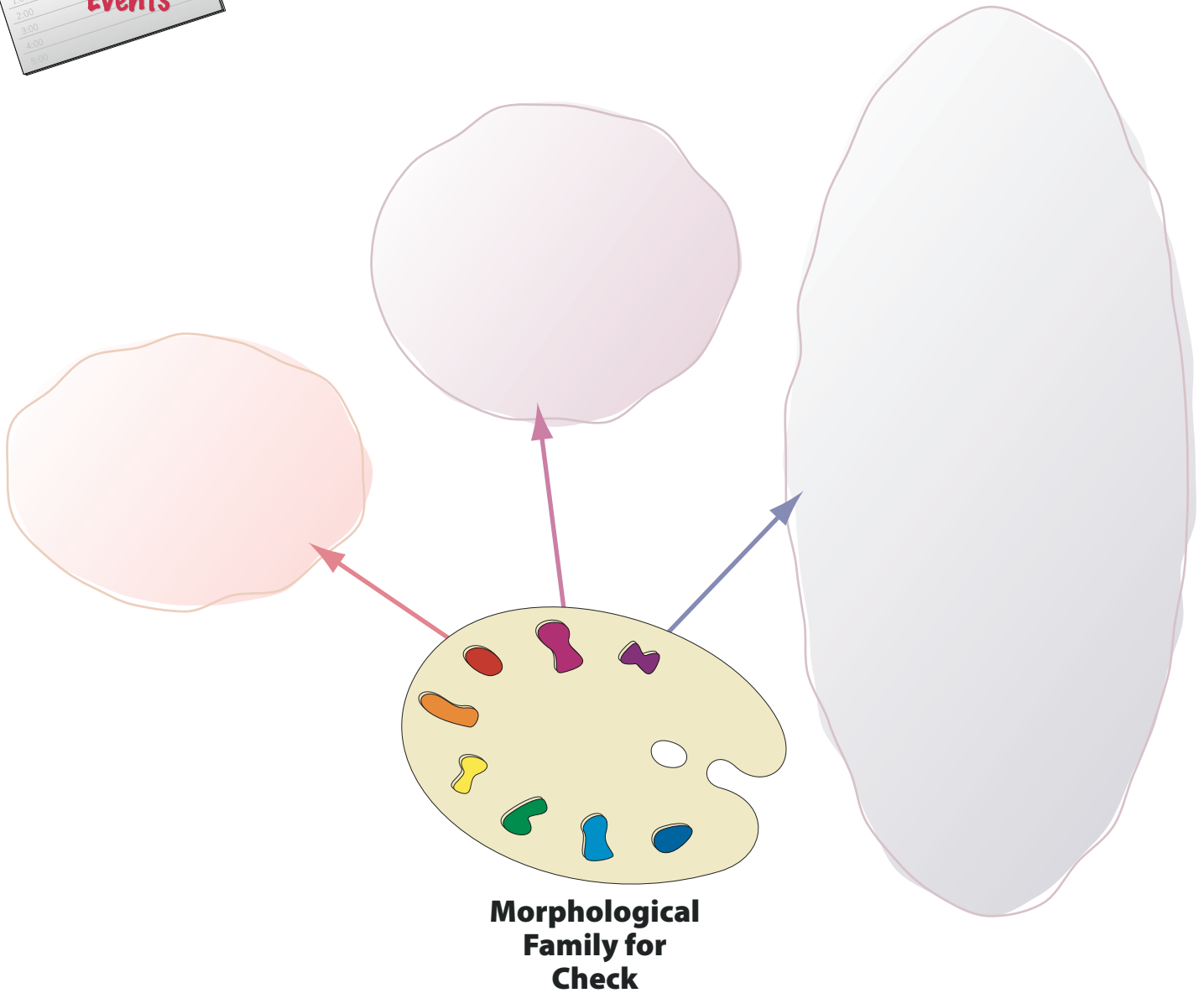- to inspect / inspeccionar
- to document / documentar

Check

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Check

Check

Compound Words

Check used as a noun
- bad check
- blank check
- checkbook
- checkmark
- checkstub
- paycheck
- rain check
- rubber check

Check used as a verb
- bed check
- check-in
- check-out
- checklist
- checkmate
- check off
- check up on
- cross-check
- double check
- spellcheck
- spot check

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- recheck^v
- unchecked^v

- checker$^{\neq}$
- checkers$^{\neq}$

Inflected Endings
- checks^{n,v}
- checked^v
- checking^{n,v}

Morphological Family for Check

^{n} Check used as a noun
^{v} Check used as a verb

$^{\neq}$ Not derived from Check

Check

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Morphological Family for Check

Ask

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Everyday learning in the classroom requires the asking of a variety of questions. A teacher asks students to answer a difficult math problem. Students ask the teacher to clarify instructions for a writing assignment. A student may ask another student about a homework assignment.

As illustrated in the word web, the word *ask* can be used in a multitude of ways. How the word is used in a sentence provides the framework for the meaning of the word. These different uses should be emphasized for English Language Learners.

Some synonyms of *ask* can imply emotion or meaning. For example, a person begging for money, or mercy, indicates desperation. To merely ask for something doesn't suggest an emotion. *Ask* is a neutral term. Look at the synonyms of *ask* and see if there are other words that convey feelings or special meaning.

Follow-Ups

- When is asking actually a command as opposed to a request?

- Is asking students to do an activity different from requiring them to do one?

- What is the difference between proposing and inviting?

- How is inquiring different from demanding?

- What is the difference between soliciting and begging?

The Spanish Connection

The word *ask* comes from an Old English word, *ascian*, for "to seek." The Spanish word for to *ask* is *preguntar*. *Ask* and *preguntar* are not cognates. However, some synonyms for *ask* do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- *Ask* is also a noun, but that usage is not very common. Some synonyms of *ask* can be used as verbs and as nouns. For example, *question*, *query*, *offer*, and *demand* are often used both as nouns and verbs.

- The idiom "asking for the moon" describes an impossible request or demand.

Ask

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Ask as in to order
• demand
• expect

Ask as in to invite
• invite
• propose
• offer

Ask as in to question
• question
• query
• inquire
• interview
• probe
• quiz
• interrogate

Ask as in to make a request
• request
• beg
• petition
• seek
• need
• call
• beseech
• solicit

Ask

IDIOMS
• Some one is asking for it (trouble)
• Asking for the moon
• Put through the ringer
• Don't ask me (why, how, etc.)
• Couldn't ask for more
• The third degree
• That's asking a lot (of me)

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• petition / petición
• solicit / solicitar
• question / cuestión
• inquire / preguntar
• interrogate / interrogar

COMMON PHRASES
• Ask about/around
• Ask for
• Ask me
• All I ask of you
• Ask out
• Ask me anything

COMMON QUOTATIONS
"Ask me no questions, and I'll tell you no lies."

"Ask, and you shall receive."

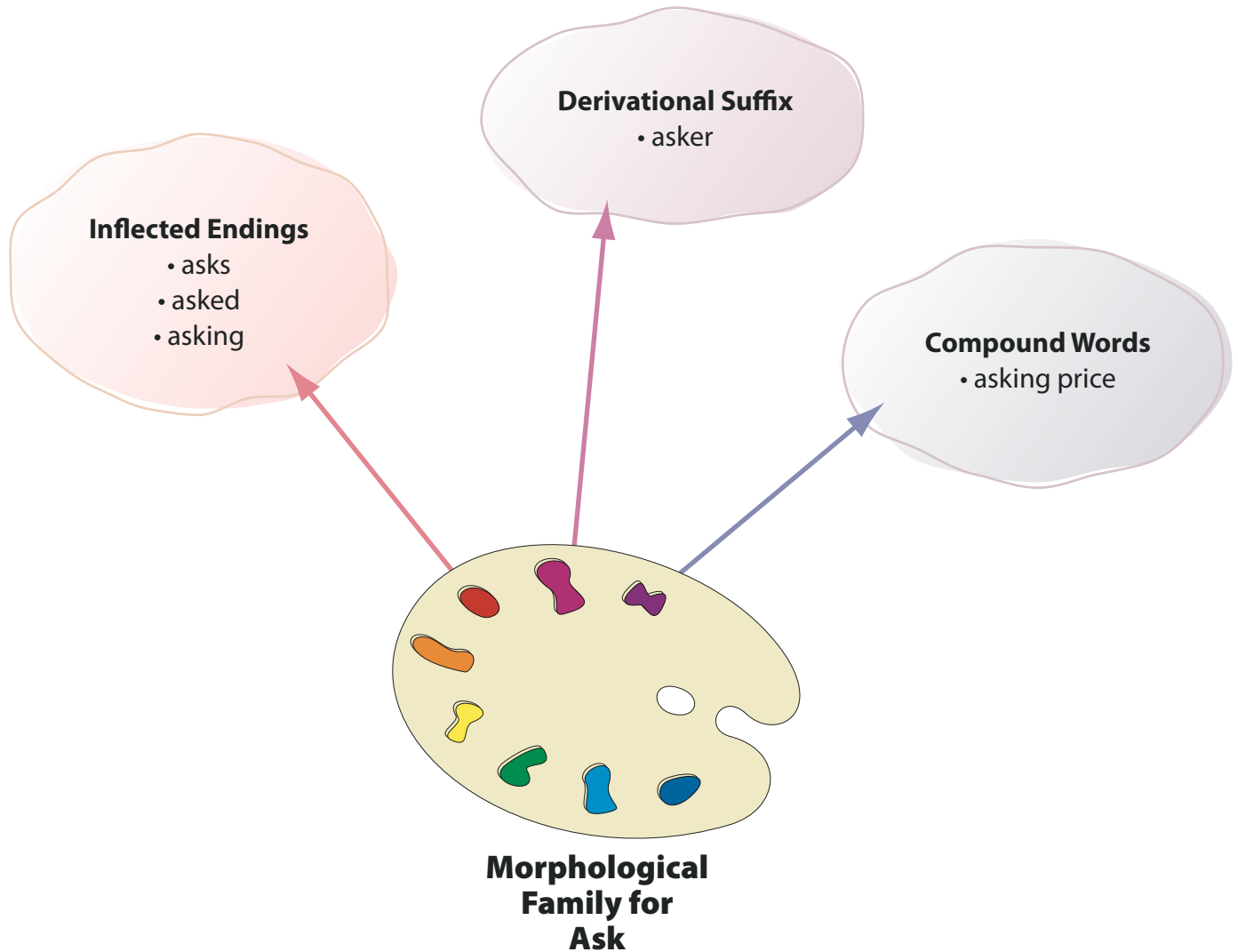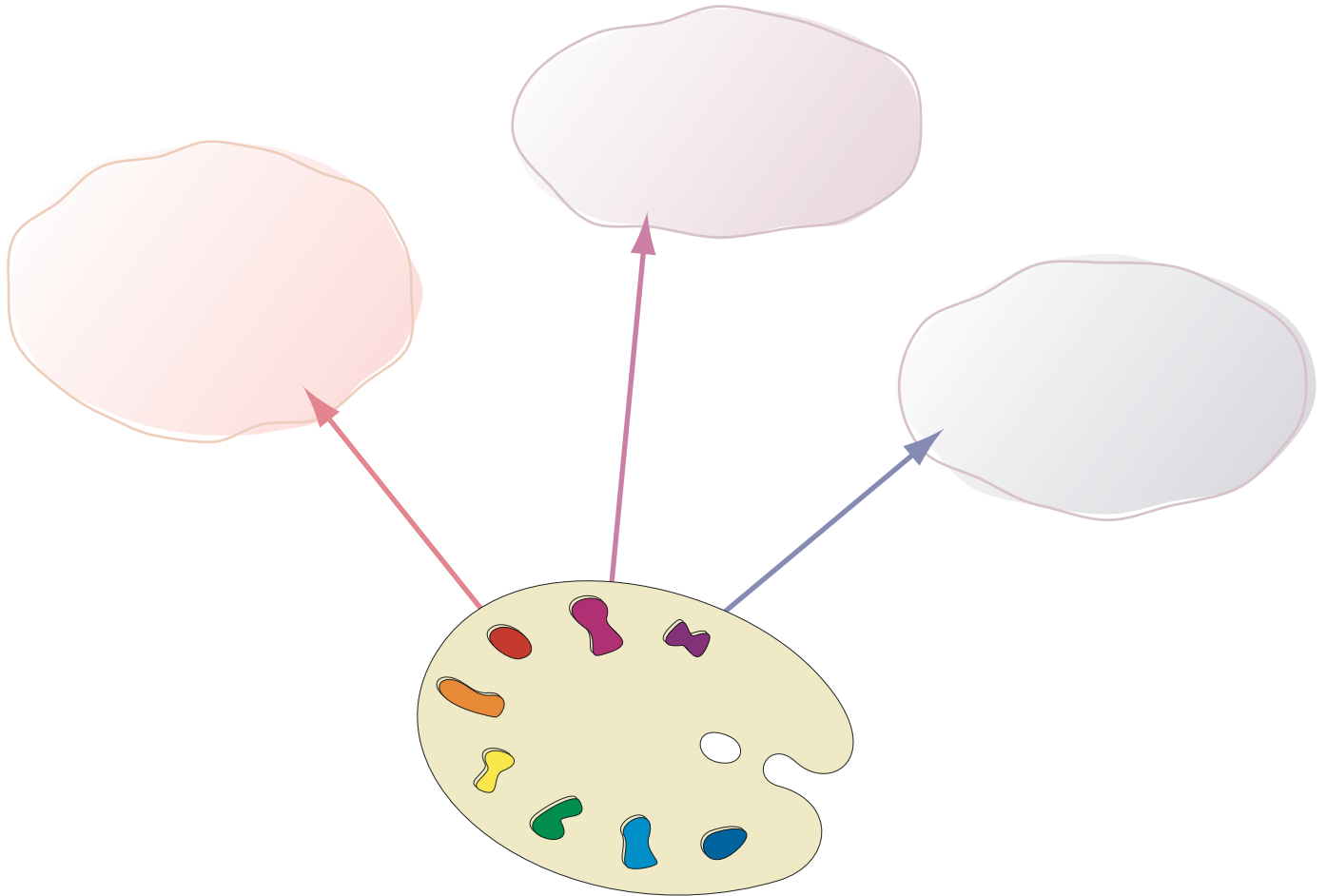"Be careful what you ask for… you just might get more than you bargained."

Ask

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Ask

Ask

Derivational Suffix
• asker

Inflected Endings
• asks
• asked
• asking

Compound Words
• asking price

Morphological Family for Ask

Ask

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™
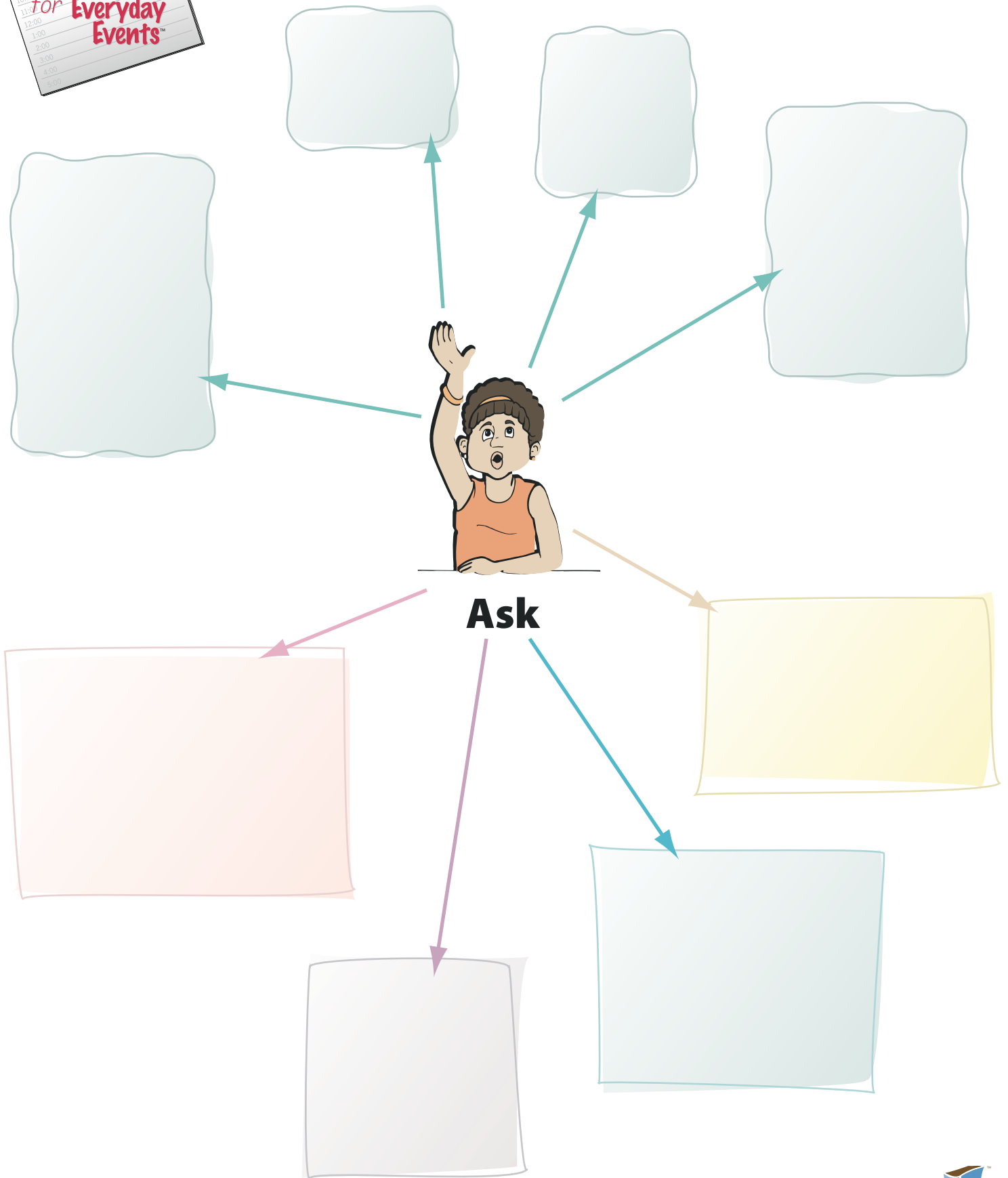
Morphological Family for Ask

Learn

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Schools are about learning—from peers as well as teachers. In class, students learn academic content, but they also learn about social relationships and life skills, such as the need for perseverance to complete tasks successfully.

To learn something is to gain knowledge about that idea or topic. Learning can occur in formal contexts, such as in a set of experiments about photosynthesis, or, informally, as students chat with one another about favorite books.

Many synonyms exist for the verb **to learn**, as well as numerous idioms and common phrases. There many ways to integrate these into everyday classroom and school events.

Follow-Ups

- Can a person apprentice to become a carpenter? A writer? An actor? A surfer?

- How is absorbing information different from acquiring information?

- When people say they have mastered a subject, does that mean they have learned everything there is to know about it?

The Spanish Connection

Some of the words related to **learn** have clear Spanish cognates, among them: **study**/*estudio* and **acquire**/*adquirir*. The word *aprender* in Spanish is not a cognate for **learn.** But it does have an English cognate—**apprehend**. Both Spanish and English words come from the Latin root *prehendere* that means "to grasp." The English word **apprehend** has come to be associated with grasping or taking someone into custody. However, a second meaning of **apprehend** is "quick to learn or understand."

Word Changes

- **Learn** is used only as a verb. Some members of its morphological family, however, are nouns, such as **learning**. As a noun, **learning** means knowledge or the acquisition of knowledge.

- In education, there are many compound words that describe students' learning processes. Some of these are in the illustration.

- The idioms and phrases reveal some of the nuances of words associated with learning. For example, a student who needs only to review previously learned material can "brush up" on the material. A person who spent many hours assembling a model plane, only to end up with extra pieces, "learned the hard way" the importance of reading instructions fully beforehand.

Learn

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events™**
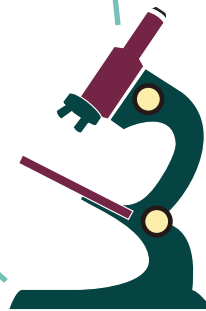
Tuesday 17

**Learn as in
to know something
very well**
- master
- memorize
- understand

**Learn as in
to find out information**
- hear
- discover
- realize
- ascertain
- gather
- catch on
- see
- uncover
- find
- out
- unearth
- stumble upon

**Learn as in
to gain knowledge**
- acquire
- study
- attain
- absorb
- apprentice
- learn
- apprehend

Learn

IDIOMS
- Learn the hard way
- Live and learn
- Learn the ropes
- Get the hang of
- Get the knack of
- Get it down pat
- Pick something up
- Hit the books
- Never too late to learn
- We must learn to walk before we can run

COMMON PHRASES
- Brush up on
- Crack the books
- Soak in
- Pore over
- Learn a thing or two
- Learn by heart

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
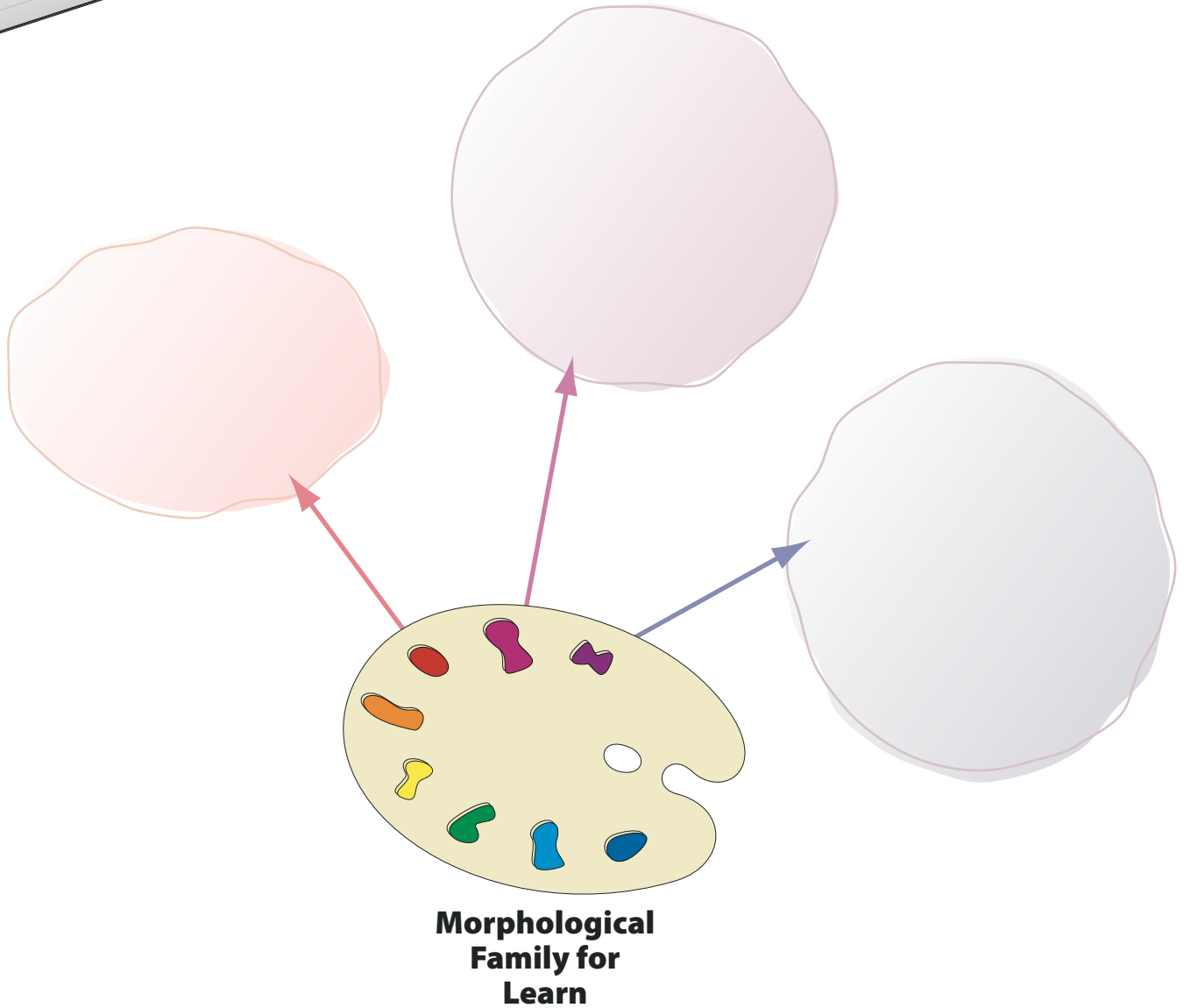- study / estudio
- acquire / adquirir
- apprehend / aprender

Learn

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events™**

Tuesday 17

Learn

Learn

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Derivational Suffixes & Prefixes
- learner[v]
- leaners[v]
- mislearn[v]
- relearn[v]
- unlearn[v]

Inflected Endings
- learns[v]
- learned[v]
- learning[v]

Compound Words

Learn used as a verb
- learn a lesson
- learn by heart
- booklearning
- learn on the fly
- live and learn

Morphological Family for Learn

[v] Learn used as a verb

Learn

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

**Morphological
Family for
Learn**

Attentive

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Being attentive, or focusing on the task at hand, is an important aspect of learning. Some tasks require all of our attention, some do not. Degrees of attentiveness vary. We may be fully engaged in an activity, or only somewhat aware of what is occurring. We may attend closely to a phone conversation, or we may be reading email or watching a football game while we are talking.

Follow-Ups

- How is being absorbed in a book different from reading a book?

- Is sending books or flowers to a sick friend considered thoughtful?

- What would it mean if someone asked you to be considerate of his or her feelings?

- What does it mean to be "all ears"?

The Spanish Connection

The word **attentive** is from an Old French word, *atendre*, which means "to direct one's mind or energies." But *atendre* is based on the Latin word *attendere*. The Spanish cognate of **attentive**, *atento(a)*, is also based on the Latin word *attendere*. A look at the Latin root word shows that the original meaning of the word **attend** was "to focus on a task."

Word Changes

- Two similar definitions exist for **attentive**. One definition is to focus on a task or on a person. A student may be focused on, or attentive to, a science experiment. An exciting chapter in a novel might grab our full attention.

- A second definition for **attentive** is to be mindful of another person's needs. Someone who is consoling a sad or tearful friend may anticipate the need for tissues and have them available.

- Being attentive carries a sense of anticipation. A student who is attentive during story time is anticipating the unfolding of the story. This anticipation shows up in many of the idioms for attentive. Visualize the idiom "on the ball," and you may imagine a person bouncing or standing on the balls of their feet, eager and alert.

Attentive

more complex forms
- conscientious
- assiduous
- immersed
- vigilant
- engrossed
- enthralled

**Attentive as
to be focused**
- alert
- focused
- watchful
- aware
- observant
- concentrate
- absorbed
- intent
- rapt

**Attentive as
to be helpful to others**
- polite
- caring
- kind
- courteous
- helpful
- thoughtful
- considerate
- devoted
- heedful
- solicitous
- sympathetic
- dutiful

Attentive

IDIOMS
- All ears or all yours
- On the ball
- Glued to the task
- Hanging on to every word
- Hooked
- Crying out for attention

COMMON PHRASES
- Listening carefully
- Paying attention
- Ready to act
- On the alert
- Center of attention

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- alert / alerta
- concentrate / concentrar
- conscientious / concienzudo
- observant / observador(ora)
- considerate / considerado(a)
- solicitious / solicito
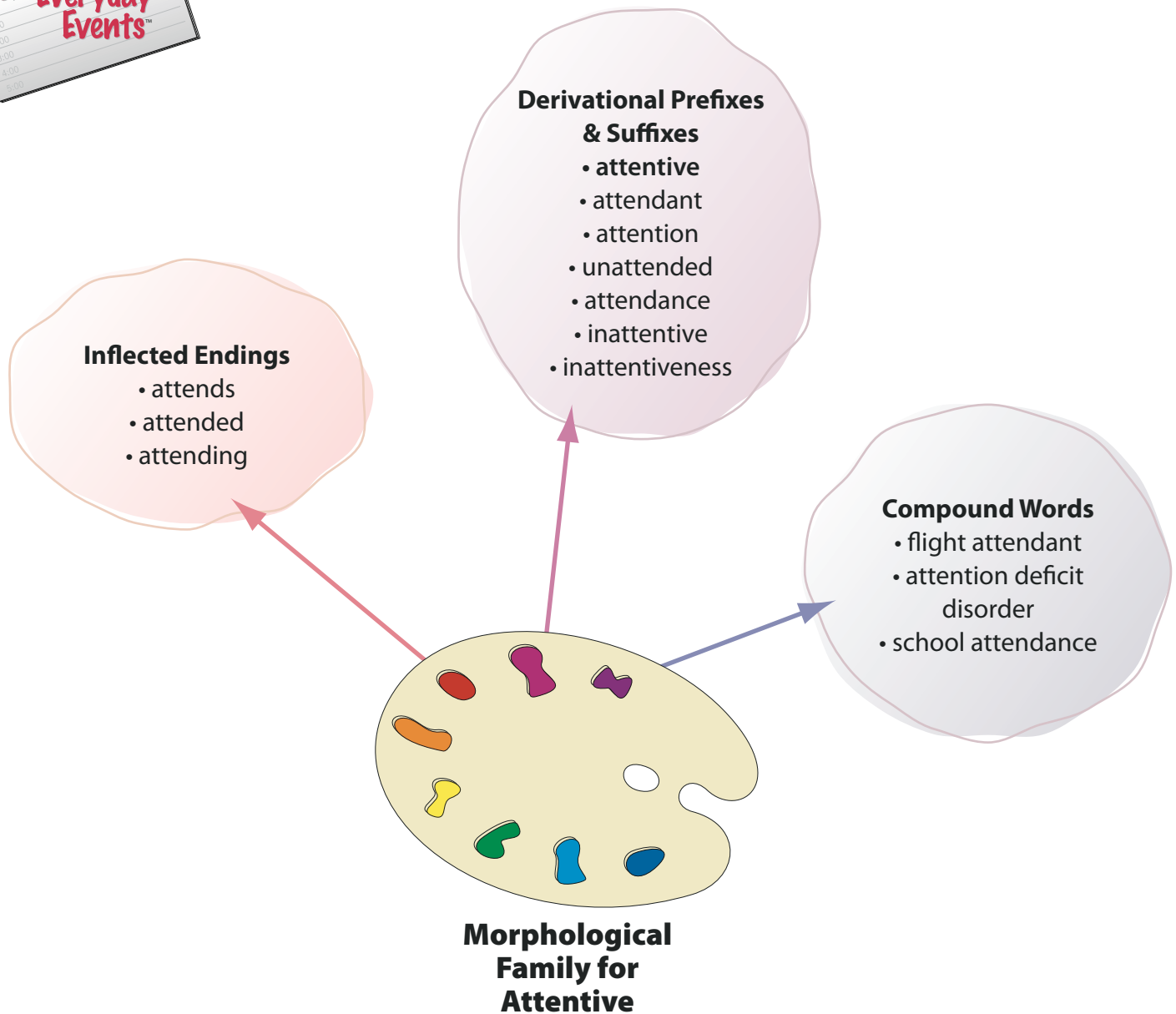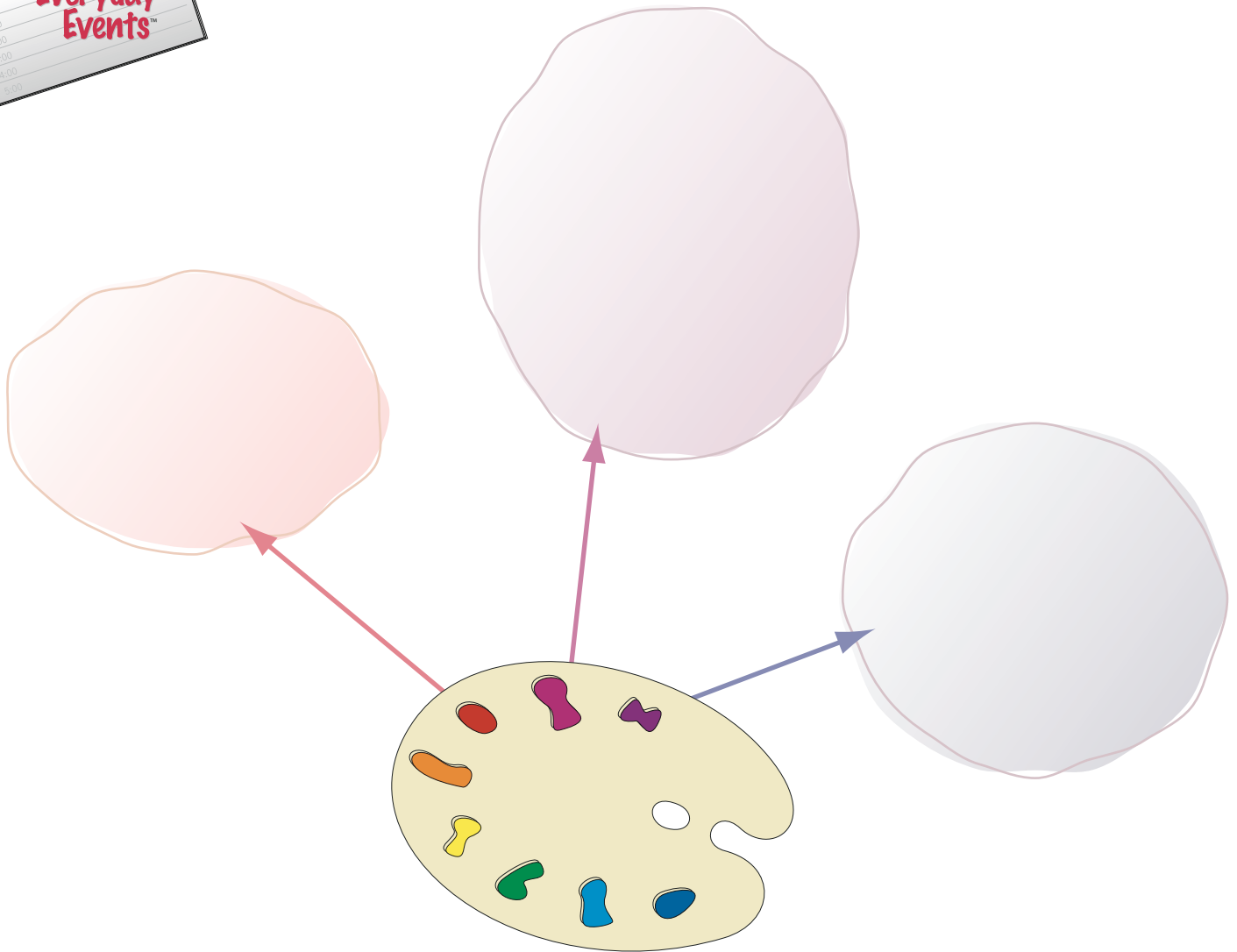- sympatheic / simpático

Attentive

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Tuesday 17

8:00
9:00
10:00
11:00
12:00
1:00
2:00
3:00
4:00
5:00

Attentive

Attentive

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- **attentive**
- attendant
- attention
- unattended
- attendance
- inattentive
- inattentiveness

Inflected Endings
- attends
- attended
- attending

Compound Words
- flight attendant
- attention deficit disorder
- school attendance

Morphological Family for Attentive

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Attentive

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Expressions
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Events ™

Tuesday 17

**Morphological
Family for
Attentive**

Quiet

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Quiet is a word that at least traditionally has been very common for classrooms and libraries, especially while students are reading and thinking. ***Quiet*** is a flexible word that is useful as an adjective, noun, and verb. It can describe a lowered volume, like a hushed voice, but *quiet* can also refer to something that makes no sound at all, like silence.

Teachers often comment on the appropriate noise level of an activity. Sometimes students are asked to read part of a text aloud to a partner or to give an answer out loud. Perhaps more typically, teachers' directions to students focus on decreasing rather than increasing the noise level. Students are told to read silently, or they are instructed to take a quiet time after lunch or recess. One common usage of *quiet* is as a command. A teacher may say to an overly boisterous class: "Quiet!"

Follow-Ups

- How is being calm different from being quiet?

- What are some words that you can use to quiet a classroom?

- When is it reasonable to expect complete silence?

- When is it proper to ask students not to divulge certain information to others?

The Spanish Connection

Quiet is an Anglo-Norman and Middle French word for peace or tranquility. This word may have been based on the Latin *quietus*. The Spanish word for ***quiet*** differs in its meaning and usage. For example, the Spanish word for ***quiet*** in the phrase "a quiet day in the office" is *tranquilo*. In this case, *tranquilo* is also the Spanish cognate of ***tranquil***. ***Quiet*** is an example of how words in different languages can have the same root, but slightly varying definitions and usages.

Word Changes

- One definition for ***quiet*** as a noun is a calm, peaceful state. A baby sister sleeps soundly in the quiet of her crib. A hiker enjoys the quiet of a forest.

- Yet another definition for ***quiet*** is to keep information a secret from others. A teacher may ask a student to avoid sharing test answers with other students by saying, "Keep these quiet."

- As noted, ***quiet*** can be a noun, verb, or adjective. A few members of its morphological family also serve as different parts of speech. Careful attention is needed to distinguish the ways in which these words are being used.

Quiet

Tuesday 17

Quiet as in to not divulge information
• secret
• divulge

Quiet as a command
• hush
• shush
• silence
• calm (down)
• settle

Quiet as in a low volume
• soft
• inaudible
• hushed
• muted
• subdued
• faint
• suppressed
• stifled
• muffled
• low-pitched
• lowered

Quiet as a state of being
• placid
• serene
• still
• tranquil
• calm
• low-keyed

Shhhhh

Quiet

IDIOMS
• Quiet as a church mouse
• So quiet you can hear a pin drop
• Keep it on the QT
• Keep it on the down low
• This is very hush-hush
• Don't rat me out

COMMON PHRASES
• Top secret
• All quiet on the western front
• The silent majority
• Silence is golden
• Pipe down

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• silent / silencio
• tranquil / tranquilo
• serene / sereno
• placid / placido

Quiet

Shhhhh

Quiet

Quiet

Tuesday 17

Exceptional
Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

8:00
9:00
10:00
11:00
12:00
1:00
2:00
3:00
4:00
5:00

Inflected Endings
* quietly
* quieter
* quietest

Derivational Suffix
• quietness

Compound Words
• quiet time

Morphological Family for Quiet

Quiet

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Morphological Family for Quiet

Loud

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Rarely are students told to be loud in a classroom. It is much more likely for students to hear that they are too loud. But there are times when students are asked to "think out loud" or "read out loud."

Loud is an excellent word to discuss in class, particularly in comparison to its opposite—*quiet*. A word line with **loud** at one end and **quiet** at the other can be useful to make distinctions about relative noise levels.

Follow-Ups

- How can thinking out loud be helpful in group work?

- When is being loud distracting to others?

- Are there appropriate and inappropriate times to be loud?

- How is reading out loud beneficial to students?

The Spanish Connection

The word **loud** comes from a common West Germanic or Old English word *hlud*. The Spanish word for **loud** is not a cognate. But some of the synonyms for **loud** do have Spanish cognates. For example, the cognate of the word **sonorous** is *sonoro(a)*.

Word Changes

- **Loud** is most common as an adjective, referring to a high volume of noise, whereas its opposite, **quiet**, may serve as a verb, noun, or adjective. When we want to describe the manner is which a sound occurs, we might use a morphological family member, the adverb **loudly**.

- The adjective **loud** can describe an object that is considered offensive or tasteless, such as clothing in bright colors that clash.

- The prefix **a-** typically changes the definition of a word to its opposite. For example, *atypical* means not typical. But in the case of **aloud**, the prefix **a-** changes the meaning to "with a voice" or "audibly."

Loud

more challenging words
- obstreperous
- clamorous
- vociferous
- vociferant

more challenging words
- conspicuous
- ostentatious

more challenging words
- sonorous
- cacophonous
- strident

Loud as in a state of being
- noisy
- boisterous
- deafening
- rowdy

Loud as in producing a loud sound
- ear splitting
- raucous
- shrill
- thunderous
- booming
- blustering
- roaring
- piercing

Loud as in intrusive in appearance or smell
- bright
- busy
- obnoxious
- crass
- garish
- gaudy
- flashy
- showy
- bold

Loud

IDIOMS
- Make some noise
- Make noise about
- Full of noise
- Actions speak louder than words

COMMON PHRASES
- For crying out loud
- Think out loud
- Loud and clear

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- sonorous / sonoro(a)
- strident / estridente
- vociferous / vociferante

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Loud

Tuesday 17

Loud

Loud

Tuesday 17

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- aloud
- loudness

Compound Words
- loudmouth
- loud speaker

Inflected Endings
- loudly
- louder
- loudest

Morphological Family for Loud

Loud

Tuesday 17

8:00
9:00
10:00
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5:00
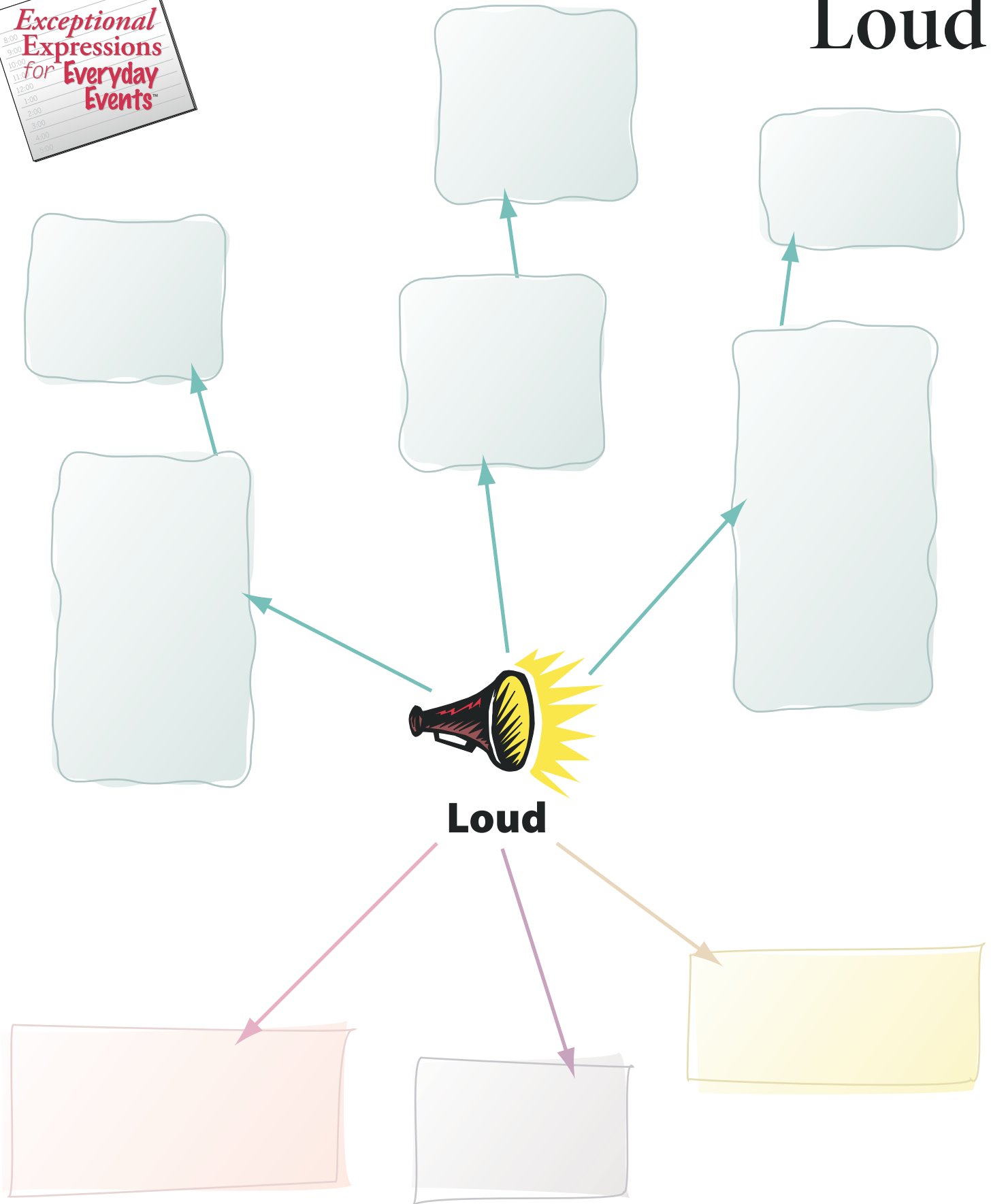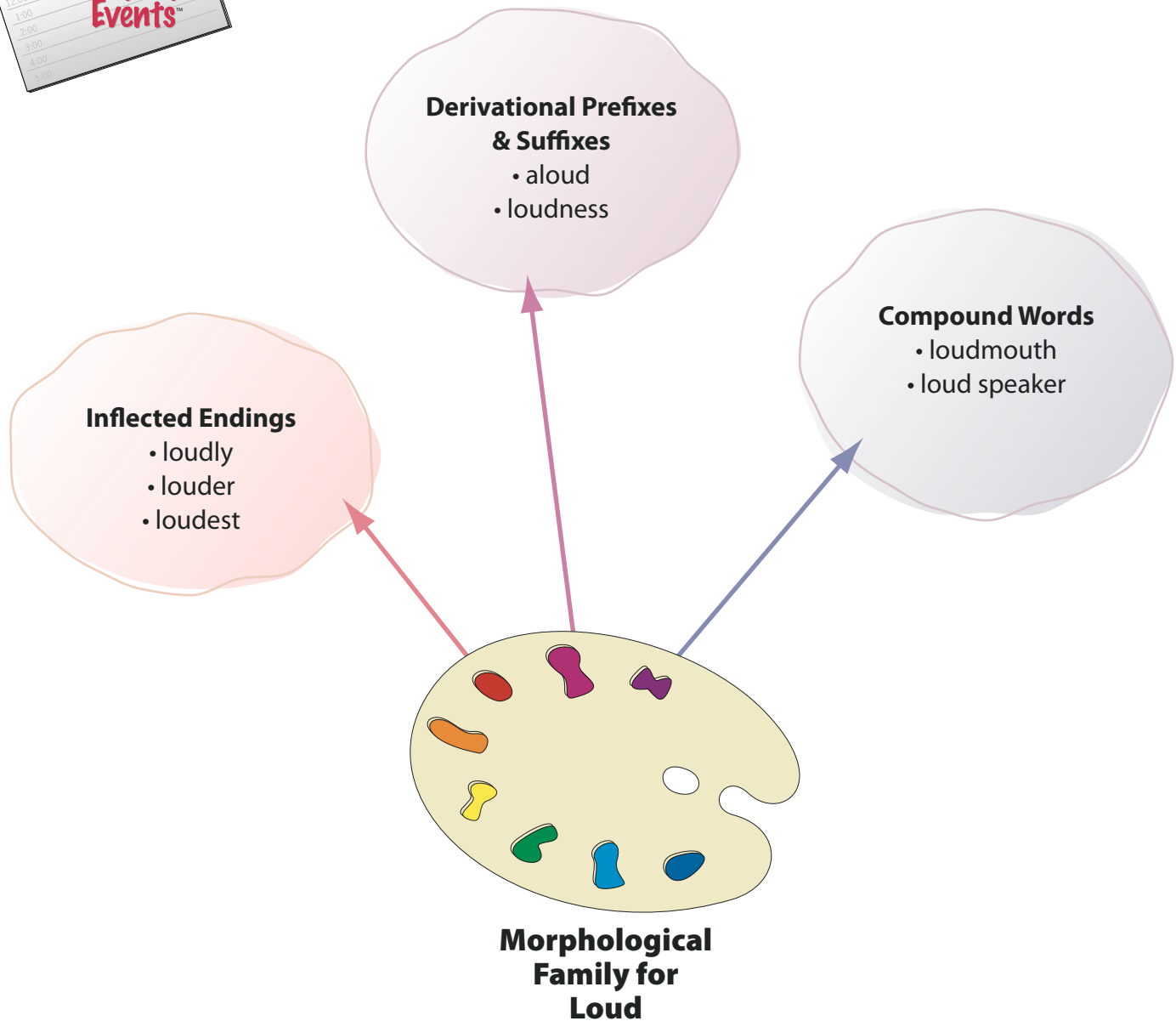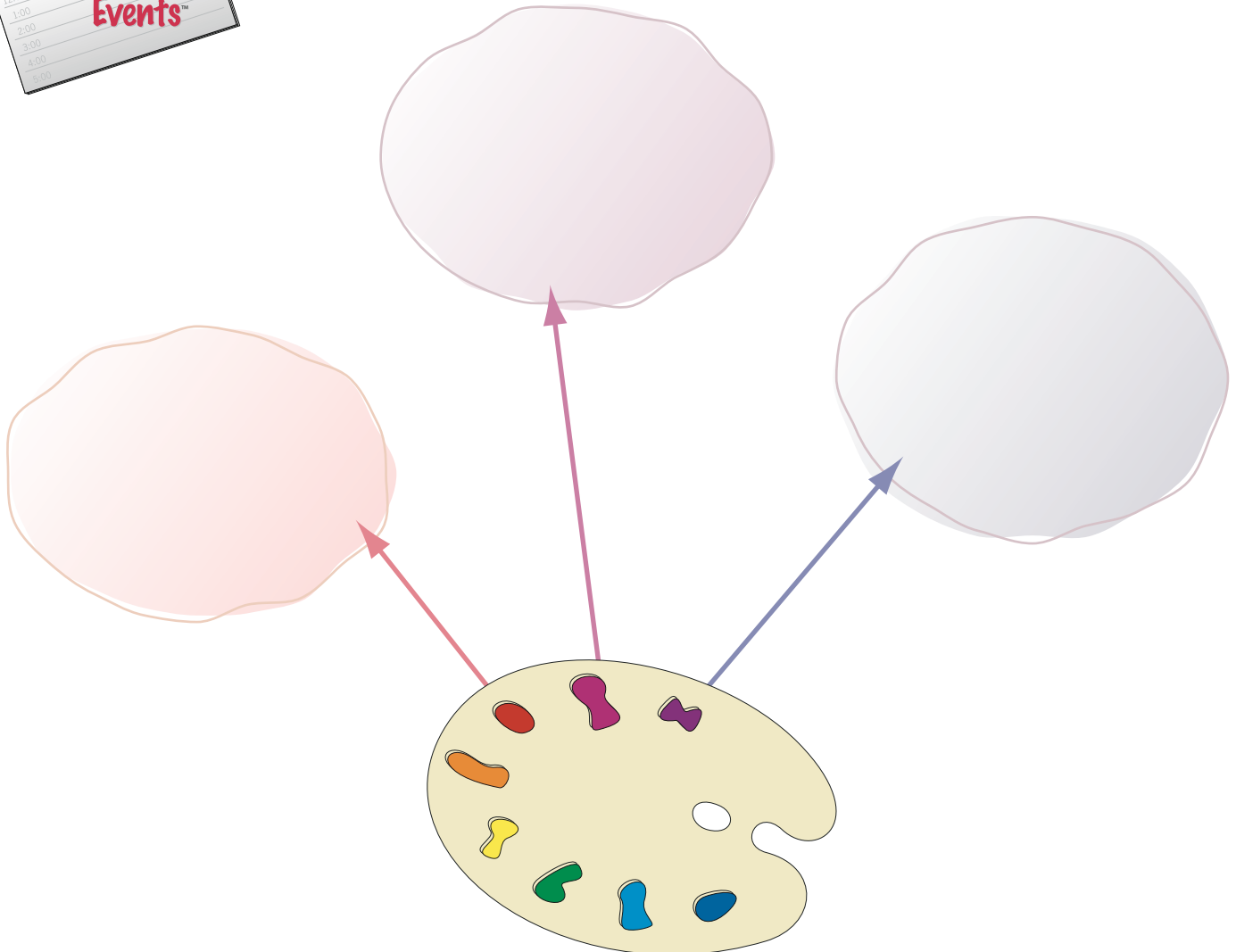
Morphological Family for Loud

Good

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Good is quite hardworking and functional, as words go, serving in many situations as an adjective or a noun, as well as in a goodly number of phrases. *Good* can describe something that is high in quality or of an elevated standard. A well-written paper or an insightful answer from a student would be considered good. The word *good* can refer to a person's character or behavior. A person who volunteers to help others, or who is honest, dependable, and trustworthy would be considered of good character.

Good is employed in evaluative statements that distinguish the relative quality of one thing compared with another. It is one of the set of comparative terms *good*, *better*, *best*. In addition, many synonyms exist for *good* that help express degrees of this quality, making *good* an excellent candidate for a word line exercise.

The noun *good* is defined as a moral quality, such as good versus evil, or as something beneficial, such as the common good. In its plural form, *goods*, the noun can also refer to items of merchandise, as in: "The U.S. imports goods from around the world."

Depending on its context, the word *good* may mean that something is merely adequate. If a student turns in a paper late the teacher might say, "Good." Most likely, however, his meaning is that the situation is acceptable but not ideal. When a friend's mother serves you food you really don't enjoy, you may say it is good to be polite but you are thinking, "This isn't so great."

Follow-Ups

- When might the word *good* simply mean OK?

- How is being a good student different from being an excellent student?

The Spanish Connection

The word *good* comes from the Old English word *god*, with ties to the Dutch *goed* and German *gut*. It is believed that *god* is related to a word that means "fitting" or "suitable." The Spanish word for *good* is not a cognate. However some of the synonyms for *good* have Spanish cognates, such as *excellent* and *excelente*.

Word Changes

- Even though there is a word *goodly* (an adjective meaning a large amount), the correct adverb for *good* is *well*. This unusual form can create some challenges, for instance: Ronnie is a good student, but she did not do well on the test.

- Another complication is that the word *well* is also used as an adjective to mean "healthy," so people often confuse *well* and *good*. In casual conversation, people often say, "I feel good," meaning they feel healthy or happy, when, strictly speaking, they want to say "I feel well."

Good

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Good as in appropriate
- fine
- works
- adequate

Good as a state of being
- virtuous
- righteous
- pious
- kind
- decent

Good as in high quality or standard
- excellent
- great
- superb
- outstanding
- ace
- first-class
- exceptional
- wonderful
- fantastic

Good as in helpful
- beneficial
- helpful

Good

IDIOMS
- The good samaritan
- For good
- All good things must end
- All in good time
- As good as new/gold
- Too good to be true
- Up to no good
- Good things come to those who wait
- So far so good

COMMON PHRASES
- Good news
- For your own good
- To make good on something
- Good enough
- Good guy
- Good morning/afternoon/night
- Good job/work
- Do a world of good

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- excellent / excelente
- fanastic / fanastico

Good

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17
8:00
9:00
10:00
11:00
12:00
1:00
2:00
3:00
4:00
5:00

Good

Good

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Derivational Suffixes
- goodness[adj]
- goody[adj]

Inflected Ending
- goods[n]

Compound Words

Good used as an adjective
- good-hearted
- good-looking
- goodwill
- good-bye
- good night
- good morning
- good-natured
- good-tempered
- good-luck

Good used as a noun
- drygoods
- baked goods

Morphological Family for Good

[adj] Good used as an adjective
[n] Good used as a noun

Good

Exceptional
Expressions
for **Everyday**
Events™
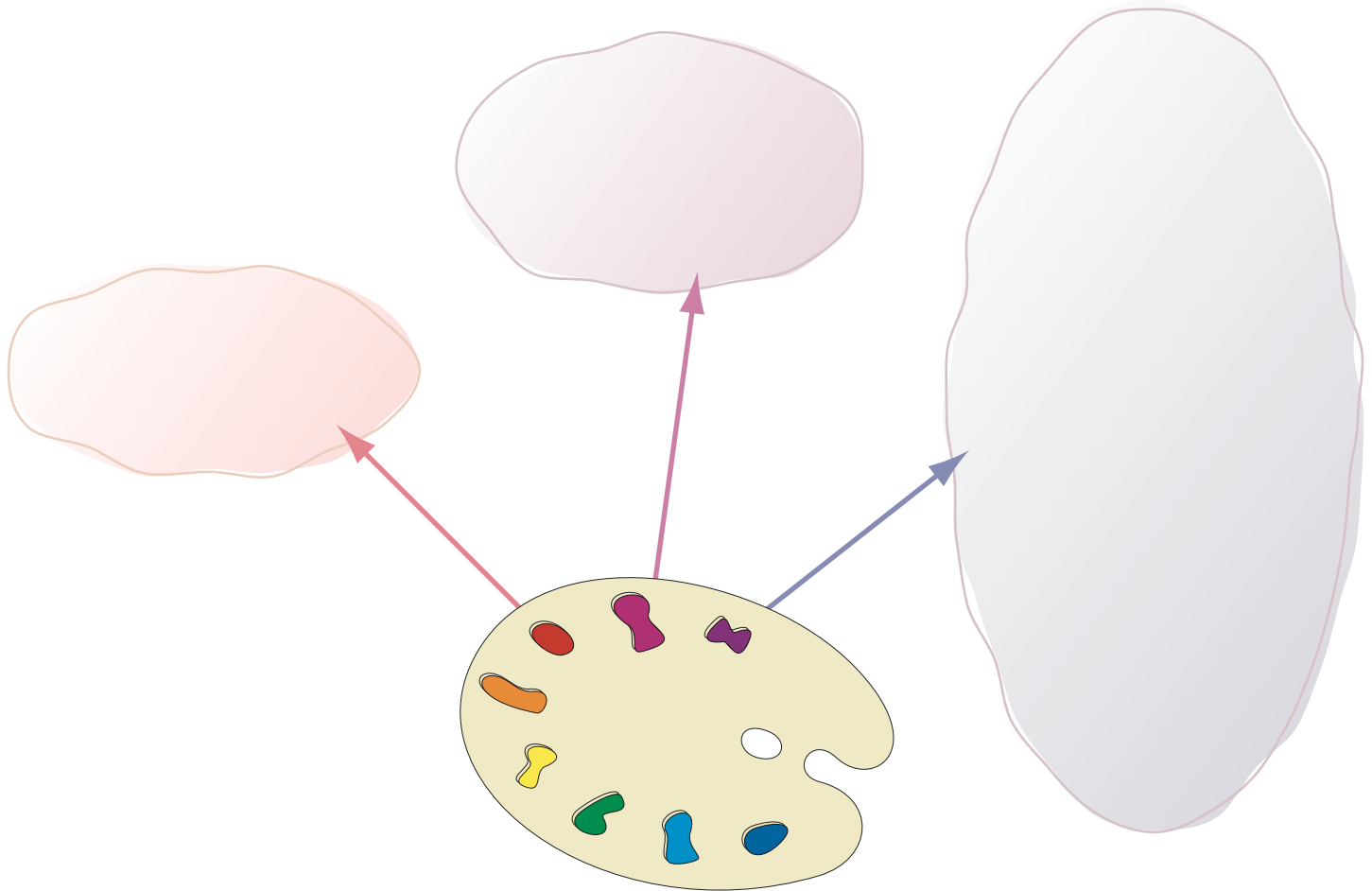
**Morphological
Family for
Good**

Bad

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Bad is an adjective that can be applied to many unfortunate situations. The word **bad** can be used to refer to quality, behavior, or state of being. As an evaluative word, **bad**, together with its many synonyms and alternative expressions, could be used very productively in a word line exercise. Food that goes bad is unhealthy or unusable. A child's bad behavior may be called inappropriate. A student might consider his bad test score as dreadful or atrocious. Bad news could be disheartening or even devastating.

Follow-Ups

- How is being rude different from being naughty?

- What are some situations that might be awful, but not ruinous?

- How is a terrible situation different from a horrific situation?

- What does the phrase "the deal went sour" mean?

The Spanish Connection

Linguists are not certain of the origin of **bad**. Most likely, **bad** was an old English word. The Spanish word for **bad** is *malo* or *mal*. Although the Spanish word is not a cognate, the prefix **mal-** (which came from French or Latin) is a helpful tool for students. The word **malice** itself is a noun meaning the desire to do something bad or evil. **Mal-** as a prefix often turns a word into something bad or faulty. **To malfunction** is to not function properly. **Malodorous** is to smell bad.

Word Changes

- Although some people inappropriately add the suffixes **-er** and **-est** to **bad**, the adverb **badly** contains the only inflected suffix for **bad**.

- A very common misuse of the adverb **badly** is "He feels badly" instead of "He feels bad." To say "He feels badly" means that there is something wrong with the person's sense of touch.

- In contemporary slang, **bad** can be used almost as its opposite. Calling a pair of shoes bad may mean that the shoes are cool or fashionable. Most often this term is said with enthusiasm or exclamation.

- Care should be taken to not over extend the application of the prefix **mal-**. Words such as **malamute**, **male**, or **mallard** do not share this prefix.

- The origin of the idiom "between a rock and a hard place" is unknown, but its meaning is clear: To be caught between a rock and a hard place is to be stuck in a bad situation where both available options are difficult or undesirable.

Bad

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Bad as a state of being
- evil
- wicked
- corrupt
- immoral
- depraved
- debauched
- ruthless
- merciless
- cruel
- shameless
- regretful
- sorry
- penitent
- ashamed
- contrite
- guilty
- repentant
- sad
- unhappy
- troubled

Bad as a descriptor of a situation
- serious
- severe
- grave
- critical
- life-threatening
- acute
- disheartening

Bad as in a poor quality
- poor
- inferior
- deficient
- flawed
- faulty
- defective
- substandard
- imperfect
- shoddy
- abysmal
- rotten
- decayed/ing
- decomposing
- putrid
- sour
- rancid

Bad as a descriptor of things
- lousy
- awful
- terrible
- dreadful
- appalling
- shocking
- ghastly
- horrific
- dire
- unpleasant
- difficult
- distressing
- harsh
- unhealthy
- damaging
- ruinous
- dangerous
- harmful
- atrocious

Bad as a behavior
- naughty
- disobedient
- badly
- behaved
- troublesome
- wayward
- mischievous
- unmanageable
- unruly
- willful
- rude

Bad

IDIOMS
- Bad seed/egg
- Bad blood
- Bad news travels fast
- Give _____ a bad name
- Between a rock and a hard place
- Get up on the wrong side of the bed
- To bad-mouth

COMMON PHRASES
- Bad off
- Half bad
- To go bad
- Bad guy
- From bad to worse
- Got it bad
- Bad mood
- My bad

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- grave / grave
- horrible / horrible
- inferior / inferior
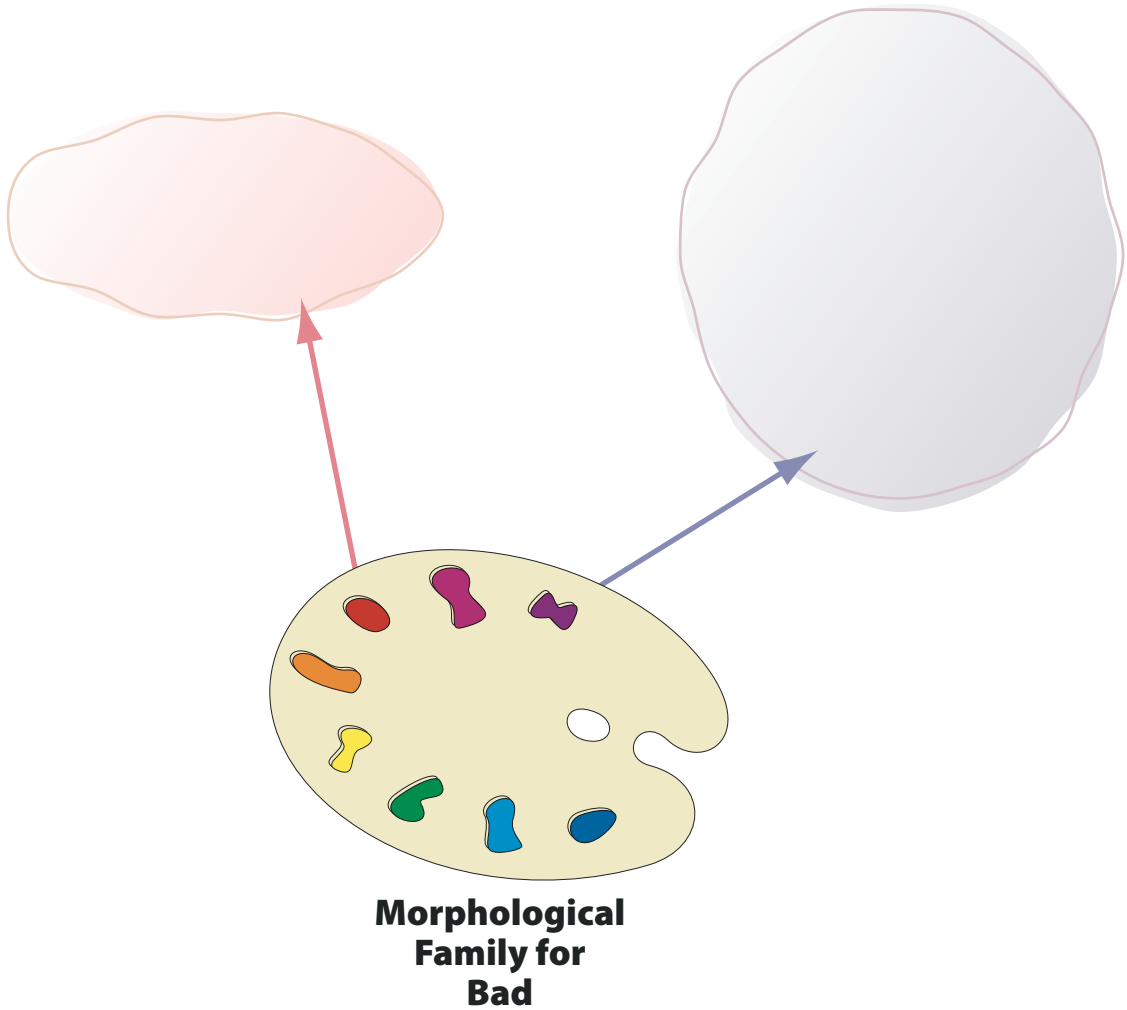- defective / defectuoso
- purtid / pútrido

Bad

Bad

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Bad

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Inflected Ending
• badly

Compound Words
• badmouth
• bad-mannered
• bad-tempered
• bad blood
• bad egg
• bad guy
• bad boy

Morphological Family for Bad

www.textproject.org/e4

Bad
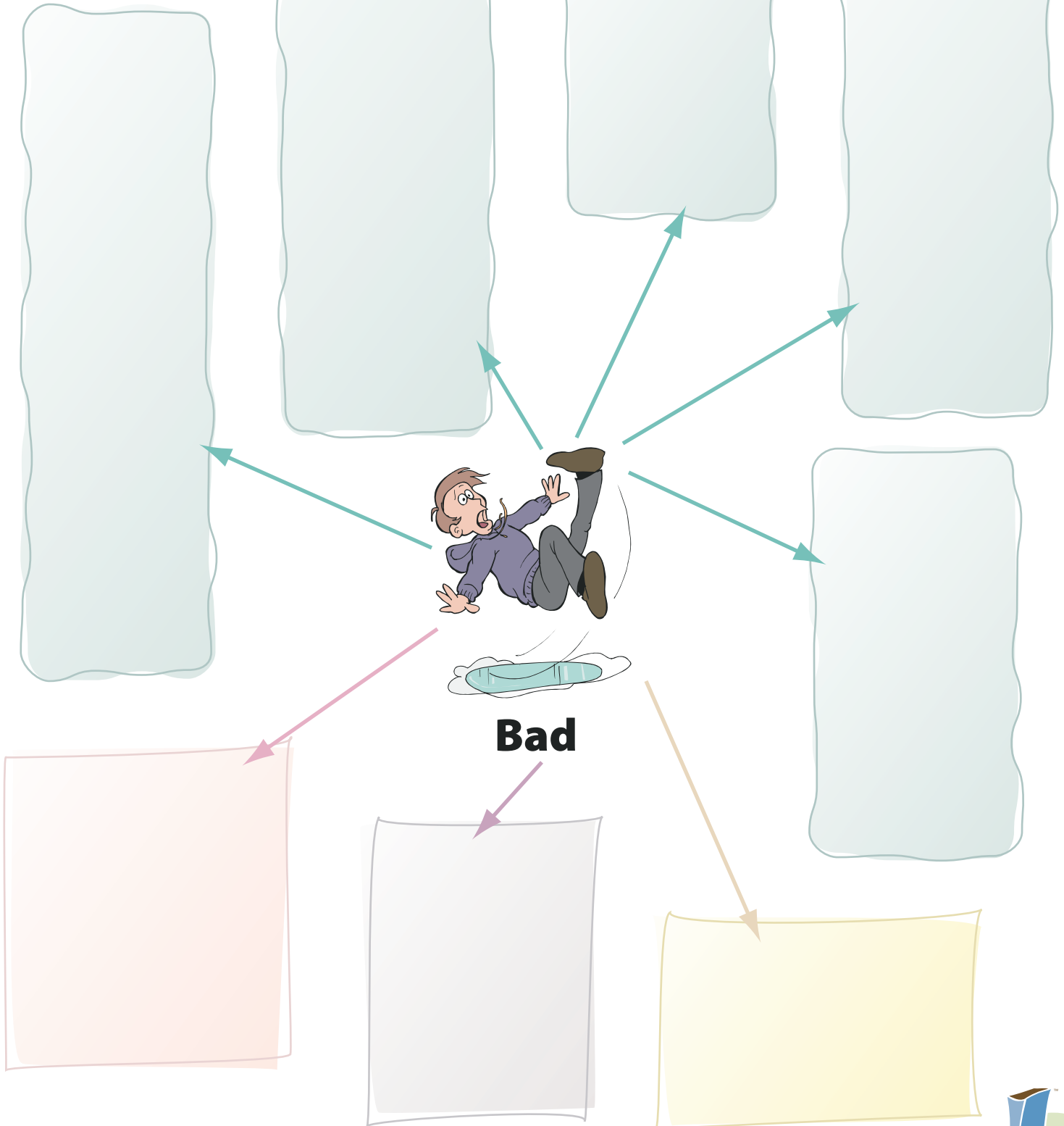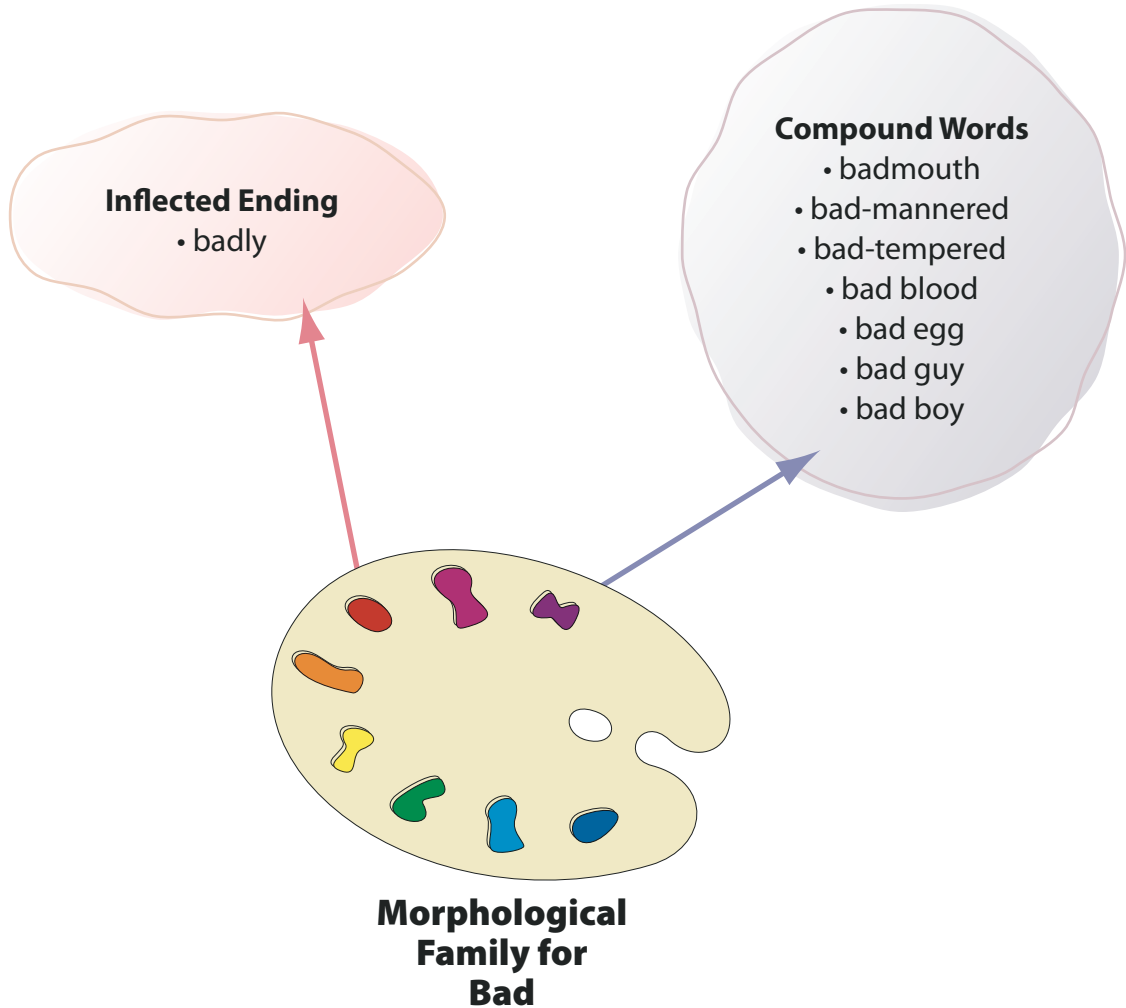
**Morphological
Family for
Bad**

Change

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Changing the subject, let's talk about **change**. **Change** is widely used as both a verb and a noun, but in all cases it refers to a situation in which something is made or becomes different in some way. A decisive battle in a war might change the course of history. Maple leaves change bright orange and yellow in autumn. Flying from the West Coast to the East Coast of the U.S. may require travelers to change planes several times. School events may require teachers to change or adjust their class schedules. In a science class, students may learn about changes that occur in nature, such as the metamorphosis of a caterpillar to a butterfly. In history, they may study social changes during different eras. In a different context, converting a large bill into smaller denominations, or converting a dollar bill into coins, is called making change.

Changes can be very minor, for instance correcting a typo in a report, or extreme, such as the devastating impacts of a hurricane or flood. Many more explicit words exist that can be used instead of **change**, such as **alter**, **modify**, **transform**, **evolve**, **adapt**, **revamp**, **revise**, and **mutate**.

Follow-Ups

- How is revolutionizing the design of a car different from altering the design?

- Would you modify or substitute a recipe?

- How is the metamorphosis of a person different from the metamorphosis of a caterpillar?

The Spanish Connection

Change is a Middle English word. Experts believe that the Middle English word ultimately came from the Latin words *cambiare* and *cambire*, meaning exchange or barter. The Spanish word for change, *cambiar*, is likely to have come from the same Latin words. **Change** and *cambiar* would be cognates if **change** had not undergone modification in Old French and Middle English. Synonyms of **change** have remained close to its Latin roots and have corresponding cognates in Spanish.

Word Changes

- The idiom "sea change" describes a very deep, significant transformation. The industrial revolution brought a sea change in the livelihoods of people around the world. The phrase originated with Shakespeare in his play THE TEMPEST.

- The Greek prefix **meta-** has several meanings, one of which is common in words having to do with change, such as **metamorphosis** and **metamorphic rock**. **Meta-** has quite a few uses in specific content areas such as geology and chemistry.

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Change

Change as a big difference from the original
- exchange
- swap
- replace
- substitute
- trade
- switch
- convert
- transform
- revolutionize

Change as a technical term
- metamorphosis
- evaporate
- condensation
- mutate
- modulate
- evolve
- fossilize

Change as a small difference from the original
- alter
- modify
- vary
- adjust
- amend

Change

IDIOMS
- Change horses in midstream
- Changing of the guard
- Short change
- Change of heart
- Change it up

COMMON PHRASES
- Change with the times
- A change of pace
- Winds of change
- Change of mind
- For a change

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- alter / alterar
- modify / modificar
- vary / variar
- transform / transformarse
- revolutionize / revolucionar
- adjust / adjustar
- amend / enmendar
- substitute / sustituir
- convert / convertir
- metamorphosis / metamorfosis
- evaporate / evaporar
- condensation / condensación
- mutate / mutarse
- modulate / modular
- evolve / evolucionar
- fossilize / fosilizarse

Change

Change

Change

Inflected Endings
- changes^{n,v}
- changed^{v}
- changing^{v}

Derivational Suffixes
- listener^{v}
- listeners^{v}

Compound Words

Change used as a noun
- oil change
- shortchange

Morphological Family for Change
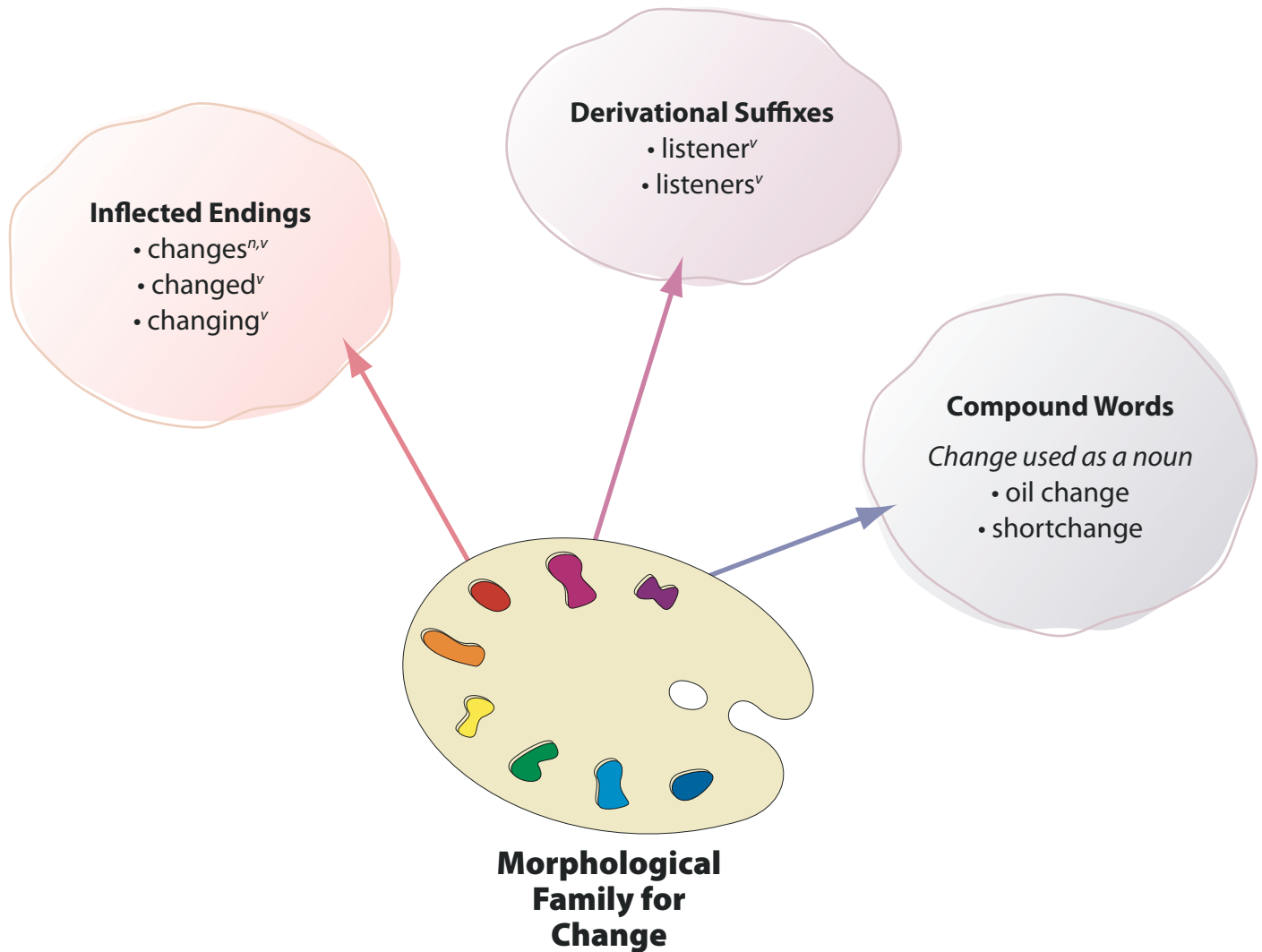
^{n} Change used as a noun
^{v} Change used as a verb

Change

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

**Morphological
Family for
Change**

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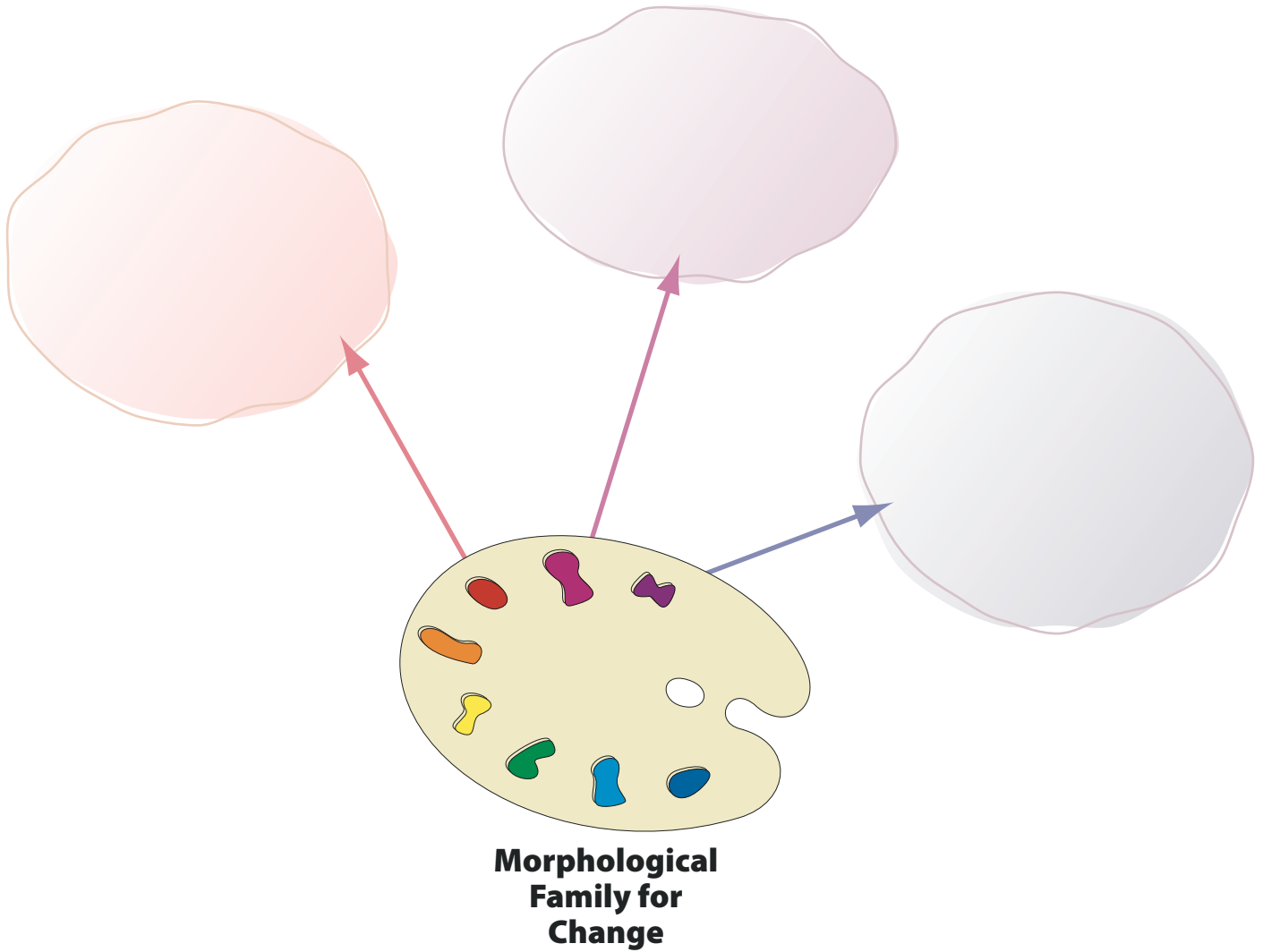
Finish

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Finish is a word that has many classroom uses but that can also add color and precision to writing or speech. In school, students need to finish a test, finish an assignment, finish lunch, finish one task before they move on to another. In this sense, *finish* is a verb that refers to the completion of an activity.

Finish can also serve as a noun, and it is found in a variety of interesting phrases and expressions. One might notice the sparkling finish of the paint on a new car, or the scratched finish of an antique wood table. A "photo finish" would be a very close race in which the winner could only be determined by examining a photo of the last moment. Pie with ice cream is an excellent finish to a delicious meal.

Follow-Ups

- How is ending a task different from completing it?

- How do you know if you've finished your work?

- How does it feel to achieve a hard task?

The Spanish Connection

Finish comes from the Middle English word *fenys*, which is related to the Latin word *finire*. In Spanish there is the word *finito*, an adjective meaning "finite." At a glance, *finish* and *finito* look like cognates, but they are actually false cognates. The Spanish word for finish is *terminar*. *Terminar* is the cognate of *terminate*, a synonym of *finish*. In English, *terminate* is a more academic word. In this case, knowing the Spanish word *terminar* helps ELL students learn the more advanced word *terminate*. There are also content specific words related *to terminate*, such as *terminus* in electricity, or bus *terminal*.

Word Changes

- The phrase "to finish off" could be used for a thing or a person. A diner might finish off the last bite of dessert. The player of a video game often tries to finish off, or annihilate, opponents.

- The idioms "It's a wrap!" and "Wrap it up!" come from the movie industry. At the end of the day or of filming the director will call out "It's a wrap!" to let everyone know they are finished. The exact origin of these phrases is unknown. Some people think this use of the word *wrap* is a "backronym" for wind, reel, and print. Others speculate that these phrases were based on the last task of the day, covering and putting away the equipment.

Finish

**Finish as in
to complete a task**
• done
• complete
• accomplish
• achieve

**Finish as in
being ruined**
• over
• through
• done
• annihilate
• death

**Finish as in
to conclude a task**
• end
• conclude
• close
• cease
• stop
• terminate

Finish

IDIOMS
• Call it a day
• Wrap it up
• It's a wrap
• Down to the wire
• To polish off

COMMON PHRASES
• Photo finish
• All good things come to an end
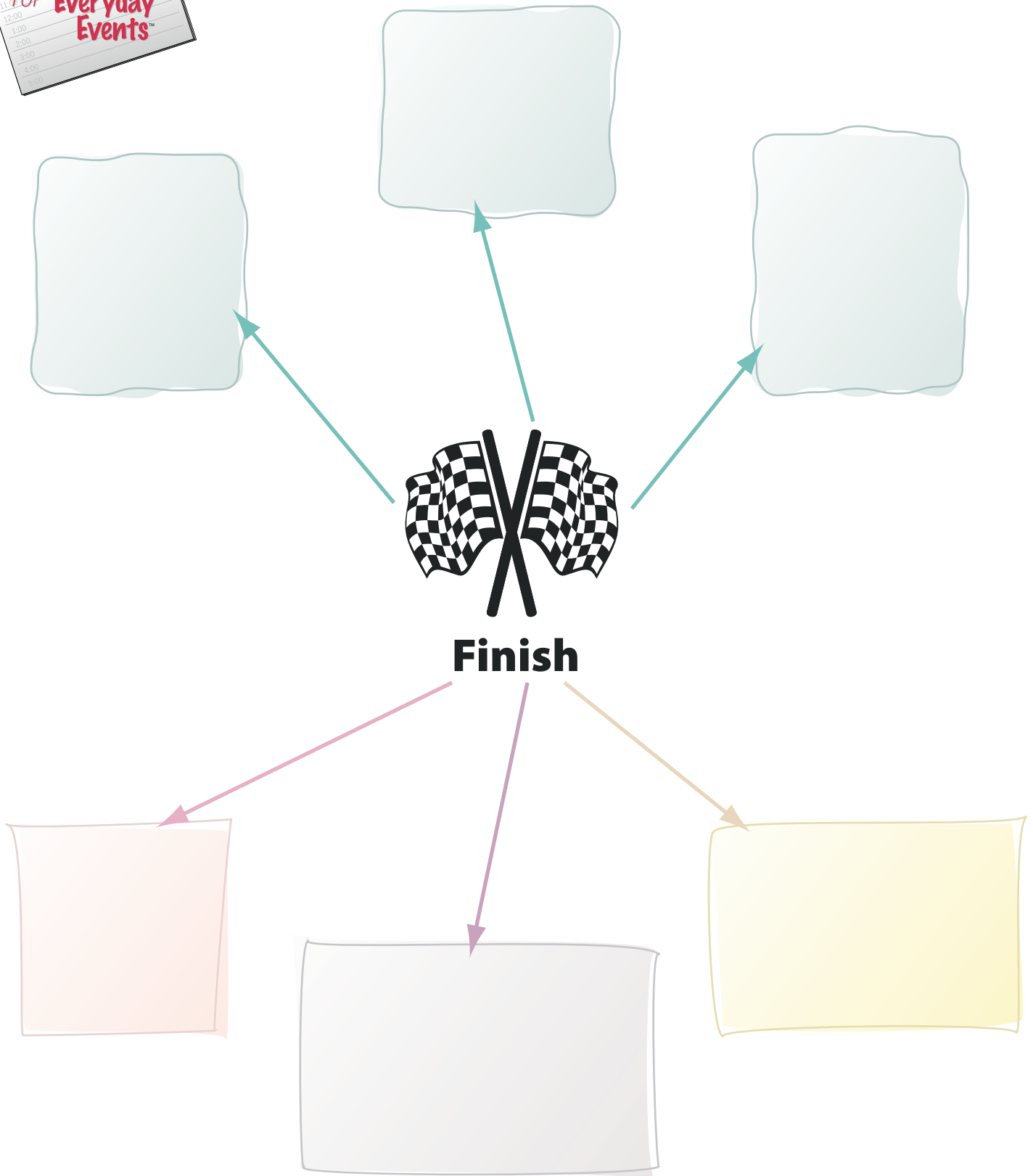• All's well that ends well
• Finish up
• Cease and desist
• To finish off

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• to terminate / terminar
• to finalize / finalizar
• to conclude / concluir
• to cease / cesar
• to desist / desistir

Finish

Finish

Finish

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Inflected Endings

- finishes^{n,v}
- finished^{v}
- finishing^{v}

Compound Words

Finish used as a noun
- finish line
- photo finish
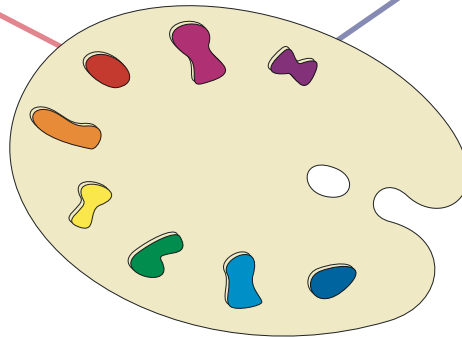
Morphological Family for Finish

^{n} Finish used as a noun
^{v} Finish used as a verb

Finish

Exceptional
Expressions
for Everyday
Events™

Tuesday 17

**Morphological
Family for
Finish**

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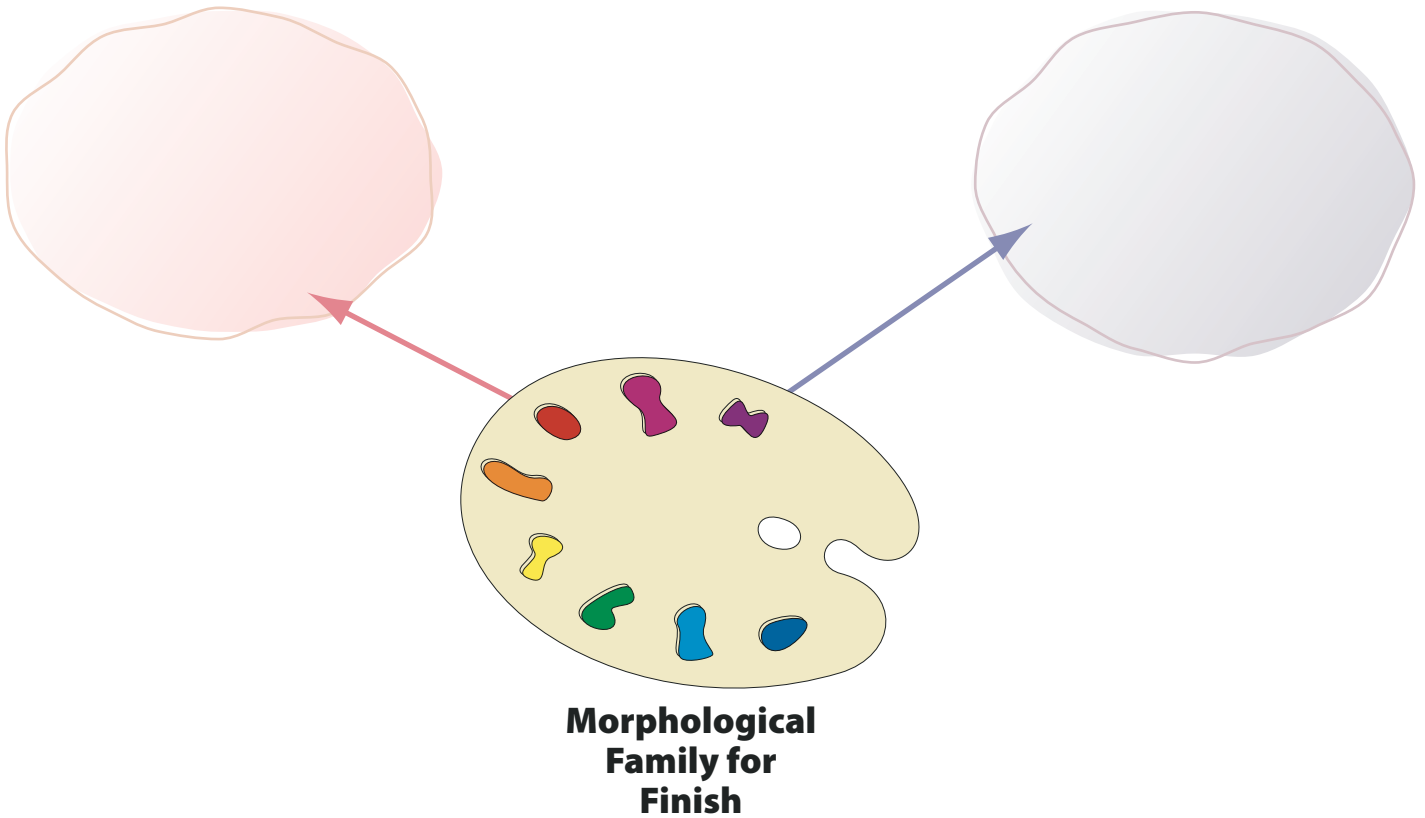
Want

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Want is another word that clearly expresses a basic idea, but that can include a wide range of nuanced meanings. The verb *want* commonly describes a wish, desire, need, or craving for something. Teachers want their students to be on time, seated, and ready to work when the school bell rings. A student may want another piece of paper, or some assistance, from the teacher. Every desire of the princess was filled, she wanted for nothing. A person lost in a desert desperately wants water.

The word *want* can also refer to lacking or being deficient in some way, as in "The house wants painting." Often this is expressed using the phrases "for want of" or "in want of." For want of a buyer, the house sat empty. The crops were dying for want of rain. A teacher might tell a student that her paper has many grammatical errors and is in want of a good proofreader.

Want may be used to convey a mild wish, a hoped for but nonessential desire, a strident demand, or an absolutely critical need. The many synonyms for want are useful to clarify the many degrees of this concept.

Follow-Ups

- How is wanting a good grade different from needing a good grade?

- How does mandating a set of school standards differ from wanting a set of school standards?

- What does it mean to yearn for something?

The Spanish Connection

Want is an adaptation of an Old Norse word, *vanta*, which meant "lacking." One can see a logical expansion of "lacking" to the meaning "need." The Spanish word for *want* is not a cognate, but some of the synonyms for *want* do have Spanish cognates. For example, the cognate of the word *need* is *necesitar*.

Word Changes

- The idiom "waste not, want not" refers to a belief that if we do not squander our resources we will have them when we really need them. For example, if we don't leave the faucet running while we are brushing our teeth and flossing, then we help conserve water for the future. If we avoid spending money on frivolous things that we do not need, then if our car breaks down we are more likely to have money saved to fix it.

- Another idiom or phrase is "want in" or "want out." After watching the pickup basketball game for a few minutes, Albert wanted in.

Want

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

**Want as in
to have a longing for**
- pine
- yearn
- long
- covet
- desire
- wish
- crave

**Want as in
to need something**
- demand
- require
- need

Want

COMMON PHRASES
- Wanted man
- What more do you want?
- Gotta/Have to have it
- I want in/out
- Just where you want them
- To your heart's desire
- For want of a better word
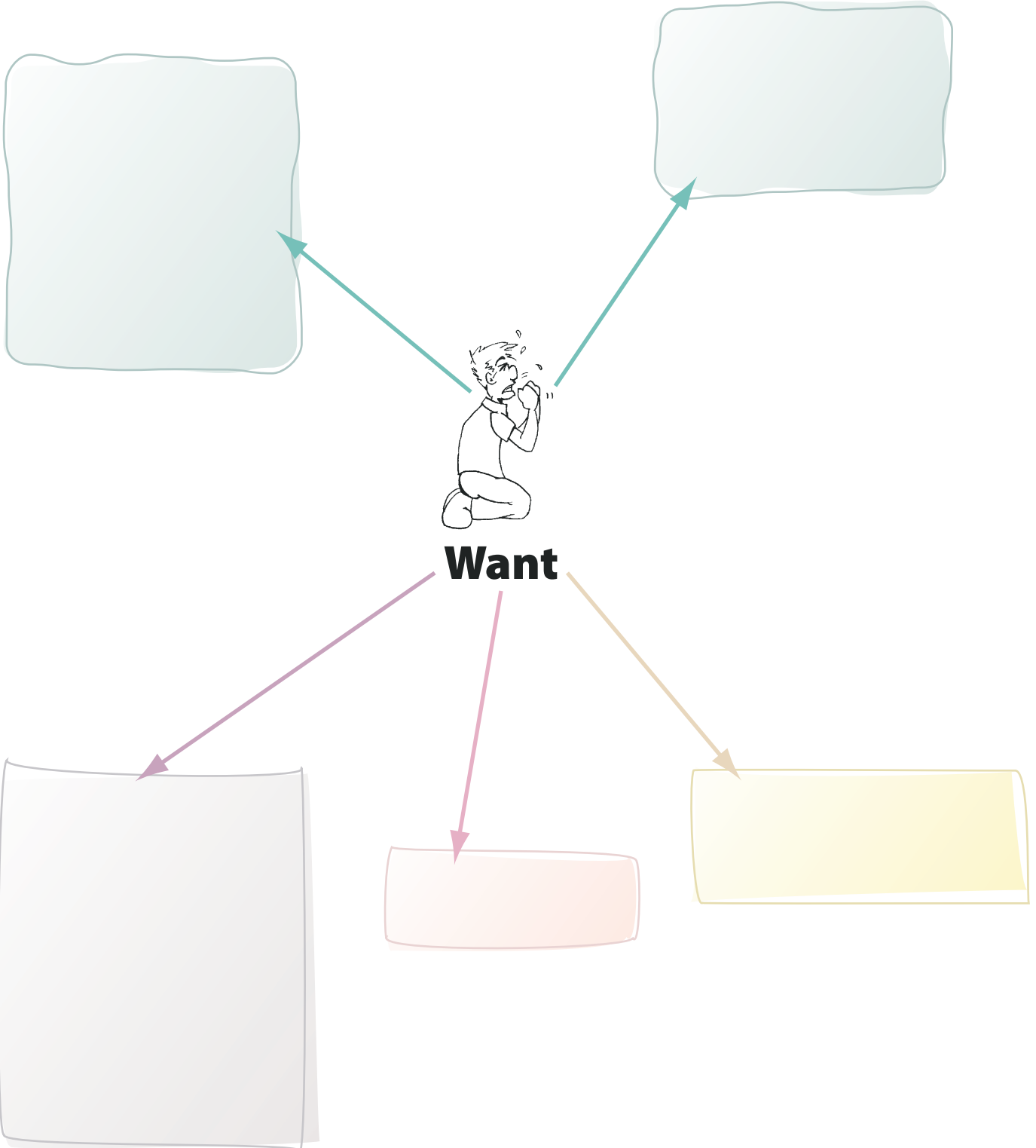- Want for nothing
- All I want
- Free from want

IDIOM
- Waste not, want not

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- To desire / desear
- To require / requerir

Want

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

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Want

Derivational Prefix & Suffix
- unwanted^v

Inflected Endings
- wants^{n,v}
- wanted^v
- wanting^v

Compound Words

Want used as a verb
- want ad

Morphological Family for Want
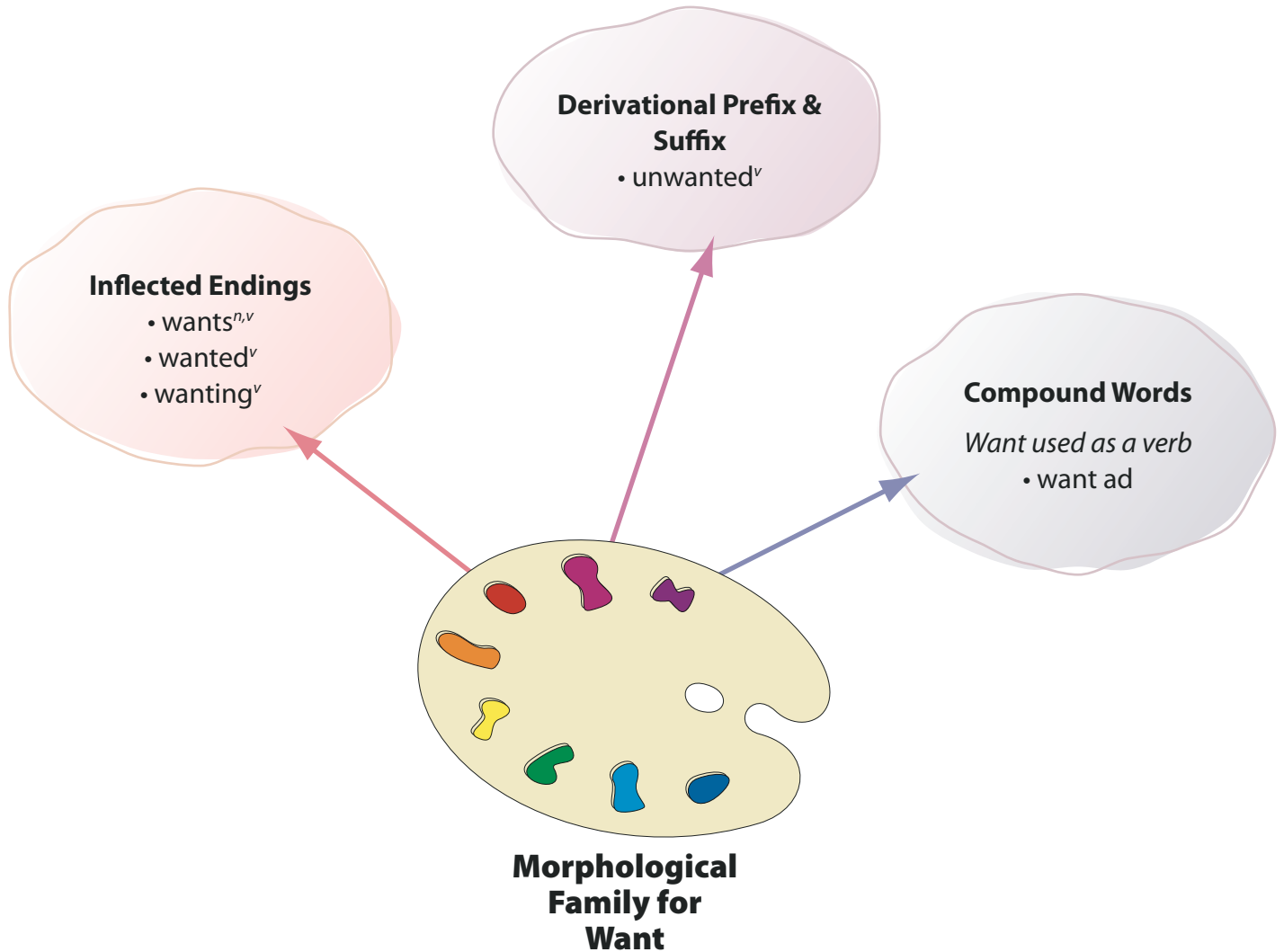
^{n} Want used as a noun
^{v} Want used as a verb

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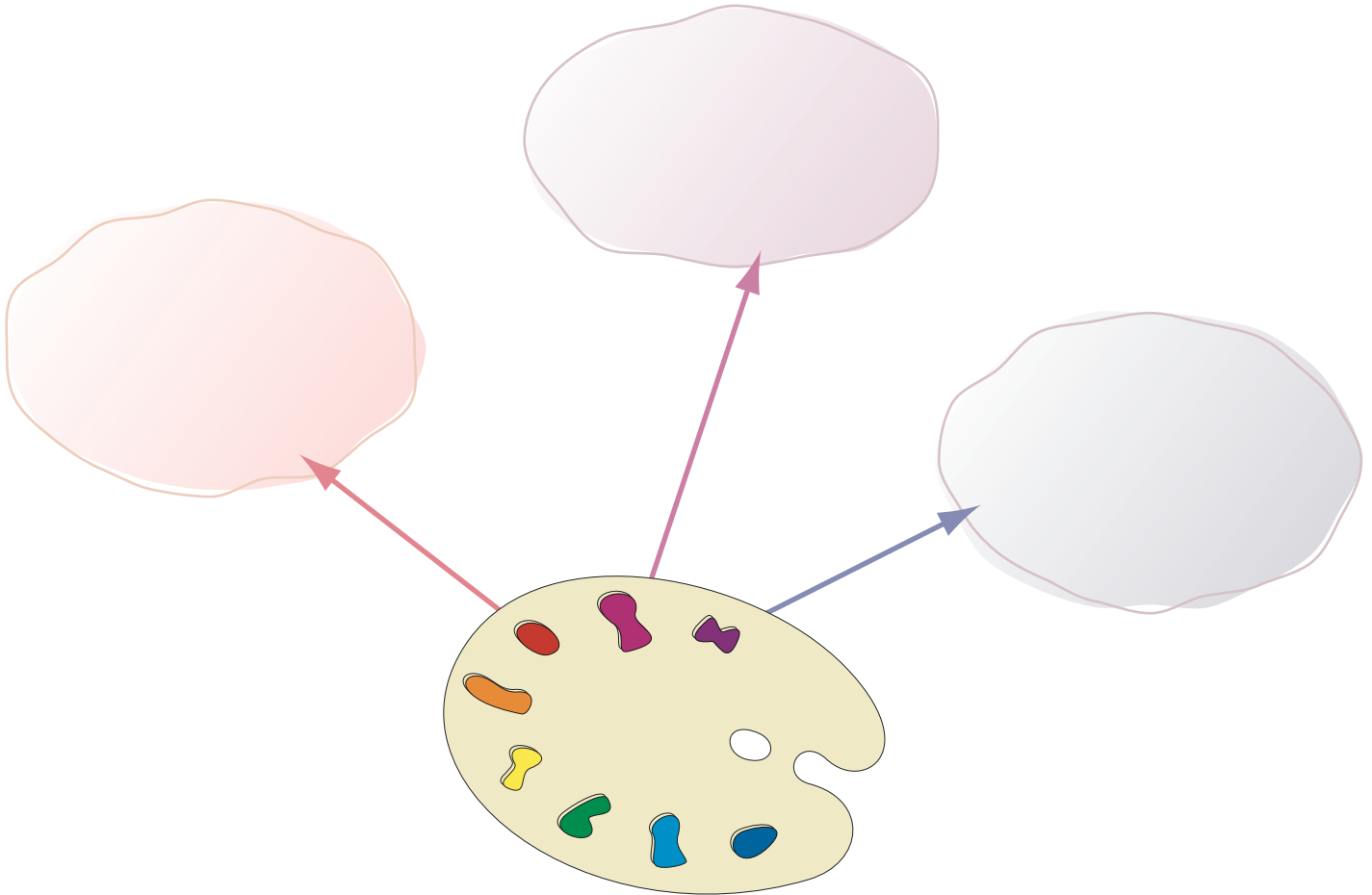
Want

**Morphological
Family for
Want**

Fast

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Fast is a versatile word, with many meanings and uses as well as synonyms. The most common use of *fast* is as an adjective or adverb referring to speed. Some people love to drive fast cars, which leads them at times to drive too fast. Being the fastest runner is an advantage for an athlete. An approaching hurricane will bring fast changes in the weather.

The word *fast*, however, also appears in expressions such as "fast friends," which means friends who feel very close, and "colorfast," which means that the color will not fade or wash out. This use of *fast* is similar to another of its meanings, "hard to move" or "securely." A frightened child will hold fast to her mother's hand. Another definition of *fast* is to purposely go without food for health or religious reasons. The act of a person abstaining from food is called a fast, a noun form of the word.

Fast is widely used in colorful idioms, and it is an excellent word to explore on a word line. In addition to learning about *fast*, *faster*, and *fastest*, students can discuss the differences between words such as *quick*, *speedy*, *hasty*, *hurried*, or *breakneck*.

Follow-Ups

- If you do your homework very quickly, will it show your best effort?

- Highways are sometimes called expressways. What might this word tell you about this type of road?

The Spanish Connection

The word *fast* comes from an Old English word, *fæst*, which meant "firmly fixed." This meaning can be seen today in the verb *fasten* (as in fasten your seat belt) and the expression "held fast" (as in held fast by a rope). *Fast* does not have a Spanish cognate. The Spanish word for *fast* is *rápido*, which is the Spanish cognate for *rapid*.

Word Changes

- In some situations, describing something as fast can carry a hint of sneakiness or deception. Common idioms such as "pull a fast one" and "fast-talk" convey a negative sense of tricking someone.

- Aside from the act of going without food, *fast* isn't used as a noun. Many common words, however, are derived from *fasten*.

- Often the suffix *-ly* is like a flag in helping students to identify adverbs. *Fast* is a bit unusual in that the adverb keeps the same form. We say "The shortstop moved fast," not "The shortstop moved fastly."

Fast

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Fast as in without warning
• sudden
• unexpected
• abrupt
• rapid

Fast as in to do something quickly
• speedy
• quick
• swift
• express
• hasty
• prompt
• high-speed
• immediate
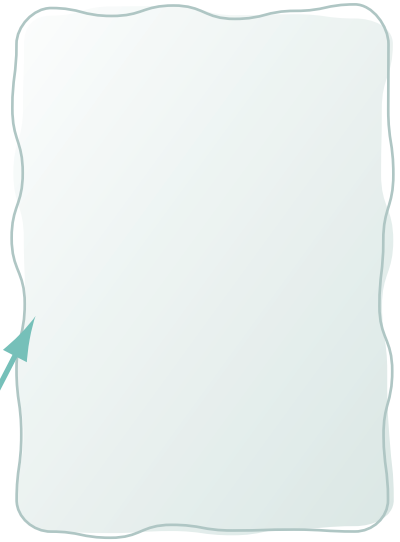• expeditious

Fast

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• rapid / rapido

IDIOMS
• Pull a fast one (on somebody)
• At a fast clip
• Bad news travels fast
• Fast and furious
• Fast friends
• Fast-talk someone into something
• Get nowhere fast
• Life in the fast lane
• Make a fast/quick buck
• Make short/fast work of someone or something
• On the fast track
• Lightening fast

COMMON PHRASES
• Fast food
• Fast asleep

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Fast

Fast

Fast

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Inflected Endings
- fasts[n,v]
- fasted[v]
- fasting[n,v]
- faster[adj,adv]
- fastest[adj,adv]

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- unfasten[n]
- unfastened[n]
- unfastening[n]
- fasten[n]
- fastener[n]
- fastened[n]

Compound Words

Fast used as an adverb
- fast-talk
- fast food
- fast lane
- fast paced
- fast track
- fast forward
- fast ball

Fast used as a noun
- stand fast
- colorfast
- hold fast
- steadfast

Fast used as a verb
- breakfast

Morphological Family for Fast

[adj] Fast used as an adjective
[adv] Fast used as an adverb
[n] Fast used as a noun
[v] Fast used as a verb

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Fast

Morphological Family for Fast

Slow

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Like its opposite, *fast*, *slow* is most often used as an adjective to describe an aspect of speed, in this case, low speed. A sore muscle caused the jogger to run at a slow pace. The day was warm and sunny, so the couple took a slow stroll through the park. The slow traffic was the result of an accident on the highway. A public bus is usually a slower mode of transportation than a car. The word *slow* often appears in combinations such as "a slow-moving train" or "slowpoke" (a person who moves slowly).

The verb *slow* means to decelerate or to reduce progress. The heavy snow slowed the hikers' climb up the mountain. The broken computer slowed the student's progress on her report. As an adverb, *slow* means in a slow manner and usually takes the form *slowly*. A leopard might creep slowly toward its prey. A grandmother might wake slowly from her nap.

Follow-Ups

- In many games, being fast or finishing first is how players win. What are some games where the last person to reach the end wins?

- Being a fast reader is a great skill, but when would reading slowly be more appropriate?

- When we are eager for something to happen, like recess or summer break, we want time to fly. When might someone want time to move slowly?

- What does it mean for a clock to be slow?

The Spanish Connection

Slow comes from an Old English word, *slaw*, meaning "slow-witted, sluggish," and deriving from an Old High German word for "blunt, or dull." Over time, *slow* developed to also mean "to move at a low speed." The Spanish word for *slow* (moving at a low speed) is *lento*.

Word Changes

- The original meaning for *slow*, having to do with intelligence or ability to learn, is still common today. Often it is used as an indirect or less harsh way to refer to a person, instead of calling him dim, unperceptive, or even stupid. However, referring to someone as slow is very often considered an insult.

- Some idioms and common phrases retain that aspect of mental dullness. For instance, someone who is "slow on the draw" or "slow on the uptake" would be someone who catches on later than others, perhaps the last person to understand the punchline of a joke.

Slow

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Slow as in to take it easy
• relax
• rest
• chill
• calm

Slow as in to take a long time
• time-consuming
• long-winded
• long-drawn-out
• protracted
• lengthy
• lingering
• gradual

Slow as in to hold something/them back
• to delay
• to retard
• to block
• to hinder
• to detain
• to stall
• to hold up
• to hold back
• to stonewall

Slow as in to decelerate
• decelerate
• brake
• lag

Slow as in to move at a low speed
• dawdle
• sluggish
• unhurried
• leisurely

Slow

Slow as in to complete a task with deliberation
• measured
• deliberate
• cautious
• careful
• methodical

COMMON PHRASES
• Slow poke
• Slow mo/motion
• Slow down
• Slow as molasses
• Slow down
• Slow pitch
• Slow lane
• Bogged down
• Slow going

IDIOMS
• At a snail's pace
• Slowly but surely
• Slow going
• Slow on the draw/uptake
• Slow off the mark
• Take it slow
• A slow burn
• Take it easy

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• to decelerate / decelerar
• gradual / gradual
• methodical / metódico(a)

Slow

Tuesday 17

Slow

Slow

Exceptional
Expressions
for **Everyday**
Events™

Tuesday 17
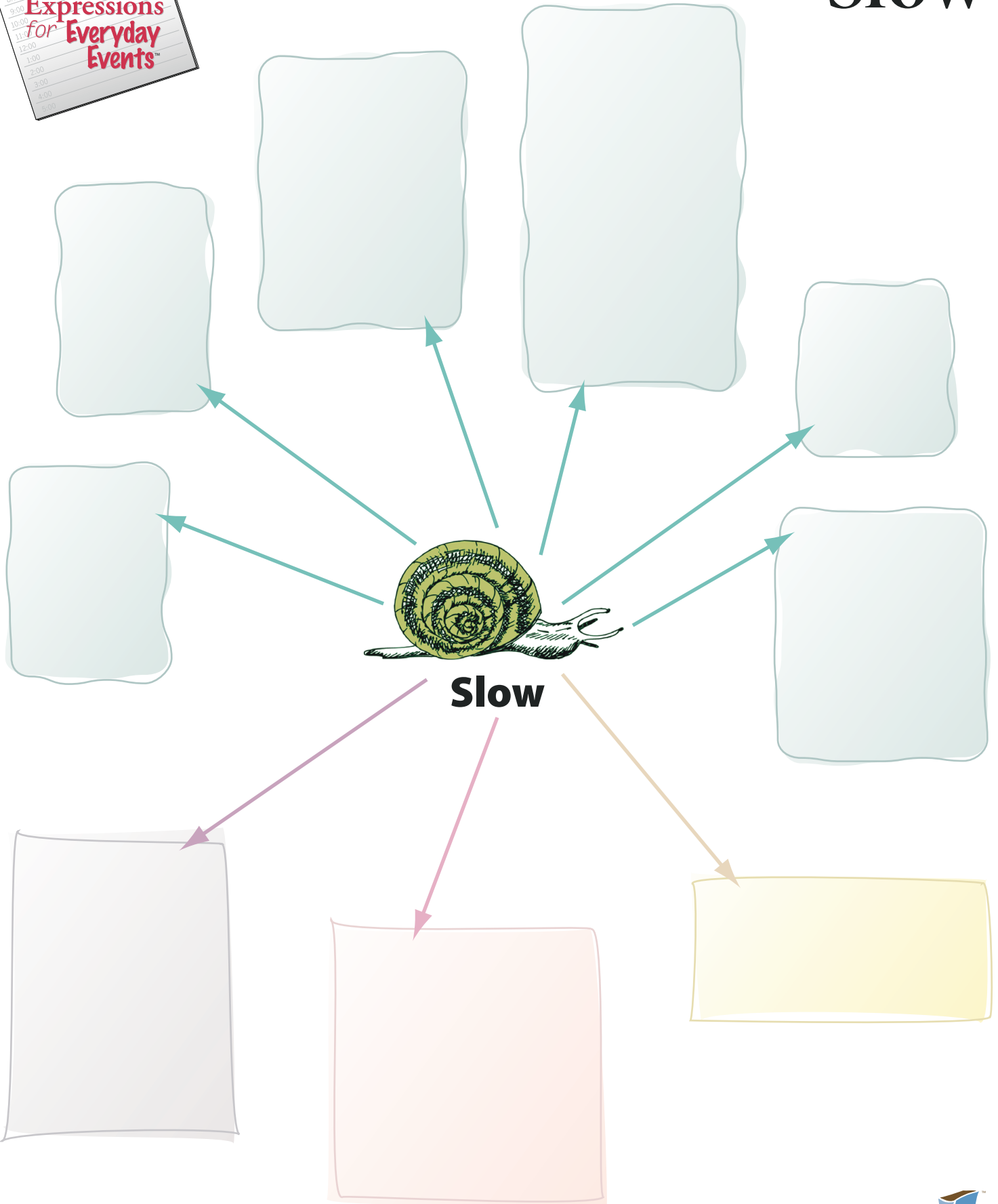
Inflected Endings

- slows^v
- slowed^v
- slowing^v
- slowly^{adv}
- slower^{adv}
- slowest^{adv}

Derivational Suffix

- slowness^{adv}

Compound Words

Slow used as an adverb
- slow pitch
- slow down
- slow cooker
- slow dancing
- slow pitch
- slow lane
- slow poke
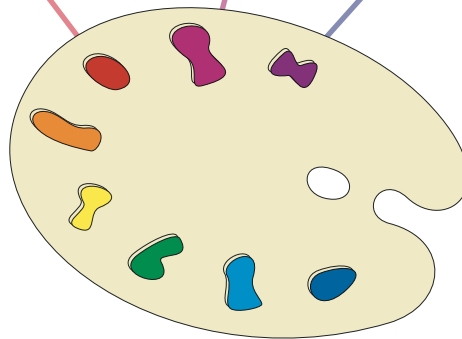
**Morphological
Family for
Slow**

^{adv} Slow used as an adverb
^{v} Slow used as a verb

Slow

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™
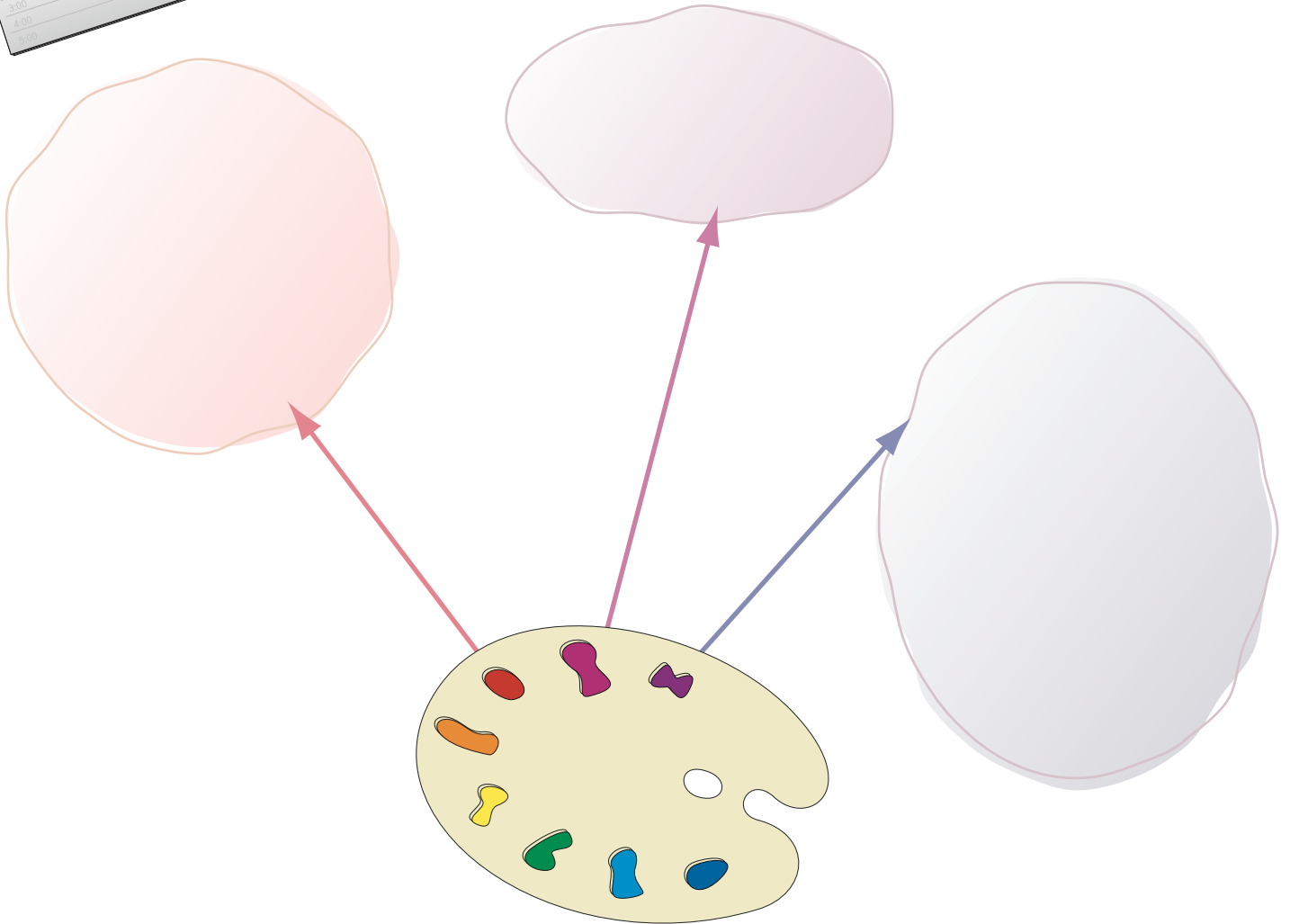
**Morphological
Family for
Slow**

Happy

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Happy is a very common word, but it does have some subtleties in the ways it is used. *Happy* is primarily used as an adjective to describe an enjoyable or contented feeling. Students feel happy when they earn a good grade on an assignment. A child feels happy if she receives a gift that she wanted for her birthday. A dog is very happy when his family comes home at the end of the day.

In some uses, however, *happy* conveys a meaning closer to satisfaction or acceptance rather than joy. To say, "The performers were happy with the audience turnout," suggests that the attendance was sufficient but a higher turnout would have been even better. "I am happy with this batch of cookies" most likely means the cookies are acceptable in appearance or taste, but are not quite as good as the baker had hoped.

Happy sometimes means "willing," as in "I would be happy to cut the grass for my brother this weekend." You might not mind helping your brother, but mowing the lawn probably is not a blissful activity for you. Yet another subtle use for *happy* is "fortunate" or "convenient." A happy accident is an event that was unexpected but turned out to be beneficial. Happy appears as part of many greetings as well, such as "Happy Birthday!" and "Happy New Year!"

Happy shows up in many colorful phrases and expressions, and it has many synonyms, making it an excellent word to explore on a word line.

Follow-Ups

- What is the difference between being happy and being ecstatic?

- When might we use the word *happy* when we actually mean appropriate or suitable?

The Spanish Connection

The word *happy* comes from an Early Middle-English word, *hap*. It is believed that hap is an adaptation of an Old Norse word, *happ*, which means chance, or good luck. The Spanish word for happy is *feliz*. Although *feliz* is not a cognate of *happy*, *feliz* is related to other words in English such as *felicity* or *felicitous*.

Word Changes

- When *-happy* is added to the end of a word, as in money-happy or clothes-happy, the idea is one of excessiveness or spontaneity. A money-happy person is one who cares too much about money. A clothes-happy friend may impulsively buy more clothes than he can use because he is fascinated by new fashions.

Happy

Tuesday 17

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Happy as in fortunate
- fortuitous
- auspicious
- fortunate
- lucky

Happy as in something that is a good fit
- apt
- appropriate
- acceptable
- suitable

Happy as in an overexcited feeling
- ecstatic
- overjoyed
- delighted
- thrilled
- elated
- jubilant

Happy as in a joyful feeling
- content
- euphoric
- felicitous
- glad
- joyful
- joyous
- pleased
- blithe
- gay
- delighted
- cheery
- merry

Happy as in a peaceful feeling
- halcyon
- blissful
- serene

Happy

COMMON PHRASES
- Happy Birthday
- Happy New Year
- Happy ending
- Happy to help
- Couldn't be happier
- In high spirits
- Happy event

IDIOMS
- Happy camper
- A happy medium
- Happy go lucky
- Happy as a clam
- On cloud nine
- Seventh heaven
- Over the moon
- Happy family

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- fortuitous / fortuito(a)
- euphoric / eufórico(a)
- felicitous / feliz
- serene / sereno
- jubilant / de júbilo

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Happy

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Happy

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Happy

Derivational Suffixes & Prefixes
- happiness
- unhappy
- unhappiness

Inflected Endings
- happier
- happiest
- happily

Compound Words
- happy-go-lucky
- trigger happy
- slap happy

Morphological Family for Happy

Happy
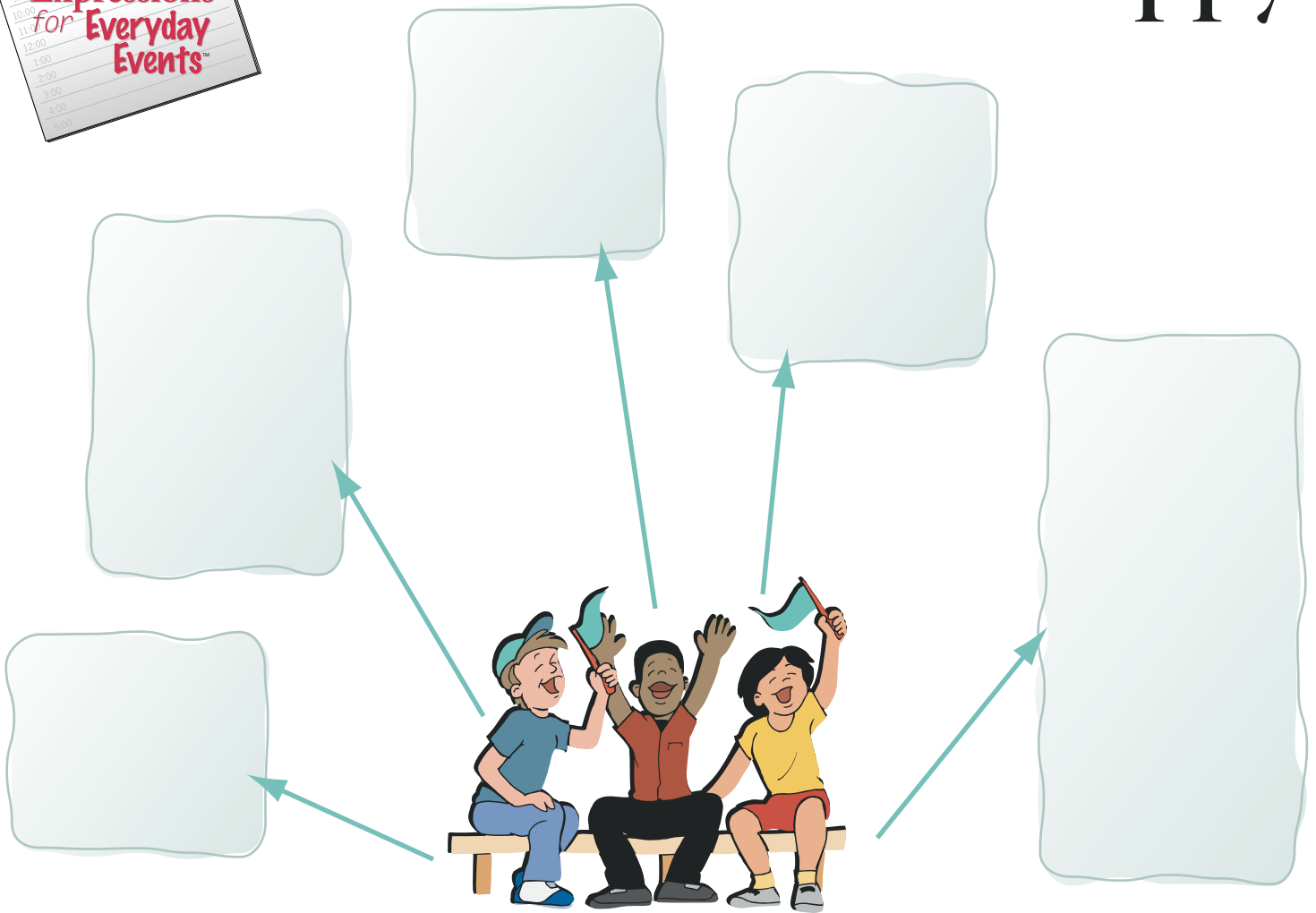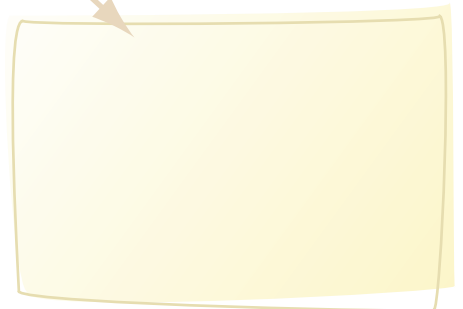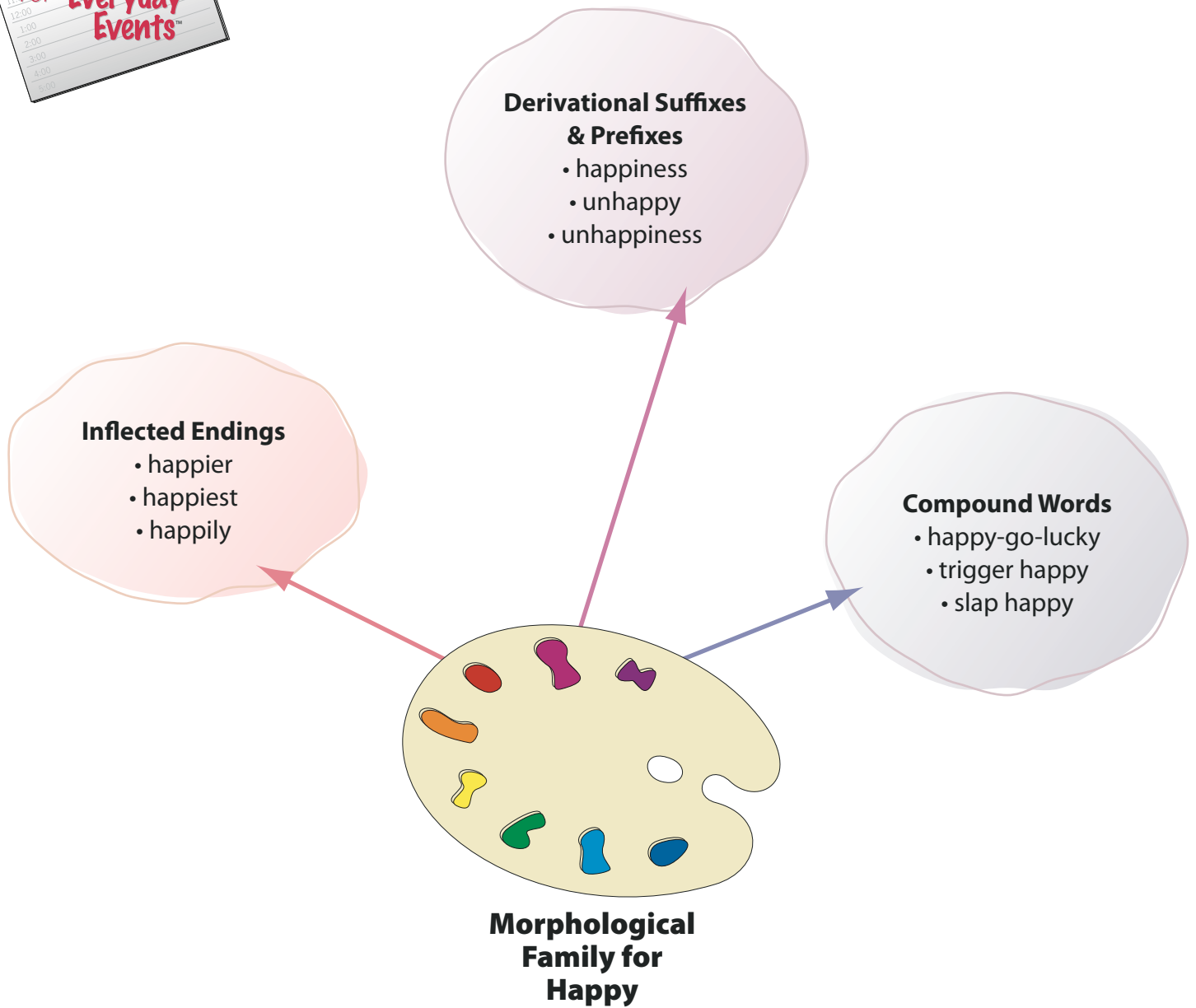
Morphological
Family for
Happy

Sad
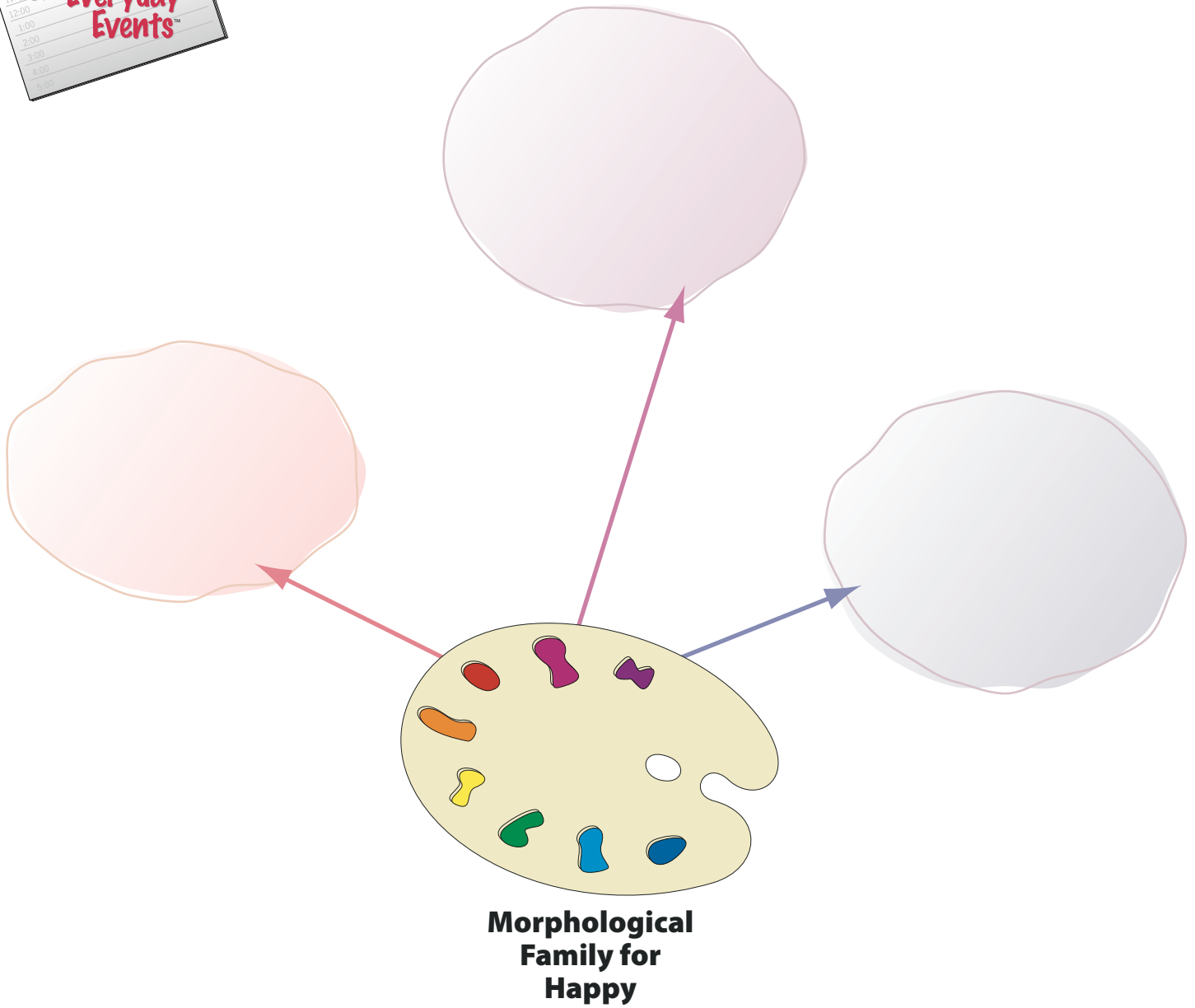
Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Sad, like its opposite, *happy*, is an adjective generally used to describe feelings, although in this instance the feelings are those of sorrow or unhappiness. A person will feel sad if a good friend moves far away, or if a family member is very sick. *Sad* can also refer to situations that are considered unfortunate. When heavy rains caused the dam to break and flood the town, it was a sad day for everyone. *Sad* can describe something that is in deplorable or shabby condition, such as the sad state of the economy or the sad appearance of a run-down neighborhood.

In more casual or informal usage, *sad* is often used to mean pathetic or inadequate. If a student waits until the last minute to complete a project, it might look pretty sad compared to those of others in the class. A movie sequel might be a sad attempt to recreate the excitement of the first film. The basketball team's lackluster performance was a sad sight.

The many synonyms for *sad* make it a very worthwhile word to explore. Consider the differences in meaning between words such as *blue*, *down*, *gloomy*, *depressed*, *melancholy*, *woebegone*, or *inconsolable*.

Follow-Ups

- What is the difference between being sad and being somber?

- If someone broke their last pencil, would they feel despondent?

- When might someone feel heartbroken?

- What might you say to a friend who is sad?

The Spanish Connection

The word *sad* is a cognate of the Old Dutch *sat*. The Spanish word for *sad* is *triste*. *Sad* and *triste* are not cognates. However, a few synonyms of *sad* do have Spanish cognates. One example would be *melancholy* and *melancolía*.

Word Changes

- People do not always use the most precise or accurate words in their speech and writing. Sometimes they do not know the best word, or they do not think about trying out new words. It is common, for instance, for people to say they are depressed when in reality they are only a little sad.

- Sometimes people purposefully want to embellish a story they are telling to make it more interesting and colorful. Many of the synonyms for *sad* can add richness and meaning to conversation or writing.

Sad

**Sad as in
full of grief**
- sorrow
- remorse
- despondent
- inconsolable
- depressed
- gloomy
- downcast
- downhearted
- melancholy
- morose
- unhappy
- miserable
- cheerless
- heartbroken
- blue
- glum

**Sad as in
bad quality**
- pathetic
- terrible
- sorry
- deplorable
- run-down
- shabby
- bleak
- horrible
- inferior
- poor

Sad

COMMON PHRASES
- Sad face
- Sad situation

IDIOMS
- Sad song
- Beyond all hope
- Sad/sorry sight
- A sad state
- Sadder but wiser
- (Feeling) blue

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- horrible / horrible
- melancholy / melancolia
- inconsolable / inconsolable

www.textproject.org/e4

Sad

Sad

Sad

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Derivational Suffixes
- sadness
- sadden

Inflected Endings
- sadder
- saddest
- sadly

Compound Words
- sad-eyes
- sad case

Morphological Family for Sad

Sad
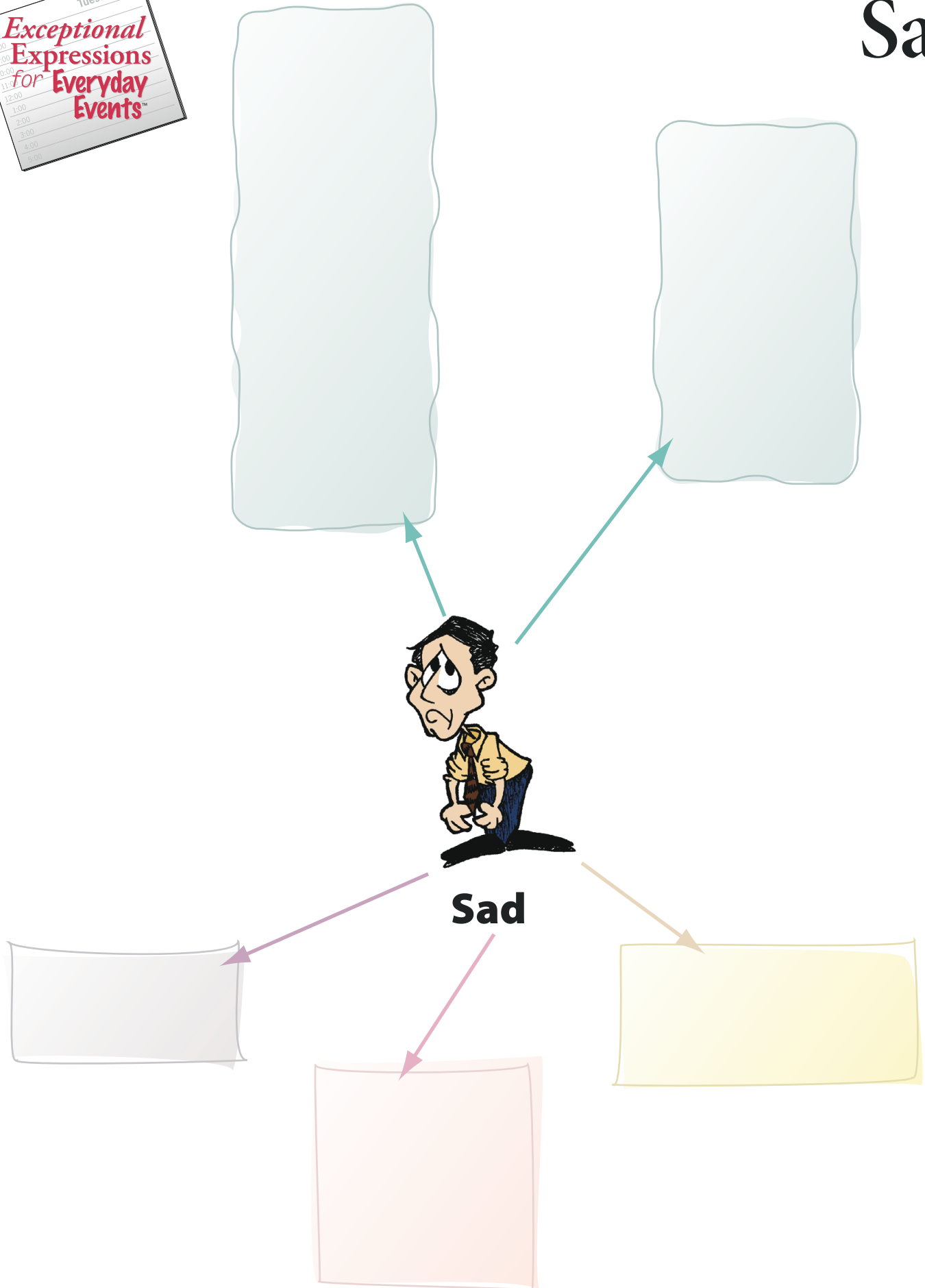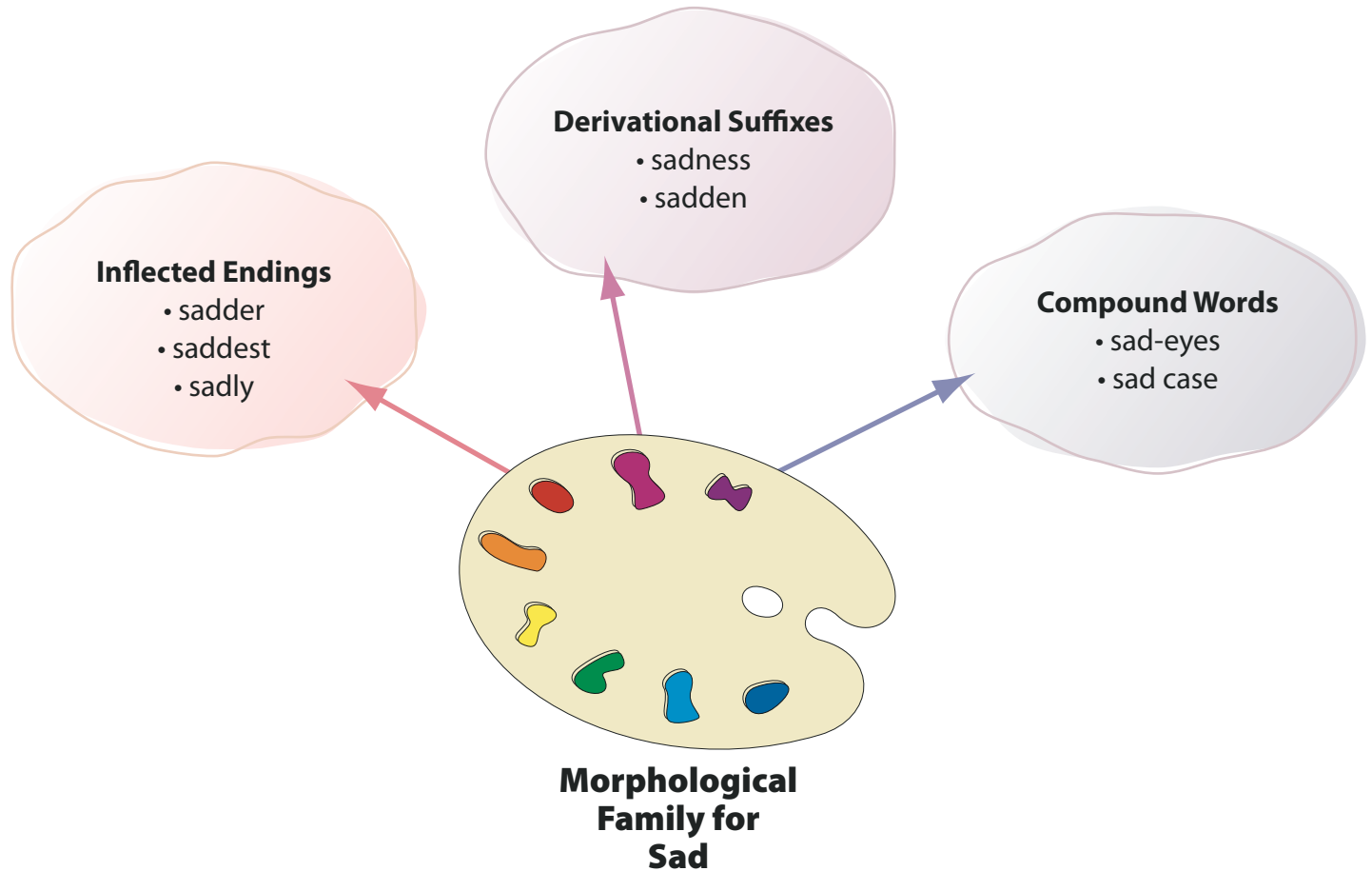
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Sad**
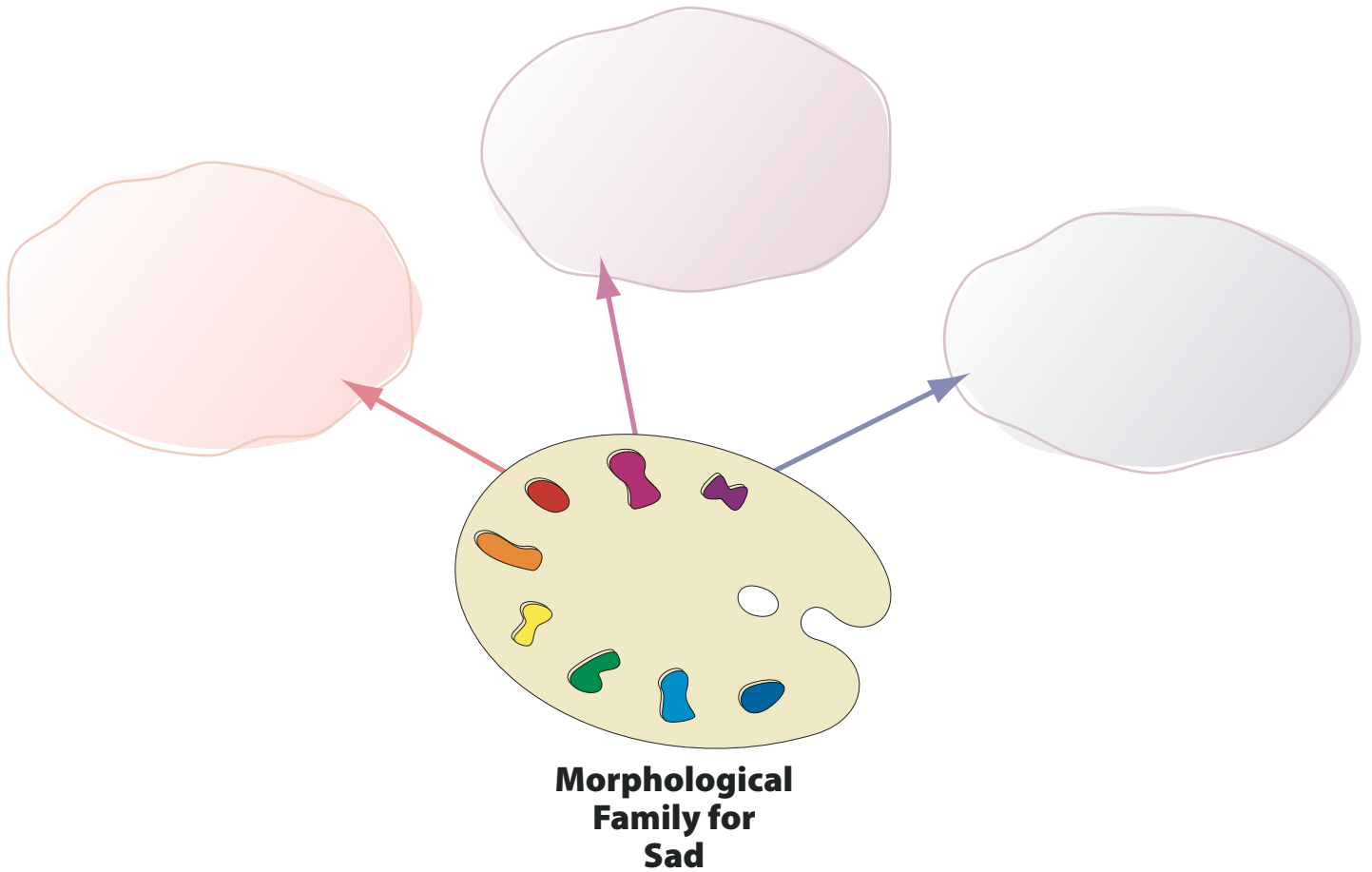
Right

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Understanding the many, many ways in which the word *right* is used will certainly expand students' language facility. *Right* serves as an adjective, an adverb, a noun, and a verb, in addition to appearing in quite a few vivid idioms such as "right as rain" and "right off the bat." As an adjective, *right* can mean morally good, factually correct, or appropriate. It was tempting to keep the money he found, but Marcus knew returning it was the right thing to do. The math problem had only one right answer. Maria went shopping for the right scarf to match her new dress. *Right* also refers to one side of a person or thing in the context of right versus left (right hand, right eye, right field).

Right as a verb means to restore something to its normal or upright position (as in to right a sailboat after it has turned over in the water), or to redress an injustice. Merely saying he was sorry did not seem to right the damage the man had caused.

In addition to its directional uses, the noun *right* is an important word in social and legal contexts. *Right* means that which is morally, ethically, or legally proper. Even young children know right from wrong. Laura had every right to be angry when the other girls bullied her. For many years, women in the United States did not have a legal right to vote. Judges often weigh, or balance, the rights of individuals against the good of the society.

Follow-Ups

- What is the difference between "I'll be right back" and "I will return later"?
- What is the difference between doing the right thing and doing what works best for you?

The Spanish Connection

The word *right* comes from the Old English word *riht*, meaning "just, good, fair, proper, fitting." This shows that the most common use for the word *right* has not changed much from the original meaning. The Spanish word for *right* is *correcto(a)*. *Correcto(a)* is not a cognate for the word *right*, but it is the cognate for *correct*.

Word Changes

- As an adverb, *right* sometimes takes an *-ly* ending, and sometimes not. The race car driver was rightly famous for his skill. Voters are rightly worried about the state of the economy. But one can also say "Turn right at the next traffic light," or "If you guess right, you will win the prize."

- Just to make things a little more challenging, in the sentence "Make a right turn," *right* is an adjective. In "Turn right," *right* is an adverb. If you say "Turn to the right," *right* is a noun." But if you right the car's steering wheel after the turn, *right* is a verb.

Right

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Right

Right as in to be correct
- correct
- precise
- accurate
- true
- genuine
- authentic
- satisfactory
- exact
- real

Right as in to confirm
- validate
- verify
- confirm
- authenticate
- confirm
- certify

Right as in the best option
- favorable
- desirable
- convenient
- advantageous
- decent

Right as in fitting
- fitting
- proper
- appropriate
- suitable
- respectable
- just
- fair
- perfect

IDIOMS
- Right off the bat
- Right on the money/nose
- Coming at me from right and left
- Right as rain
- Get off on the right foot
- Might is right
- Right on!
- Right hand man
- The left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing
- Two wrongs don't make a right

COMMON PHRASES
- Right there
- Right away/now
- Right this minute
- Come right in

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- appropriate / apropiado(a)
- respectable / respetable
- precise / preciso(a)
- genuine / genuino(a)
- authentic / auténtico(a)
- satisfactory / satisfactorio(a)
- exact / exacto(a)
- authenticate / autentificar
- confirm / confirmar
- favorable / favorable
- perfect / perfecto

Right

Right

Right

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- upright*suf*
- outright*suf*
- alright*suf*
- downright*suf*
- forthright*suf*
- righteous*n*
- rightful*n*
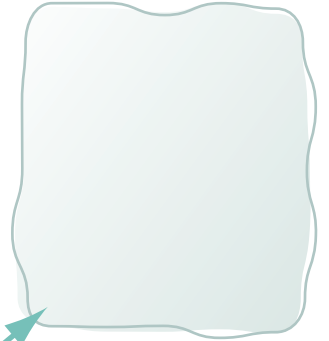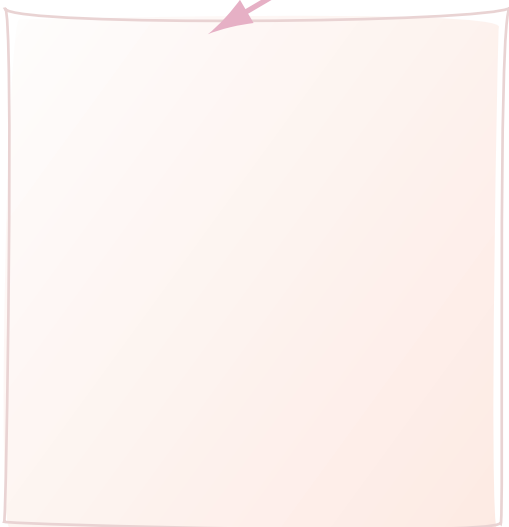
Inflected Endings
- rights*n*
- rightly*adv*

Compound Words

Right used as an adverb
- right-about
- right-hand
- right-of-way
- right-side-out
- right on
- right stuff
- right side up
- right away
- right angle

Right used as a noun
- copyright
- birthright
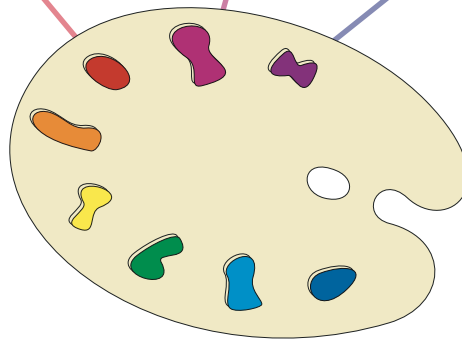
Morphological Family for Right

adv Right used as an adverb
n Right used as a noun
v Right used as a verb
suf Right used as a suffix

Right

**Morphological
Family for
Right**
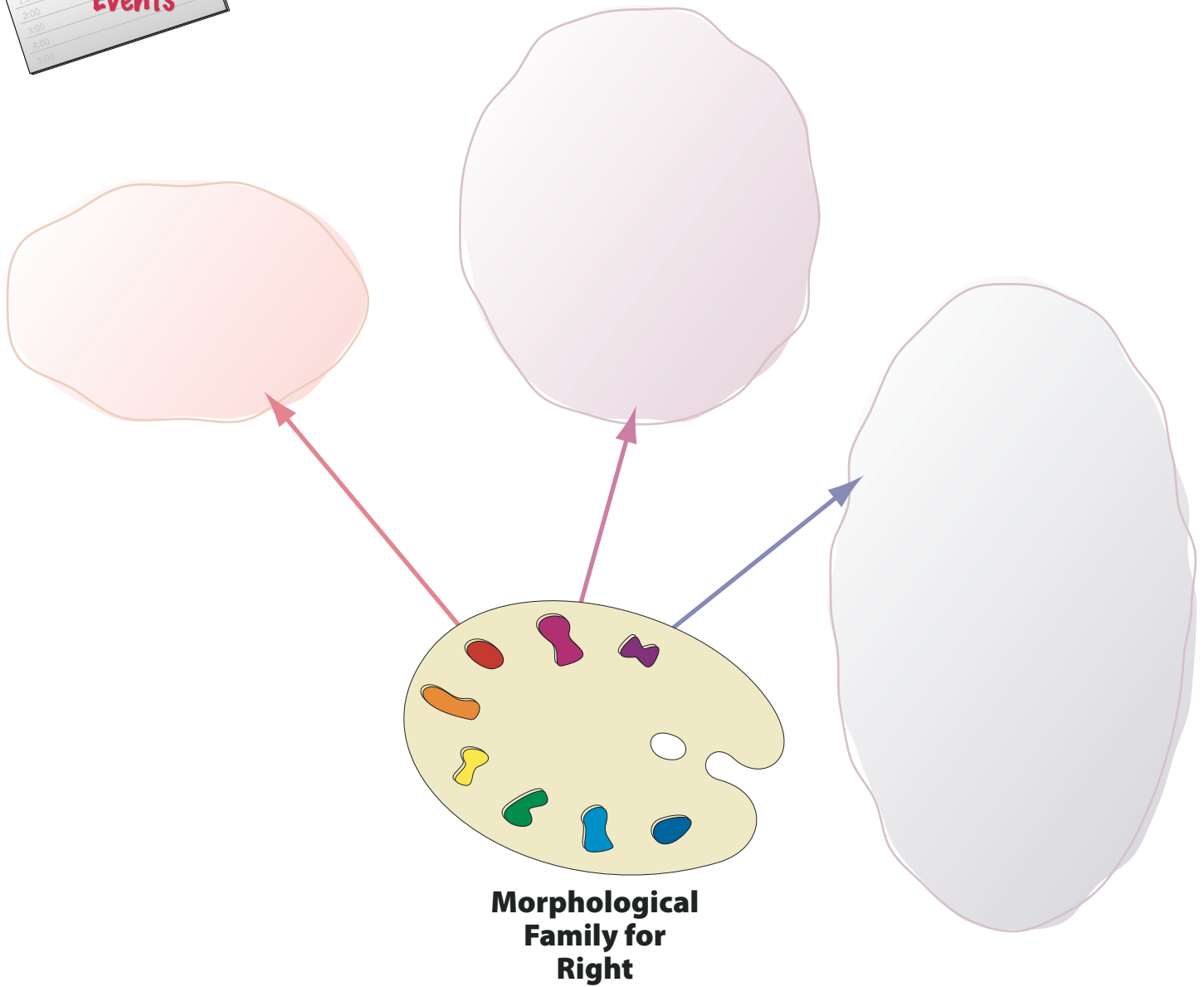
Said

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Said is the past tense and past participle form of the word *say*, and it is an unavoidable term for anyone using the English language. Meaning to speak, utter, declare, or express, *said* and *say* could appear in nearly any sentence where one person is conveying information to another. The instructions said this was the proper way to assemble the bicycle. The government report said everyone should eat more fruits and vegetables. Rosa said she would arrive at 4:00 p.m. If anything, the word *said* might be overused, since it is a neutral word that does not necessarily provide much contextual information. Everyday communication can be made more accurate, or more engaging, by using the many synonyms of said.

Follow-Ups

- When might someone murmur or whisper? Shout or bellow?

- What is the difference between mumbling, "I am glad to see you," and squealing, "I am glad to see you"?

- Imagine different situations in which someone says "hello," answers "hello," whispers "hello," yells "hello," and screams "hello."

The Spanish Connection

The word *said* comes from an Old English word. But the word *said* can be found in many different languages as well. The Spanish word for *said* is *dije*. It is not a cognate for the word *said*. But many of the synonyms for *said* do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- There are few derivational and inflected endings for *said*. Most members of the morphological family are derived from *say*.

- The idiom "when all is said and done" carries the idea of "after everything has been considered," or as a phrase setting up a summary statement or end result. For example, "I spent 20 minutes explaining what happened to the book, but when all was said and done, I still had to pay the library fine." Losing our luggage was very inconvenient, but when all was said and done we still enjoyed our vacation.

- One very specific use of *said* as an adjective occurs in legal language meaning something or someone that has already been mentioned (or the aforesaid). For example, a rental contract between a landlord and a tenant might mention each by name in the first sentence. Then in the rest of the contract, they would be referred to as "said landlord" and "said tenant."

Said

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Said as in to speak with humor
- laughed
- joked
- crackled

Said as in to reply to a question
- responded
- replied
- answered
- retorted
- countered

Said as in to speak with excitement
- shouted
- yelled
- proclaimed
- cried
- bellowed
- screeched
- hollered
- roared
- screamed

Said as in to speak
- uttered
- verbalized
- addressed
- delivered

Said as in to interrupt
- interjected
- interrupted
- cut in

Said as in to ask a question
- questioned
- interrogated
- grilled
- asked
- quizzed

Said as in to speak in a low voice or without noise
- mouthed
- murmured
- whispered
- mimed
- thought
- hissed

Said

Said as in to speak with anger
- fumed

COMMON PHRASE
- Was it something I said?

IDIOMS
- Easier said than done
- Enough said
- No sooner said than done
- When all's said and done
- He said, she said

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to interrupt / interrumpir
- to respond / responder
- to proclaim / proclamar
- to interrogate / interrogar

Said

Tuesday 17

Exceptional
Expressions
for **Everyday**
Events™

Said

Said

Exceptional
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Inflected Endings
- say
- says
- saying

Derivational Prefix
- unsaid

Compound Words
- naysayer
- say so

Morphological Family for Said

Said

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17
8:00
9:00
10:00
11:00
12:00
1:00
2:00
3:00
4:00
5:00
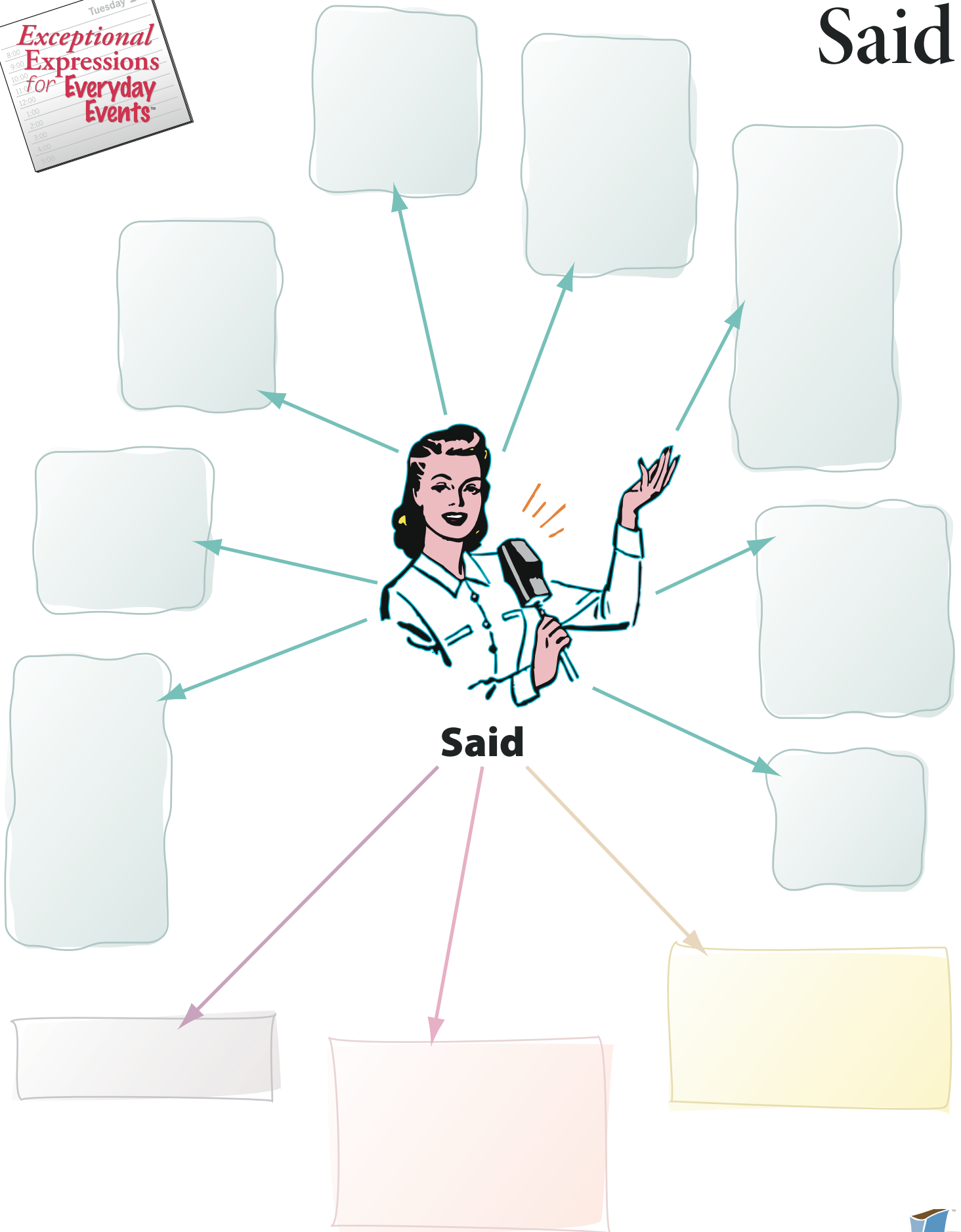
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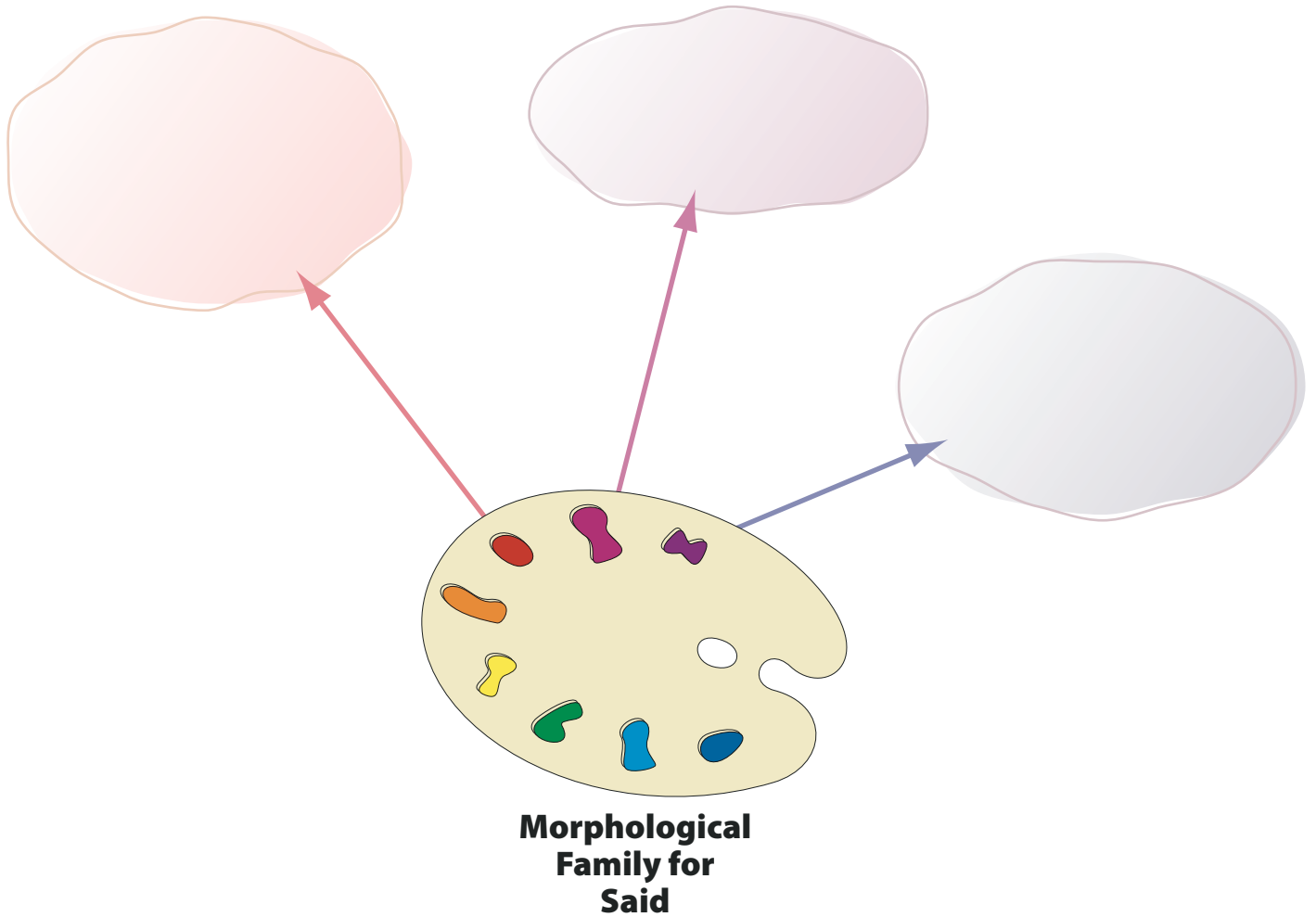
Think

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Let's think about ways to use the word **think**. In a classroom, regardless of the activity, the primary goal is to encourage students to think. **Think** is most often used as a verb meaning to focus one's mind on something, to use one's mind to connect ideas. It can also mean to hold certain beliefs or opinions. Teachers may ask their students to think about the solution to a math problem. Teachers may also use techniques to help show students thinking processes. Thinking can be as simple as deciding what to wear for the day, or it can be as complex as pondering the meaning of life. Thinking may take only a split second of inspiration, or it may require an extended process of reviewing and revising over many years, as with a scientific breakthrough.

Although most common as a verb, **think** also appears on occasion as a noun and even an adjective. Informally, one might say, "This situation has really confused me. I need to take a walk and give it a good think." As an adjective, **think** is used in combinations such as think tank, think piece, and think session. These expressions all convey the idea that an expert, or a group of experts, is focusing deeply and analytically on an issue.

Follow-Ups

- When choosing a present for someone special, do you want to think you have a good gift, or know you have a good gift?

- When thinking of a solution on a math test, do you want to perseverate on a single problem?

- What is the difference between brainstorming and researching a problem?

The Spanish Connection

Think comes from the Middle English *thenken* or *thinken*, and it is related to the Dutch and German *denken*. The Spanish word for **to think** is *pensar*. **Think** and *pensar* are not cognates. But some of the synonyms for **think** do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- The past tense and past participle of **think** take an unusual form: **thought**. The word **thought** can be used as a noun and as a verb.

- **Think** can be used as a term to direct people's acts and thoughts. For example, the phrase "Think green" is a suggestion for people to consider changing their behaviors to help the environment. Using refillable water bottles and cloth grocery bags are ways for people to "Think green."

- A **think tank** refers to an organization or institution where a group of knowledgeable or experienced people study and write about specific problems, often political or economic issues.

Think

Think as in to be unsure of
- believe
- guess
- think
- reckon
- suspects
- feel
- suppose
- sense

Think as in to develop or consider ideas
- conceive
- consider
- ponder
- imagine
- brainstorm
- reason

Think as in to think deeply
- perseverate
- contemplate
- analyze
- evaluate
- ruminate
- deliberate
- study
- reflect
- meditate
- cogitate

Think

IDIOMS
- Think big
- Think little of
- Think up
- Think it over
- Think it through
- Think tank
- Think better of
- Think fit
- Think again
- Think clearly
- Think nothing of it
- Hear myself think
- Don't think much of it
- Put your thinking cap on
- Think before you act
- Weigh up the odds/the pros and cons

COMMON PHRASES
- Think fast
- Chew over
- Brood over
- Wonder about
- Mull over
- Think back
- Think twice
- Wishful thinking
- Come to think of it
- Think aloud/out loud
- Think green

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to imagine / imaginar
- to meditate / meditar
- to consider / considerer
- to conceive / concebir
- to analyze / analizar
- to evaluate / evaluar
- to deliberate / deliberar
- to meditate / meditar

Think

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™
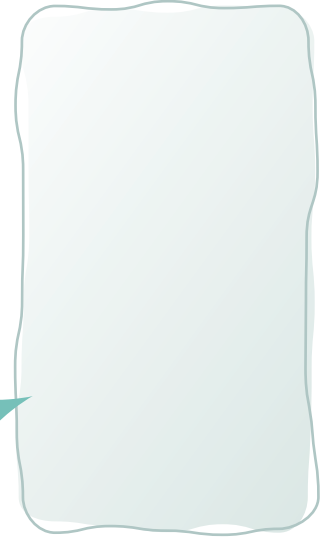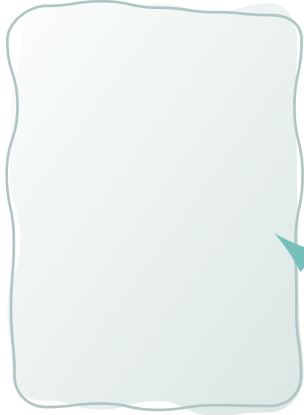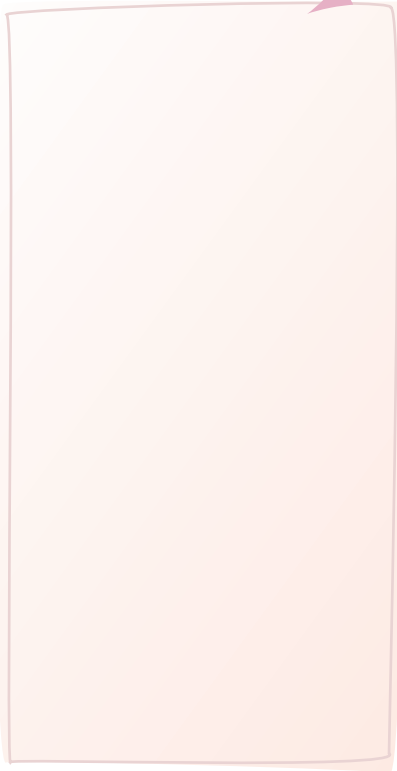
Think

Think

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- rethink
- unthinkable
- unthinking
- thinker
- thoughless
- thoughtful
- unthoughtful

Inflected Endings
- thinks
- thinking

Compound Words
- think tank
- freethinker
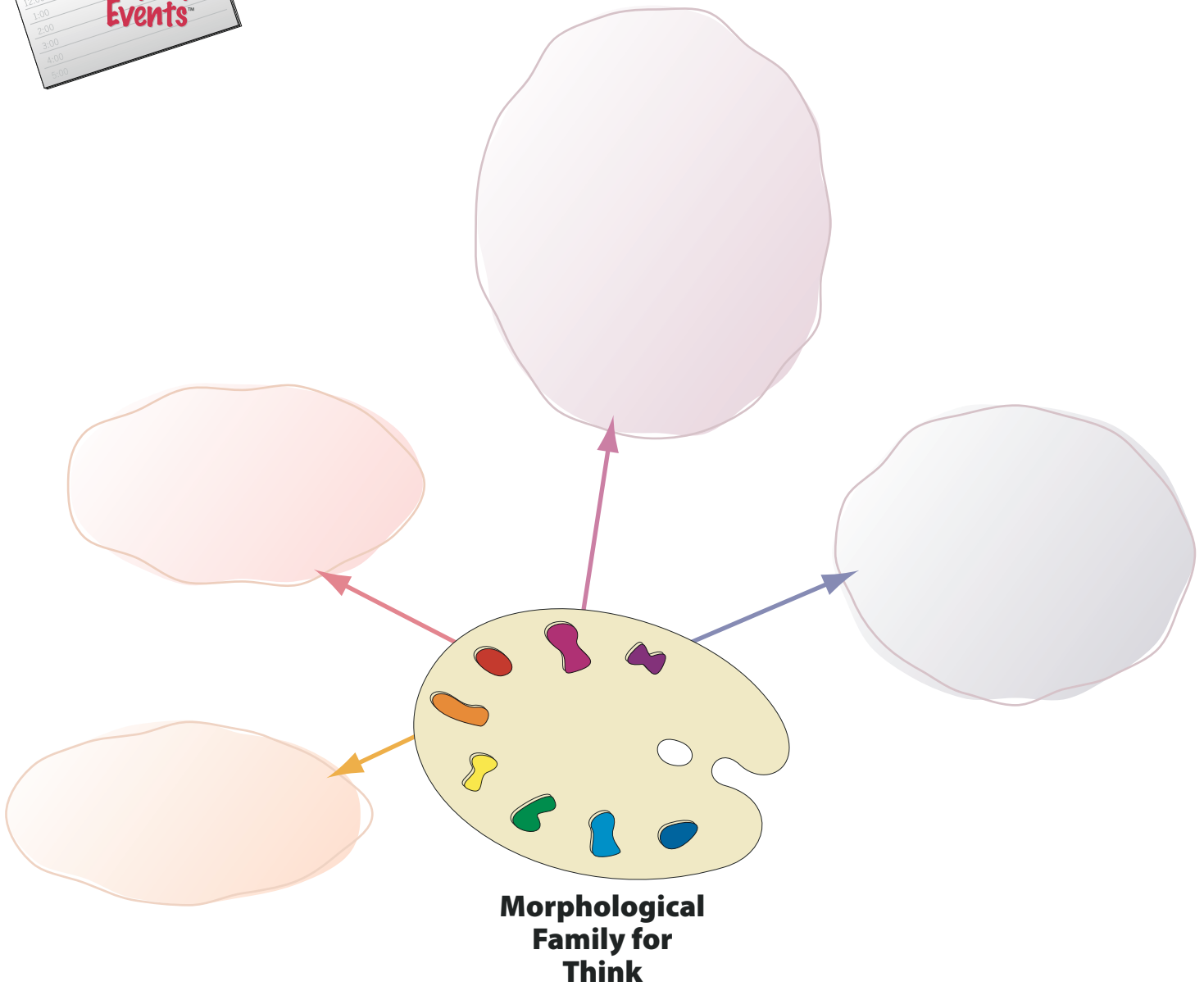- freethinkiing

Irregular Spelling
- thought

Morphological Family for Think

Think

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17
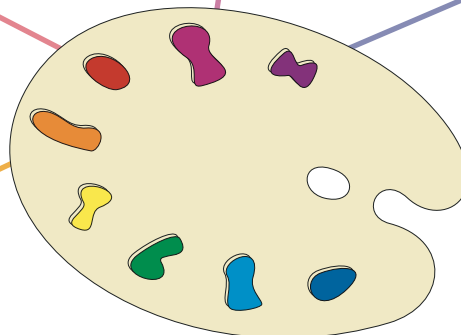
**Morphological
Family for
Think**

Give

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

The OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY contains dozens of definitions for **give**. The most common definition, however, is the physical transfer of an object. In a classroom, the teacher may ask students to give their permission slips to the class leader. A student may ask a friend to give him or her the ball while playing a game.

In addition to its use for physical objects, **give** can refer to the transfer of ideas. For example, a parent might say, "Give me a good reason for why you are late!" A teacher may ask students to "Give an example of this word in a sentence."

Follow-Ups

- What is the difference between presenting an award and offering a reward?

- Would you grant a favor or assign a favor to a friend?

- If you donate an object, do you expect to receive money in exchange for it?

The Spanish Connection

Give comes from an Old English word with German roots. The Spanish word for **to give** is *dar*. The Spanish word for **give** is not a cognate. However, some of the synonyms for give have Spanish cognates such as **transmit** and *transmitir*.

Word Changes

- **Misgive** as a verb, meaning to raise doubt or fear, is today archaic or rarely used. A few members of its morphological family, however, are still common. For example, the noun **misgiving** is a feeling or thought of mistrust, apprehension, or loss of confidence.

- Some synonyms for **give** have technical definitions specific to science and other content areas. For example, in describing a flu virus transferred from person to person, **transfer** refers to the movement of a disease.

- A person's **given name** is the person's name or names bestowed upon him or her, rather than passed on by birth. The **given name** is in contrast to a person's family name or surname, which is inherited. A **given name** is also distinct from a nickname, which is less formal.

Give

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Give as a scientific term
- transmit
- transfer

Give as in to give off
- emit
- discharge
- secrete
- produce

Give as in to give something to someone
- provide
- offer
- present
- furnish
- bestow
- grant
- award
- confer
- assign
- allot
- donate
- bequeath
- impart
- pass
- yield

Give

IDIOMS
- Give birth/rise to
- Give or take
- Give and take
- Give notice
- Give (someone) a hard time
- Give way
- Give it up for
- Give up/in
- What gives?
- Give a once over
- Give a hoot
- Give it a whirl
- Give thanks

COMMON PHRASES
- Give over
- Give out
- Send out
- Give away
- Give off
- Give back

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to transmit / transmitir
- to emit / emitir
- to secrete / secretar

Give

Give

Give

Exceptional
Expressions
for **Everyday**
Events™

Tuesday 17

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
• misgiving
• misgivings
• giver
• given
• forgive
• forgiven

Inflected Endings
• gives
• giving

Compound Words
• caregiver
• thanksgiving
• giveaway
• given name

Irregular Spelling
• gave

Morphological Family for Give

Give

**Exceptional
Expressions
for Everyday
Events™**

Tuesday 17
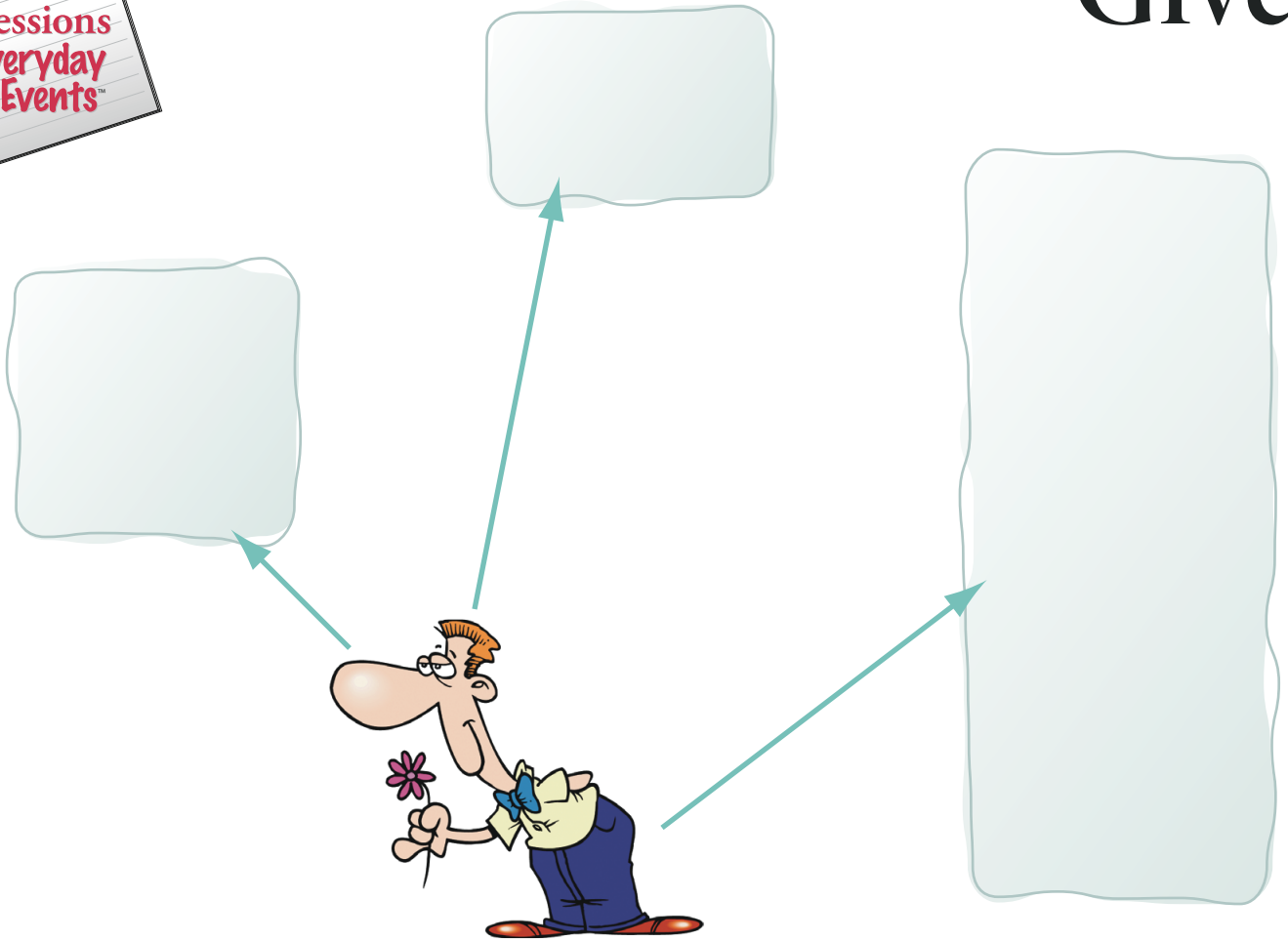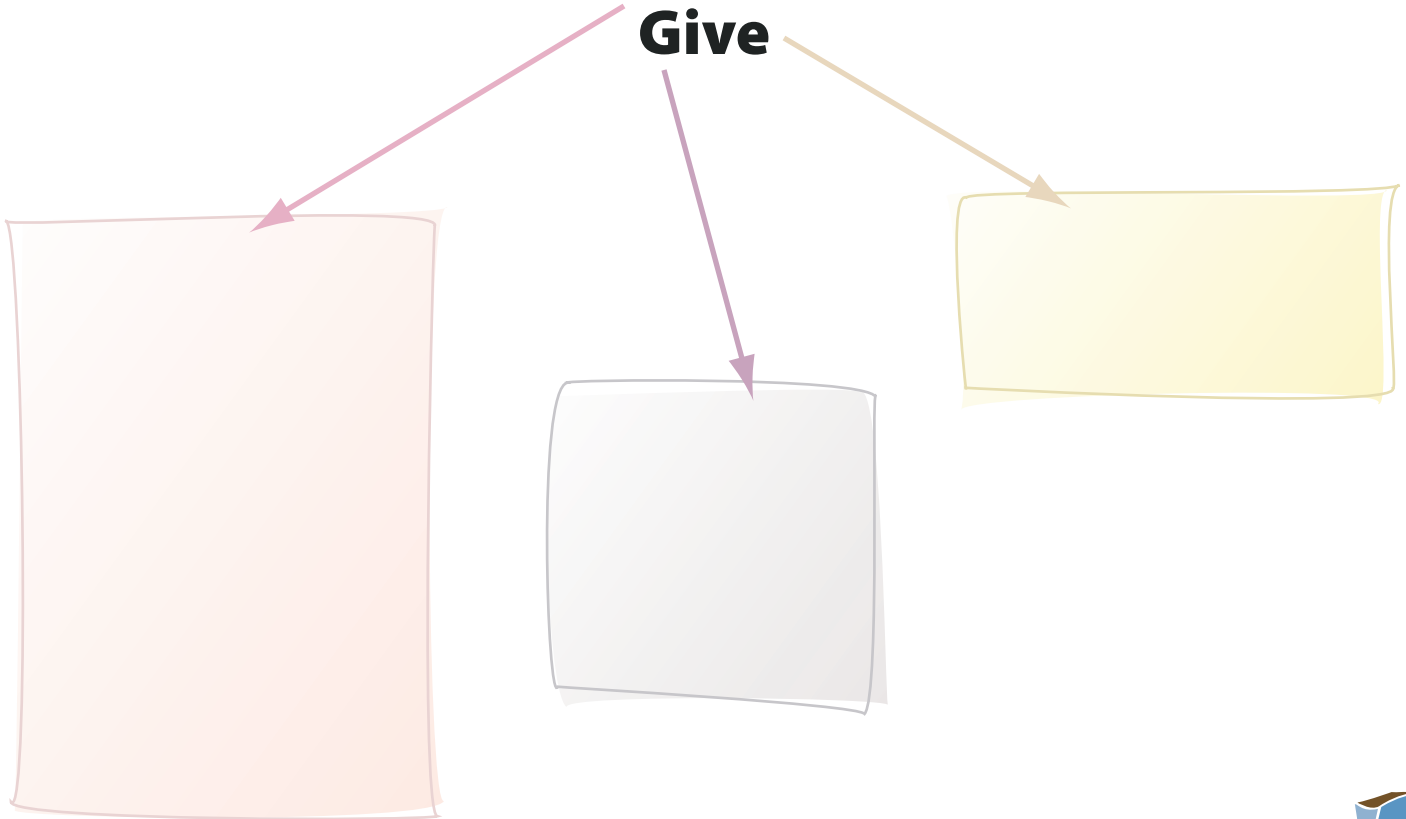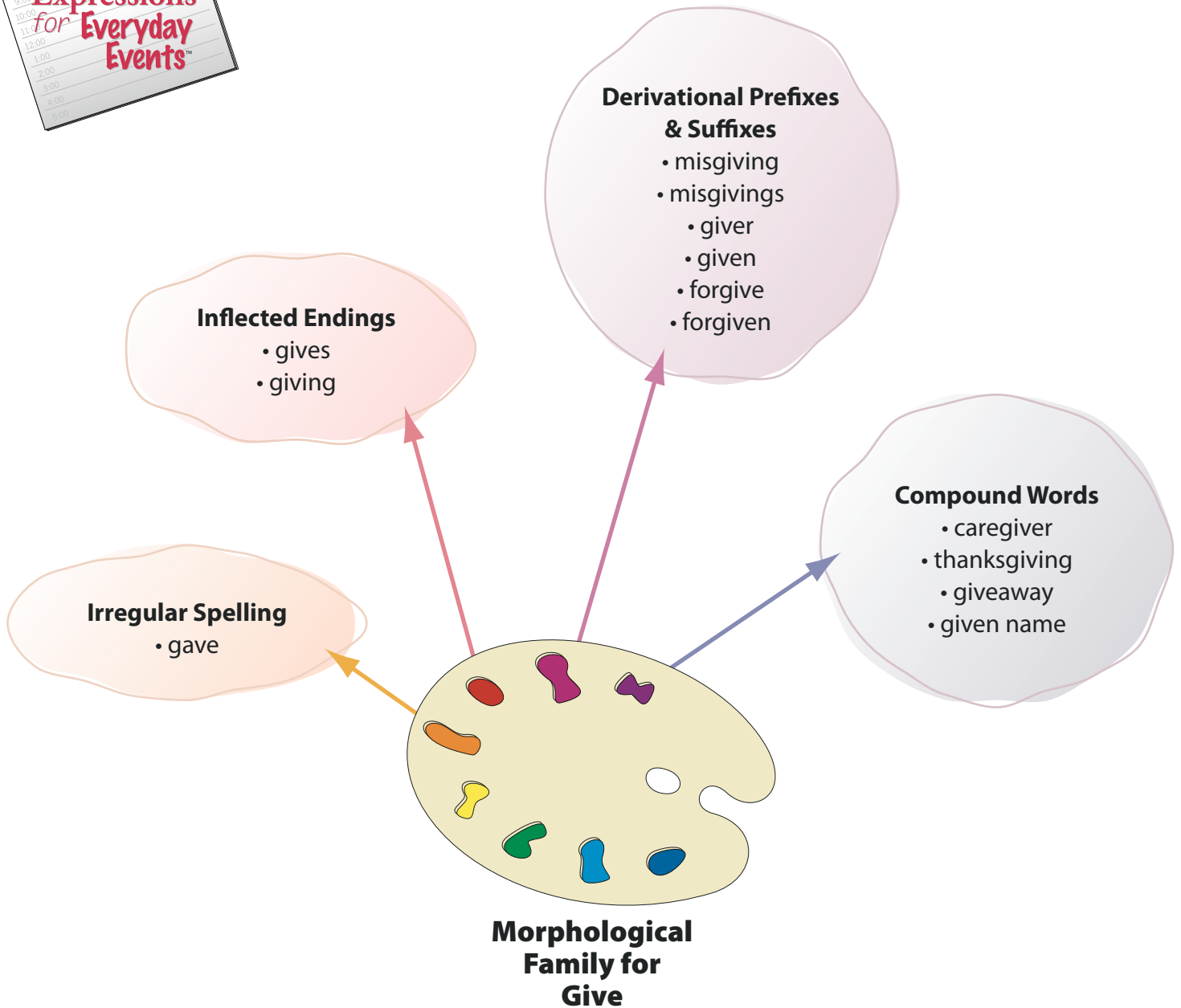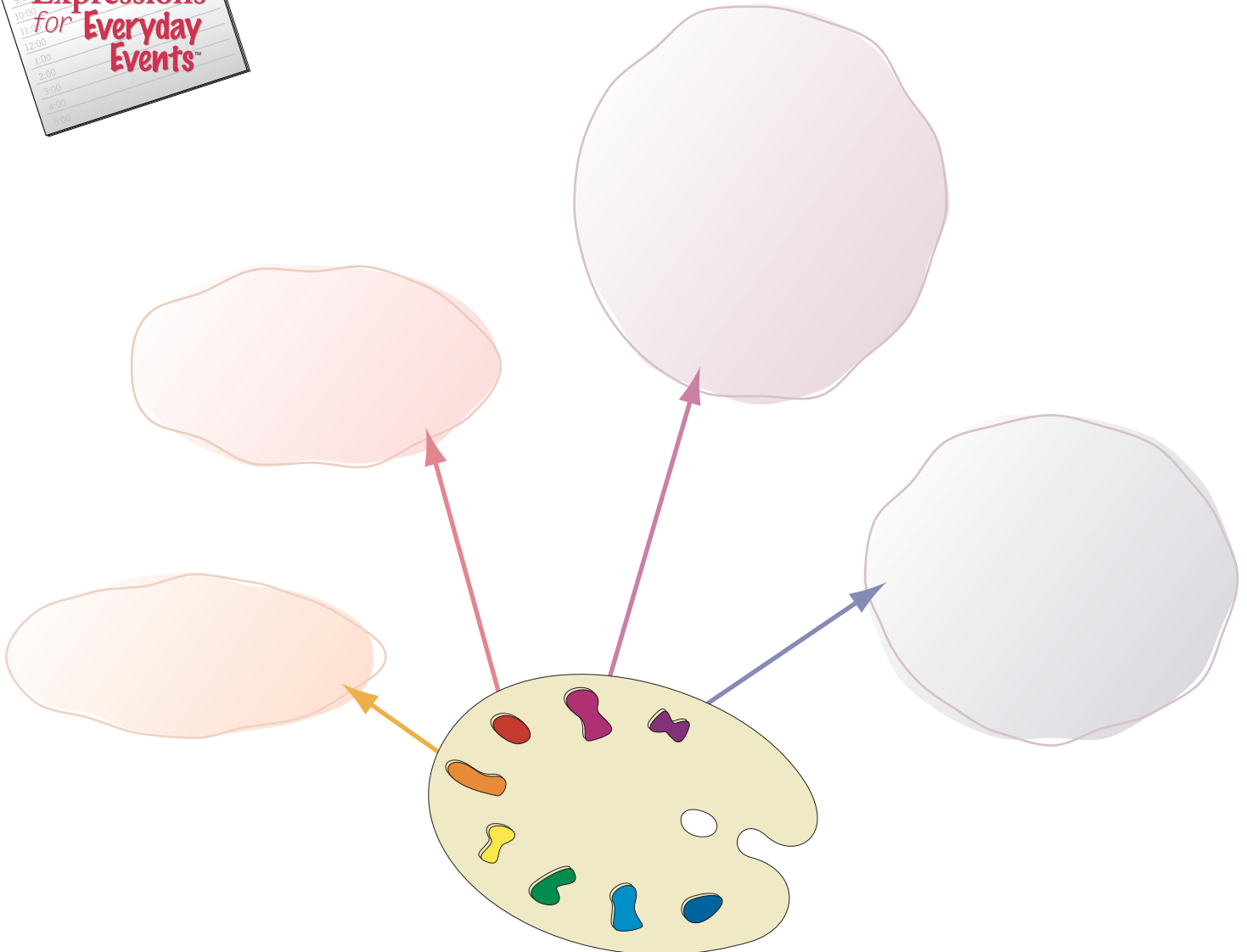
**Morphological
Family for
Give**

Teach

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Teach is a verb meaning to show, explain, instruct and generally impart knowledge to someone. Teaching can occur in a formal setting such as a lecture class, or in a casual exchange between a father and son, perhaps as they repair a car or fish off a pier.

Sometimes people teach others by the example of their behavior, without saying a word. Students can often teach each other very productively by working together in a classroom.

Many synonyms for **teach** exist that allow a writer or speaker to convey quite different impressions. Educate, instruct, train, and demonstrate are neutral terms that do not necessarily suggest specific emotions. Words like indoctrinate, inculcate, brainwash, and propagandize, however, produce negative images of forced learning or the use of teaching for questionable, maybe even harmful, purposes.

In China, the most famous teacher in all of Chinese history is Confucius, a man who lived about 2500 years ago. Because of Confucius, teachers in many Asian countries are highly admired and respected.

Follow-Ups

- How is being a mentor different from being a tutor?

- What are some other terms for **teacher**?

- What is a "teachable moment"?

- How is to orate different from to talk?

The Spanish Connection

Teach comes from an Old English word that means "show, present, point out." Teaching requires these same activities today, so it seems clear that the meaning of **teach** has not changed very much. The Spanish word for **to teach** is *enseñar*. Although **teach** and *enseñar* are not cognates, some synonyms for teach do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- Many compound words involve the word **teach** and are, of course, related to schools or school settings. Teaching was traditionally thought of as taking place only in schools.

- "Enlighten me" is a phrase similar to "teach me." "Enlighten me," however, often carries a sarcastic undertone. For example, if a colleague or partner said you were wrong about something, and you were annoyed by that, you might retort: "Well, enlighten me then!" "Teach me" is a more neutral expression.
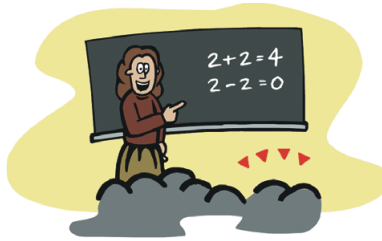
Teach

**Teach as in
to impart knowledge
(more difficult)**
• inform
• enlighten
• edify
• indoctrinate
• discipline

**Teach as in
to impart knowledge
(easy)**
• coach
• explain
• drill
• school
• instruct
• tutor
• train
• educate
• mentor
• show

Teach

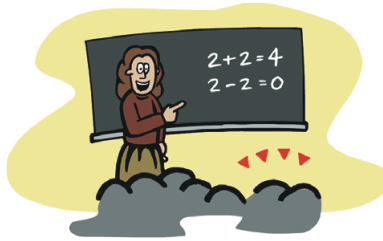**COMMON PHRASES**
• Enlighten me
• Teach me

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• to inform / informar
• to edify / edificar
• to indoctrinate / adoctrinar
• to discipline / disciplinar
• to instruct / instruir
• to educate / educar

IDIOMS
• Teach someone a lesson
• You can't teach an old dog new tricks
• Teach the tricks of the trade

Teach

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

2+2=4
2-2=0

Teach

Teach

Derivational Suffixes & Prefixes
- teacher
- teachers
- misteach
- teachable
- unteachable
- teachings
- reteach

Inflected Endings
- teaches
- teaching

Compound Words
- teachable moment
- schoolteacher
- [content area] teacher (e.g., science teacher)
- student teacher
- teaching method
- teacher's pet
- teaching/teacher's aid
- teaching hospital
- teaching degree/ license/certificate
- mentor/master/ head teacher

Irregular Spelling
- taught

Morphological Family for Teach

Teach

Morphological Family for Teach

More

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

More is a word that can be used in more ways than you might imagine! In general, *more* helps in making comparisons between different quantities, as in "This t-shirt costs more than that one, and "More students are attending the football games now that the team is winning." In the first example, *more* is an adverb, and in the second it is an adjective. *More* can even serve as a noun, as in, "I wanted more, but my brother ate the last of the cake."

More is very commonly used as part of a set of comparison words: **many**, **more**, and **most**. Many people like chocolate. More people like chocolate than licorice. Most people like candy. *More* often appears together with verbs, adjectives, and adverbs to express comparisons or degrees. Roberto enjoyed the movie, but he enjoyed the book more.

There is one catch to learning when to use *more* that can be confusing. Some words, for example, **fast** and **high**, usually form comparisons by adding the endings *-er* and *-est*, instead of using *more* and *most* ("ran fast, ran faster, ran fastest," and "climbed high, climbed higher, climbed highest"). A helpful rule of thumb is that words of more than one syllable tend to be used with *more* and *most*. *More* is also seen in word combinations such as **anymore** ("any longer") and **furthermore** ("in addition").

Follow-Ups

- Can you think of other words that use *-er* and *-est* versus **more** and **most**?

- How is **supplementary** different from **complementary**?

- How is the meaning of "bigger than the sun" different from "even bigger than the sun"?

The Spanish Connection

The word **more** is a cognate of the Old Frisian word *māra*. The Spanish word for **more** is *más*. Although **more** and *más* are not cognates, some synonyms for **more** do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- The expression "the more the merrier" is believed to come from an English poem written in the 1380's. Since then, the phrase has become a common way to welcome people. The idea is that a bigger group will be even more lively or fun.

- The idiom "more or less" means "approximately" or "to some extent." It suggests that the statement is somewhat true, but in a limited way. "The student's report was more or less what the teacher had requested" indicates that the report was acceptable but not of the quality the teacher wanted. "The bottle of milk is more or less full" means that the bottle is almost but not completely full.

More

More as in also
- also
- additional
- another
- extra
- further
- supplemental
- supplementary
- added

More as in a greater number or amount
- lots
- tons
- loads
- additional
- another
- extra

More

COMMON PHRASES
- More often than not
- A little bit more
- More where that came from
- More than ever
- More power to you
- More than you bargained for
- Need I say more?
- Say no more
- What more do you want?
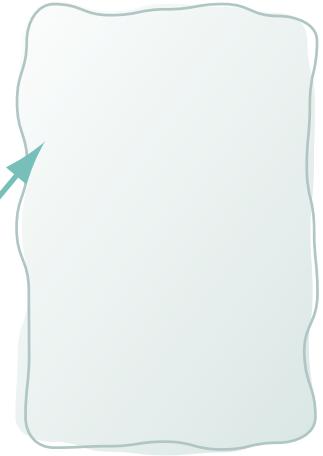- Couldn't have asked for more
- More than meets the eye

IDIOMS
- More and more
- More or less
- More of the same

PROVERBS
"The more the merrier."

"The more things change, the more they stay the same."

"There's more than one way to skin a cat."

"Less is more."

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- additional / adicional
- supplementary / suplementario(a)

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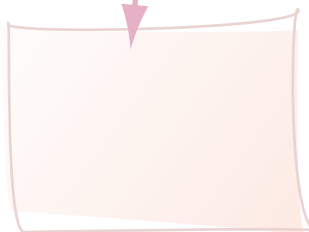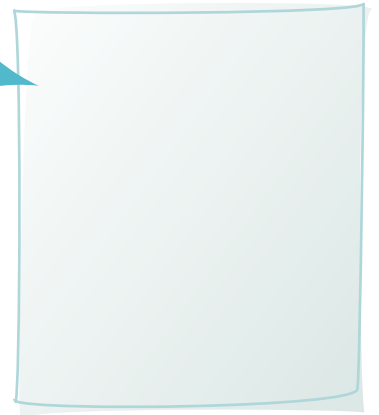
More

More

Compound Words
- any more
- moreover
- furthermore
- forevermore
- nevermore
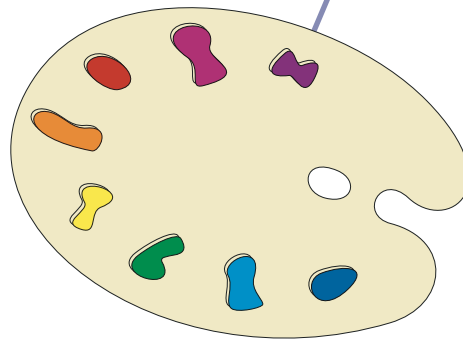
**Morphological
Family for
More**

More
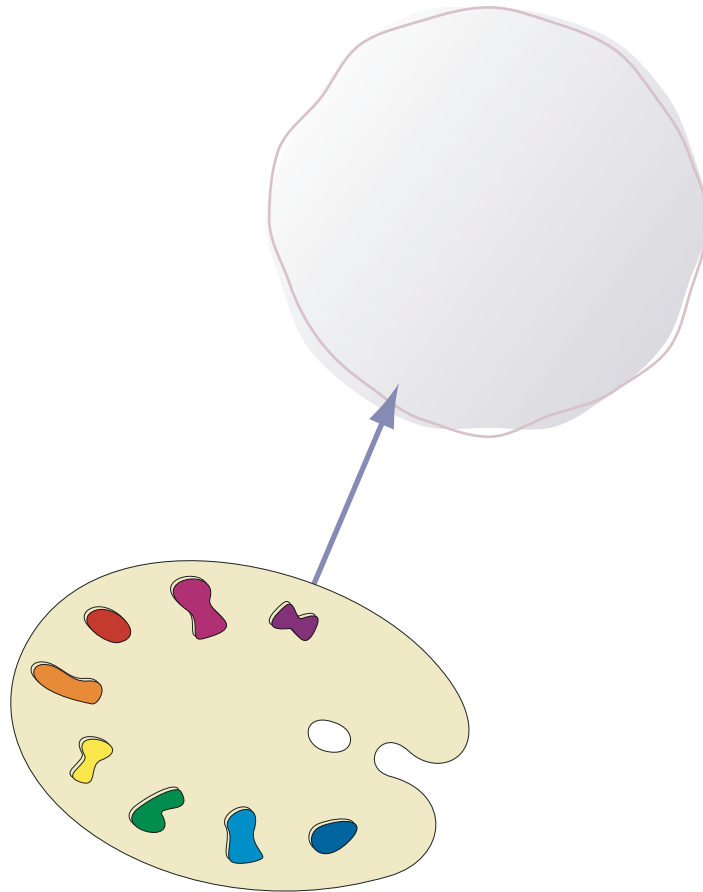
Morphological Family for More

Less

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

The word *less* shares some traits with its counterpart, *more*. It, too, is a comparative word that functions as an adjective, an adverb, or a noun, but *less* refers to smaller rather than larger quantities: Unfortunately, this fall's bake sale raised less money than last year's. Rita was less happy with this week's test score than last week's. The less Teresa practiced her guitar, the worse she played. Furthermore, in its mathematical uses, *less* is even a preposition: One dollar less forty cents equals sixty cents. Five is less than ten.

Also like *more*, *less* is part of a set of comparison words: *little*, *less*, and *least*. David enjoyed eggplant a little, he enjoyed broccoli less, and he enjoyed brussel sprouts least of all. *Less*, too, is used with verbs, adjectives, and adverbs to express comparisons and degrees. Because he was busy, Michael listened less to music than he used to. Because this assignment was too easy for him, Ralph found it less interesting than the last one. Because he was distracted, Frank listened less attentively to his teacher than usual.

Follow-Ups

- What do you think the statement "Less is more" might mean?

- What does it mean to be less than perfect?

- How does "less hope" different from "hopeless"?

The Spanish Connection

Less comes from an Old English word that described anything that was small. It is not clear whether the older word was used in the context of comparisons, as *less* primarily is today. The Spanish word for *less* is *menos*. *Less* and *menos* are not cognates, but some of the synonyms for *less* do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- Often we hear or see the word *less* used interchangeably with the word *fewer*. Even though this is a common practice, more formal usage often distinguishes between the two. This usage requires that *fewer* be used with nouns that can be counted (fewer calories, fewer dollars, fewer people) while *less* is used with nouns that are singular or more abstract (less fat, less money, less population).

- The suffix *-less* comes from an Old English word meaning "devoid of." This meaning has been retained in the many words with this suffix, for instance: hopeless, tasteless, tireless, homeless, fearless, sugarless, and skinless. There is a distinct difference in affect between the use of *less* and the use of *-less*.

Less

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Less as in fewer in amount or quantity
- few
- little
- hardly any
- some
- couple
- minute
- handful
- tiny
- miniscule

Less as in lower in importance
- inferior
- poor
- substandard
- low-grade
- mediocre
- second-rate

Less

COMMON PHRASES
- I could care less
- Less than pleased
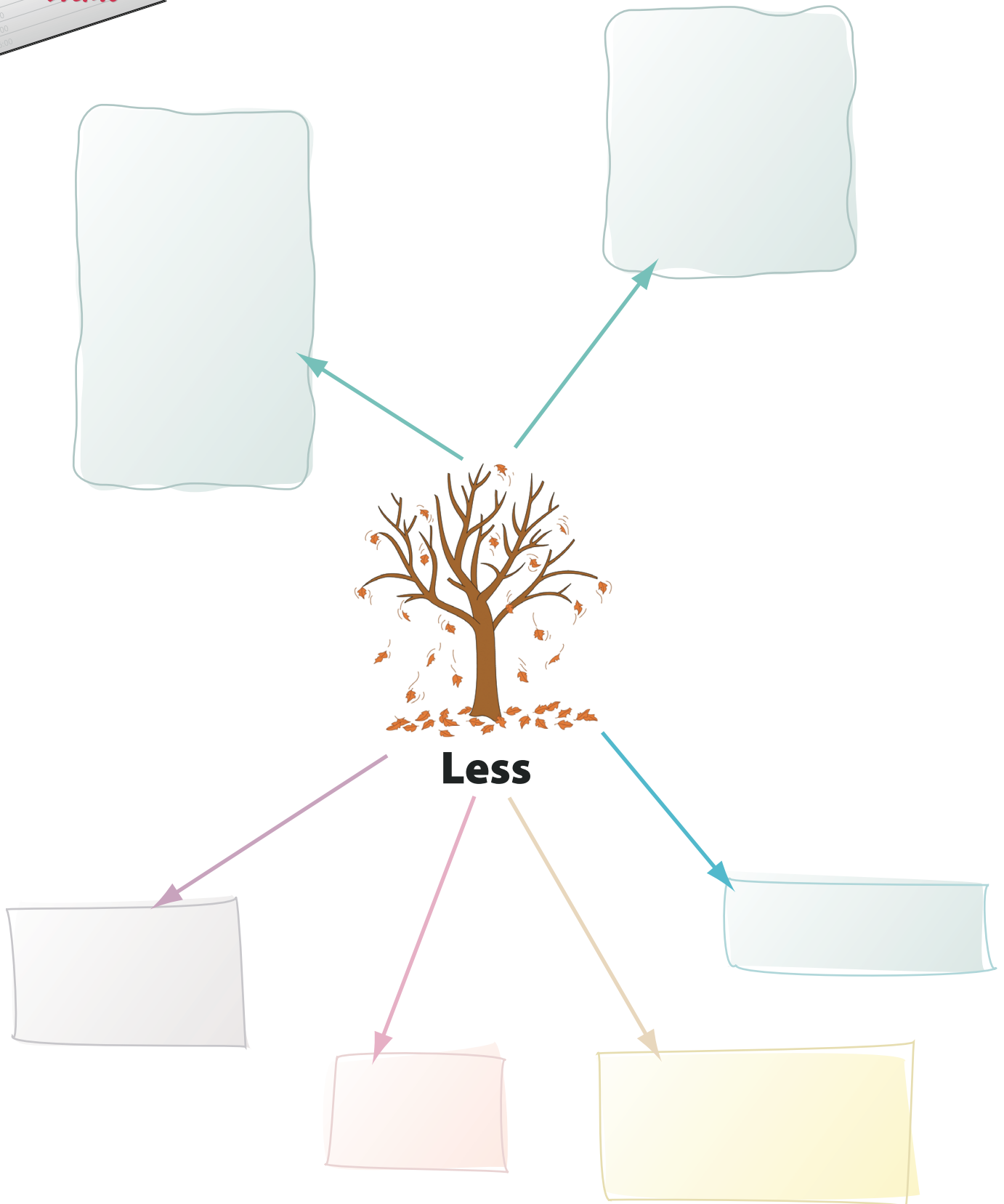- Less and less

IDIOMS
- Less is more
- More or less

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- miniscule / minúsculo(a)
- inferior / inferior
- mediocre / mediocre

PROVERB

"The lesser of two evils."

Less

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Less

Less

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Compound Words

Less used as a suffix
- careless
- hopeless
- keyless
- mindless
- reckless
- painless
- homeless
- fearless
- wireless
- moonless
- heartless
- penniless
- childless
- powerless
- fruitless
- senseless
- stainless
- waterless
- timeless

Derivational Suffix
- lessen

Inflected Ending
- lesser*adv*

Morphological Family for Less

adv Less used as an adverb

Less

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Morphological Family for Less
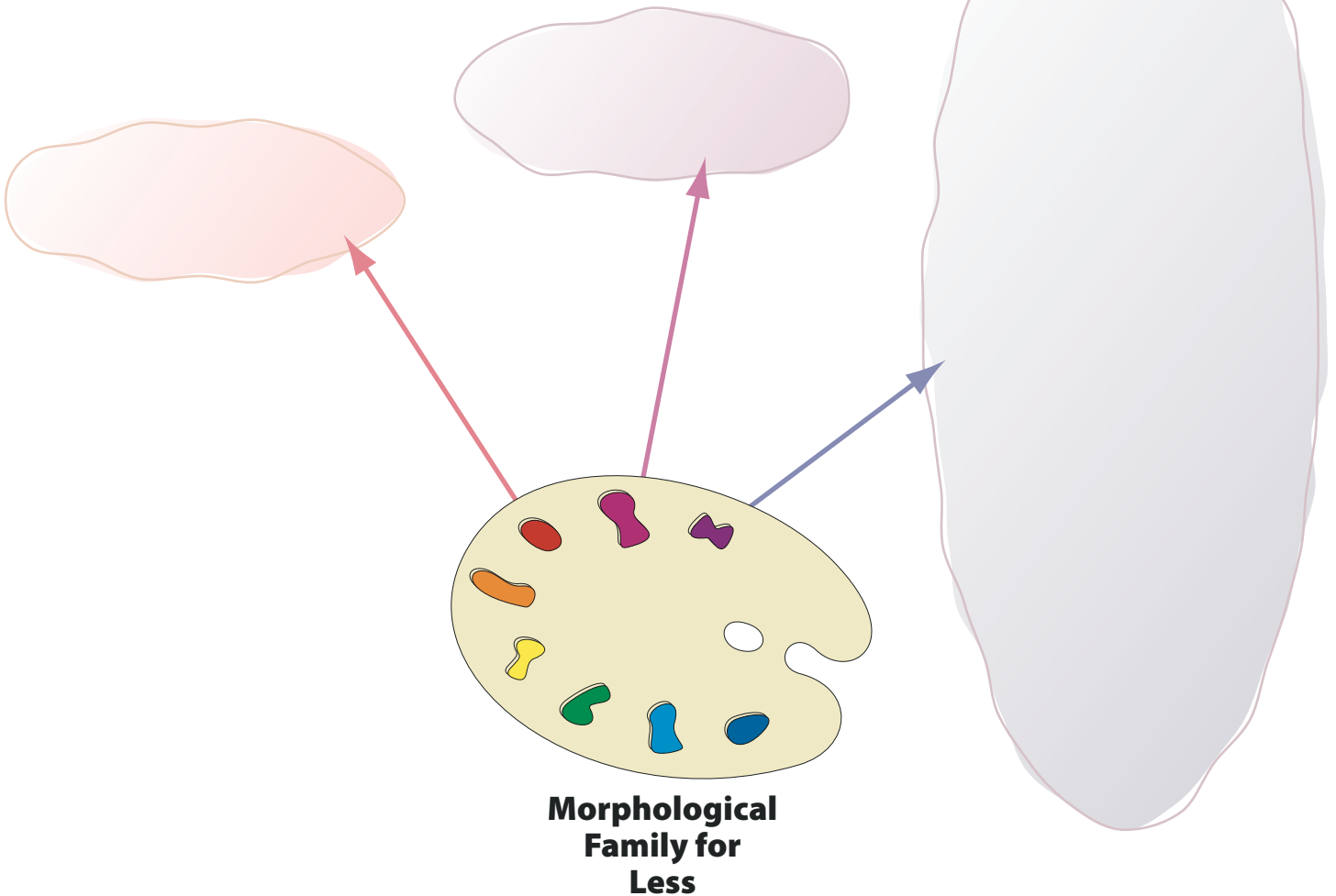
Time

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

No time is better than the present to discuss **time**! **Time** is so essential, it can be a bit of a struggle even to define **time** without using the word itself. Think about the passage of time and ways people try to understand and measure time, or consider terms such as timeline, timeout, lifetime, or even the "the time of my life." The word **time**, the ideas it expresses, and the concepts it provokes are rich to explore.

Time can serve as a verb or a noun, and with the addition of **-ly** it becomes (perhaps surprisingly) an adjective, **timely**. The noun usage of **time** is the most common. Daily events often require people to know what time it is at the moment, how much time they need to finish a task, at what time they need to arrive for an appointment. Many words exist to help organize and make sense of time, such as **minute**, **day**, **week**, **month**, **year**, and **century**. Less specific time words include terms like **forever** and **generations**. (Displaying such **time** terms on a word line could be especially useful.)

The verb **to time** is to measure how long something takes to occur, or to schedule. In PE, students might be timed to see how quickly they can run a lap. A rocket or shuttle launch is timed to make sure important steps occur in order.

Follow-Ups

- How many minutes are in a quarter of an hour?

- What famous speech begins: "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."?

- How many years are in one term of a U.S. presidency?

The Spanish Connection

Time comes from an Old English word, *tima*. The Spanish word for **time** is *el tiempo*. **Time** and *el tiempo* are not cognates, but some of the synonyms for **time** do have Spanish cognates. Most of the technical or content specific words used to describe **time** come from the Greek word *khronos*. Words such as **synchronous** are derived from *khronos*. A **chronometer** is a device that measures time, a type of **watch**.

Word Changes

- Many common phrases and idioms include the word **time** or the idea of time. "Once in a blue moon" describes an event that occurs infrequently. The explanation for this—that a blue moon is the second full moon in a month and that such moons are rare—has been proven inaccurate, but the idiom remains popular.

Time

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Tuesday 17

Time as in a long time
- eternity
- forever
- years
- millennium
- era
- decade
- century
- perpetuity
- eon

Time as in a short amount of time
- minutes
- seconds
- momentarily
- moment
- temporarily
- jiffy
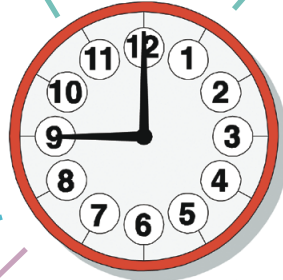- transient
- instant

Time as in a vague segment of time
- generation
- lifetime
- age
- timeless
- whenever
- sometimes
- occasionally
- past
- future
- later

Time as in how often an event occurs
- always
- sometimes
- never
- once
- awhile
- postponed
- nocturnal
- diurnal
- chronic

Time as in a specific segment of time period
- cycle
- age
- period
- eon
- month
- day
- term
- duration
- interim
- interval
- weekend
- week
- now

Time

OLD COMMON WORDS
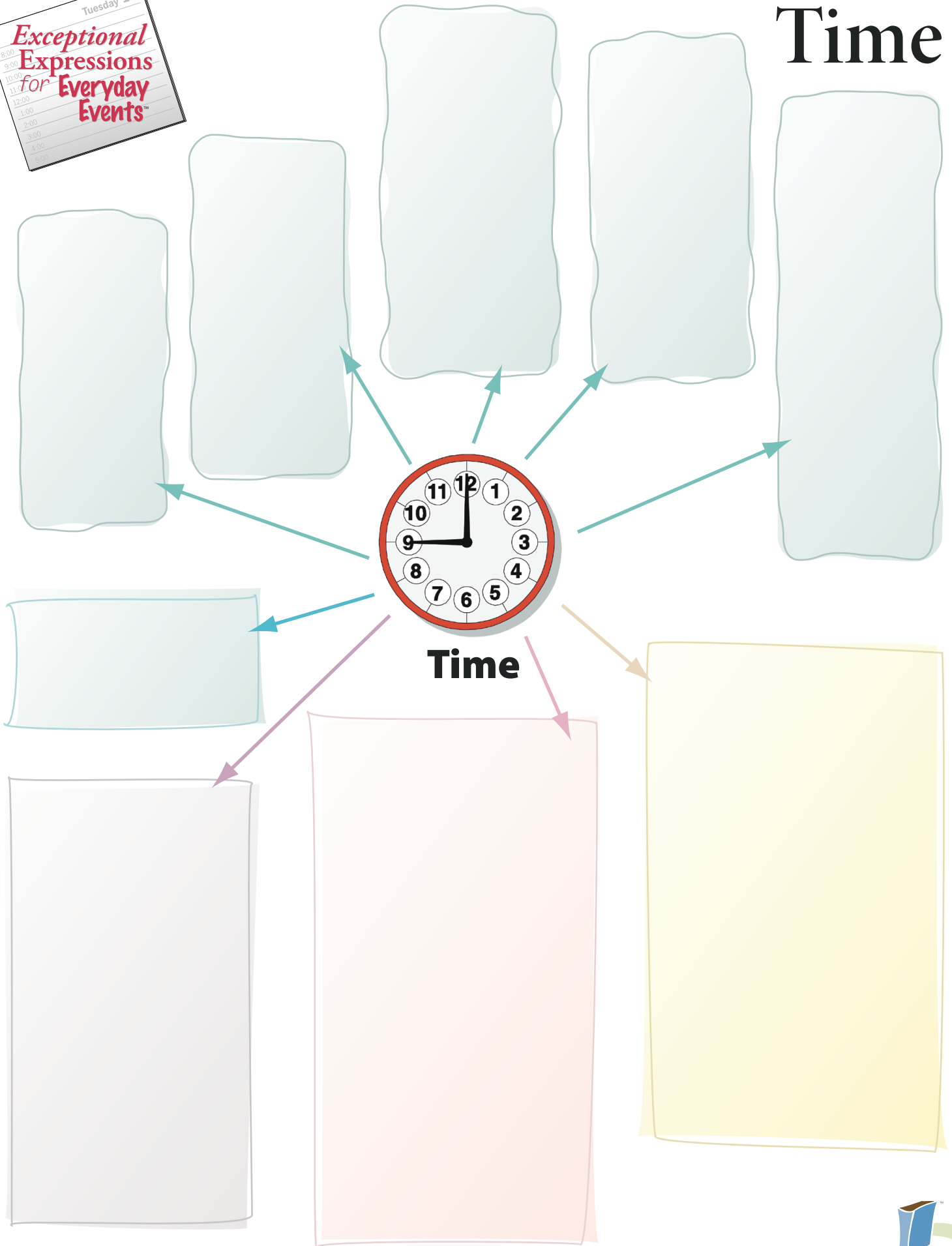- score
- fortnight
- yesteryear

COMMON PHRASES
- Daylight savings time
- Long ago
- No time like the present
- Once upon a time
- Henceforth
- Quarter of an hour
- Half an hour
- Overnight
- End of an era
- Prime time
- Time zone
- At the same time
- Regulation time
- Double-time
- In the meantime

IDIOMS
- Tick tock
- Having the time of your life
- Once in a blue moon
- Time of day
- Against time
- At one time
- Behind the times
- For the time being
- From time to time
- High time
- All in good time
- In no time
- (Just) in time
- On time
- Time after time
- Time and again
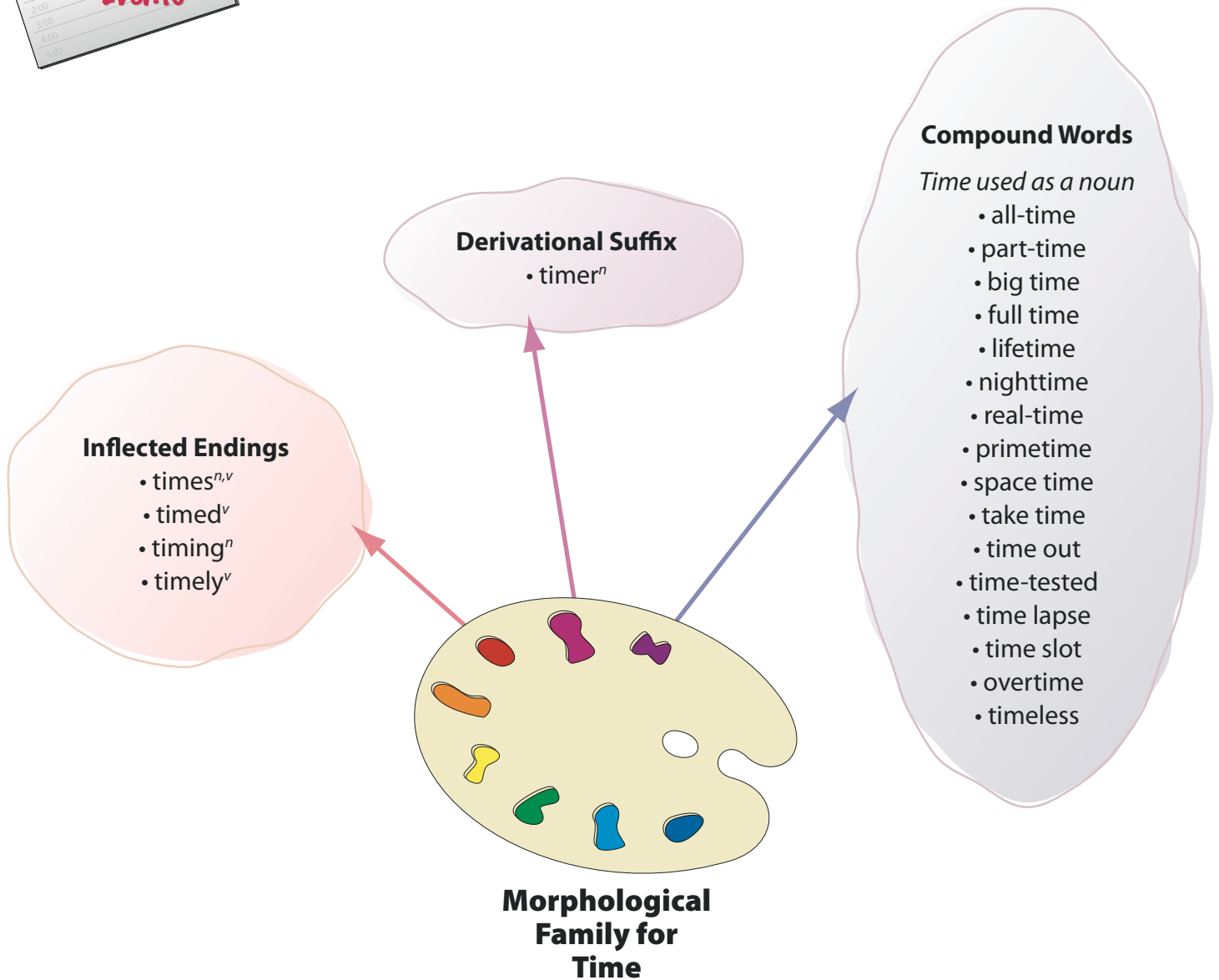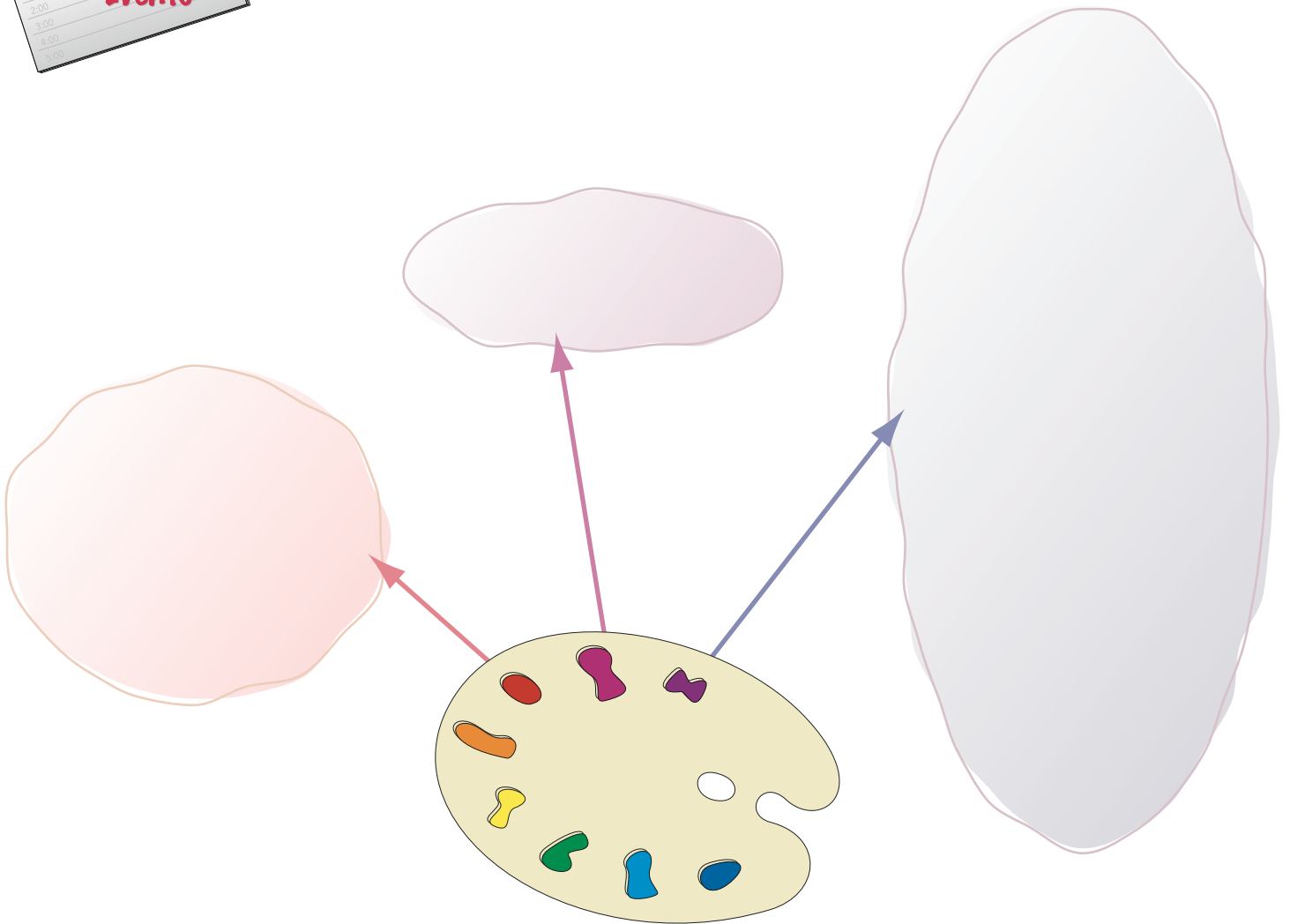- Time on (one's) hands
- In the nick of time

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- moment / momento
- eternity / eternidad
- millennium / milenio
- era / era
- perpetuity / a perpetuidad
- temporarily / temporalmente
- transient / transitorio(a)
- cycle / ciclo
- instant / instante
- period / período
- eon / eon
- duration / duración
- interval / intervalo
- generation / generación
- nocturnal / nocturno(a)
- diurnal / diurno
- chronic / crónico(a)

Time

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Time

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Time

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Derivational Suffix
- timer[n]

Inflected Endings
- times[n,v]
- timed[v]
- timing[n]
- timely[v]

Compound Words

Time used as a noun
- all-time
- part-time
- big time
- full time
- lifetime
- nighttime
- real-time
- primetime
- space time
- take time
- time out
- time-tested
- time lapse
- time slot
- overtime
- timeless

Morphological Family for Time

[n] Time used as a noun
[v] Time used as a verb

Time

Exceptional Expressions for Everyday Events™

Morphological Family for Time

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Imagine

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Using one's imagination is an enjoyable, creative, and often productive part of learning. *To imagine* is to create a picture or idea in your mind. In a history class, the teacher might ask students to imagine what it would have been like to be one of the first settlers from Europe arriving in the Americas. A fiction writing assignment could give students the opportunity to imagine an alien world in a distant universe. Scientists might need to imagine alternative ways to conduct experiments before finding one that works.

To imagine is to conceive of or dream up an idea. When imagining, a person could think of situations that are possible, but may not yet exist, or picture something that will never actually happen but is still interesting or useful to consider. In the "I Have a Dream" speech of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he imagined a society where racial boundaries had ceased to exist. Writers of historical novels and futuristic movies often create fictional stories in order to comment on current issues.

Follow-Ups

- How could visualizing a plan before acting on it help to avoid problems?

- When might the ability to imagine things that do not exist be helpful? When might that ability be a problem?

The Spanish Connection

The English word *imagine* comes from the late 12th century Anglo-Norman word, *imaginer*, that meant to assume or to suppose. This original meaning for *imagine* remains, although it is not the more common definition today. The Spanish word for *imagine* is the cognate *imaginar*. *Imaginar* came from the classical Latin word *imaginari*, which in turn came from a 12th century British word. *Imagine* is an example of a word that does not share a common root with its cognates, but instead one word is derived from the root of the other word.

Word Changes

- Some of the common phrases using *imagine* have an element of incredulity. For example, "Can you imagine?" and "Imagine that!" are expressions that indicate something surprising or unlikely has happened.

- The noun *imagination* is the mental capacity for creativity. Many artists strive to produce work that challenges routine ideas. In school, teachers might encourage students to start from some common point and then "See where your imaginations take you."

Imagine

Exceptional **Expressions** *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

**Imagine as in
to dream up**
- visualize
- picture
- conceive
- fantasize
- daydream
- brainstorm
- create
- think

**Imagine as in
to deduce**
- guess
- surmise
- conjecture
- suspect
- suppose
- hypothesize
- postulate
- infer
- deem
- reckon
- deduce

Imagine

COMMON PHRASES
- Can you imagine?
- Fancy/imagine that!
- Just imagine
- Use your imagination
- Leave nothing to the imagination
- Make believe
- What do you reckon?
- See where your imagination takes you

IDIOM
- Picture this!

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- to imagine / imaginar
- to visualize / visualizar
- to conceive / concebir
- to fantasize / fantasear
- to conjecture / conjeturar
- to postulate / postular
- to infer / inferir
- to deduce / deducir
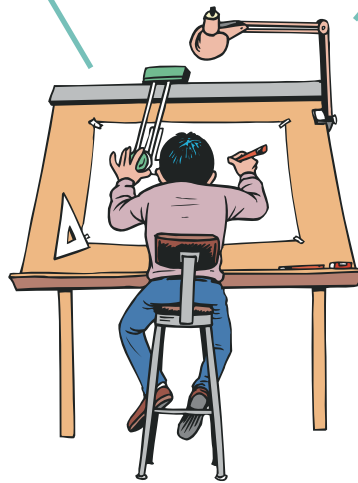
Imagine

Imagine

Imagine

Exceptional Expressions *for* **Everyday Events**™

Tuesday 17

Inflected Endings
- imagines
- imagined
- imagining

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- reimagine
- imagination
- imaginary
- unimaginable
- unimagined
- imaginative

Compound Words
- imaginary friend

Morphological Family for Imagine

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Imagine

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Morphological Family for Imagine
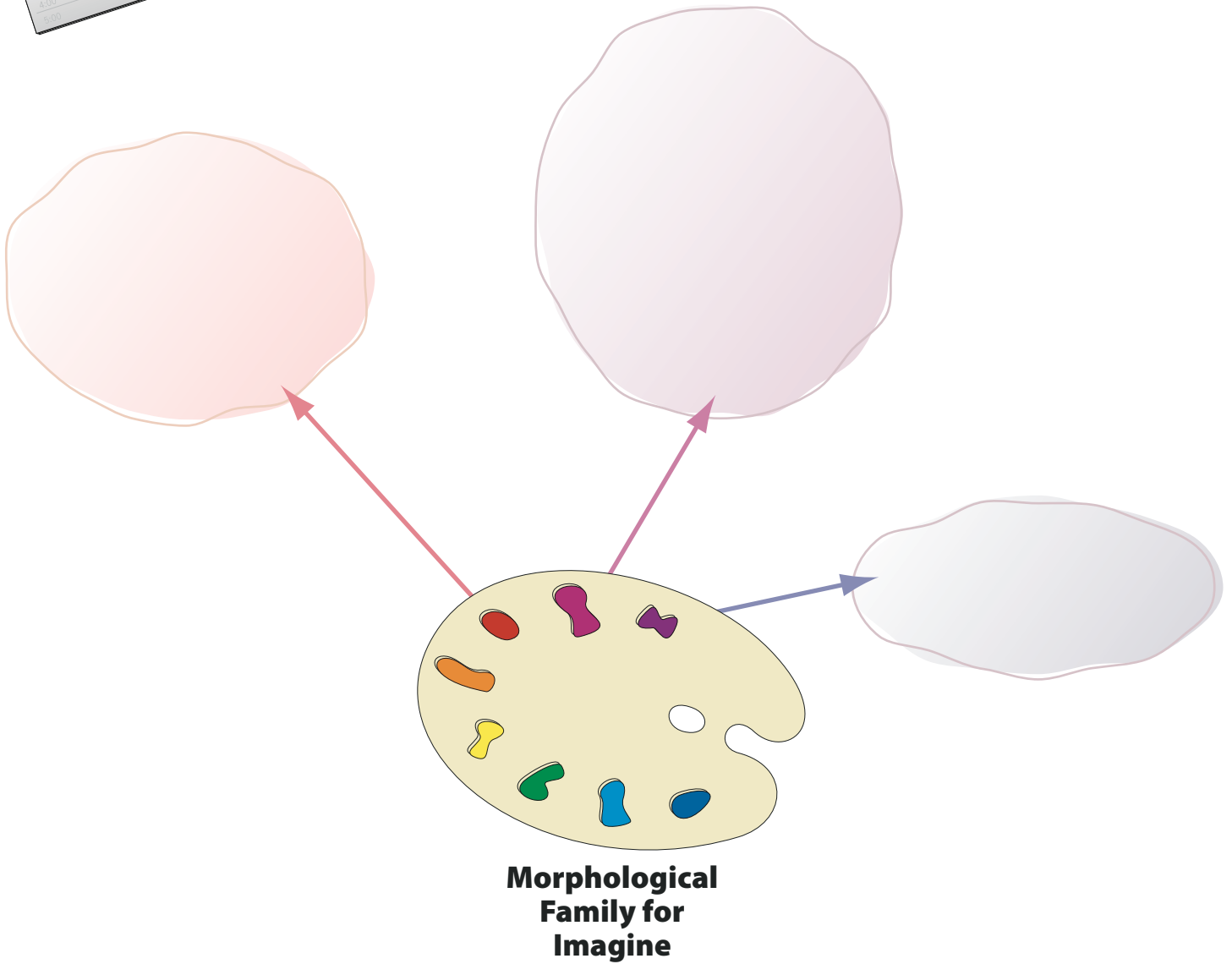
Focus

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

The focus of this discussion is *focus*! This versatile word can serve as a verb or a noun, and it is useful in quite a few specialized contexts such as math and physics.

The verb *focus* expresses the act of concentrating. A teacher may instruct his class to focus on a specific task, such as a reading assignment, or on a particular topic, like photosynthesis or the word for the day. If students are distracted, their teacher might even use the command, "Focus!"

Focus as a noun is the object or idea of central importance. In writing, the focus of a paper is the main point or thesis of the paper. The focus of a music lesson might be learning a new chord. A lost pet would be the focus of a search.

The word *focus*, furthermore, has specific meanings in geometry, in the study of earthquakes, in computing, and other scientific and technical fields. In physics, *focus* can be defined as the point at which rays of light or other radiation converge. In math, *focus* is the point from which a circle or a curve is generated.

Follow-Ups

- When you prepare for a test, are you concentrating or centering on your studies?

- Could the thesis of a paper be called the bulls eye?

The Spanish Connection

Focus comes from the Latin word *focus*. The definition of the original Latin *focus* was a "domestic hearth" or fireplace. Clearly the meaning of *focus* has changed quite a bit over time, although one can imagine that in early times the fireplace would have been the center of activity in a home. The Spanish word for *focus* is the cognate *foco*.

Word Changes

- Because of the Latin root, the plural of the noun *focus* has traditionally been *foci*, but *focuses* has become very common as well.

- The term "laser beam" comes from the technological processes associated with lasers. The light from a laser is highly focused, enabling some lasers to even burn through materials such as metal. If a person's attention is described as laser-like, that means the person is focusing intensely.

Focus

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Tuesday 17

**Focus as in
to concentrate**
• concentrate
• center
• centralize
• direct
• fix
• engross
• cogitate
• think

**Focus as in
the central point**
• attention
• focal point
• bulls eye
• center
• core
• locus
• thesis

Focus

COMMON PHRASES
• Maintain focus
• Out of focus
• Bring into focus

IDIOMS
• Buckle down
• Laser beam
• Caught me in their line of sight

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• to concentrate / concentrar
• to center / centrar
• to centralize / centralizar
• attention / atención

Tuesday 17

Focus

Focus

Focus

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Inflected Endings
- focuses[v]
- focused[v]
- focusing[v]

Derivational Prefixes & Suffixes
- refocus[v]
- unfocused[v]

Compound Words

Focus used as a noun
- in focus
- focus group
- autofocus
- focal point
- focal length

Irregular Spelling
- foci[n]

Morphological Family for Focus

[n] Focus used as a noun
[v] Focus used as a verb

Focus

Morphological Family for Focus
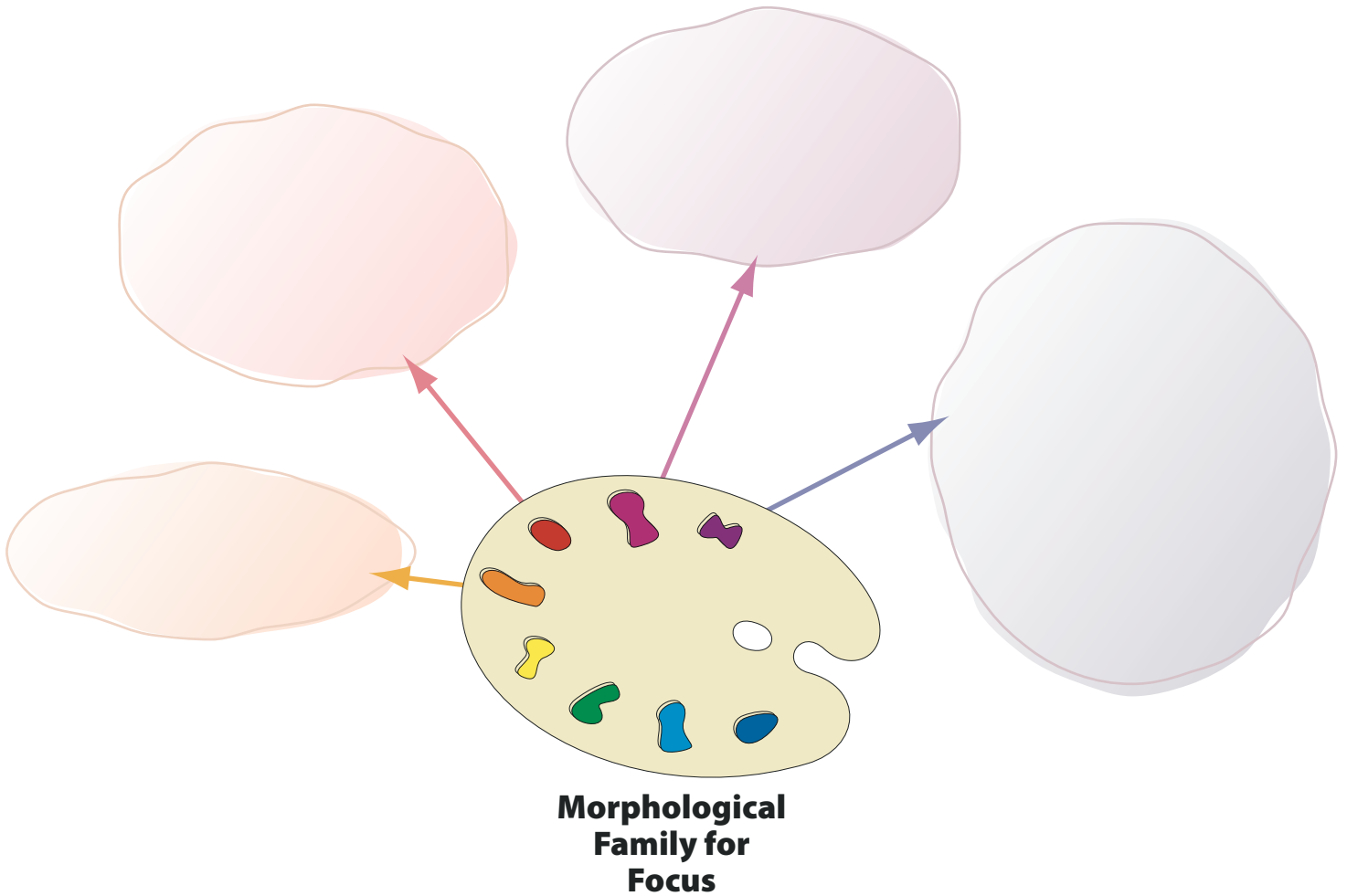
Find

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

Find is a common word in classrooms. *To find* is to search for something lost or unknown. Teachers often ask students to find the solution to a math problem by working out the problem in their heads. Students can conduct experiments to find out, for instance, what happens when plants are not watered.

The word *find* is used as both a verb and a noun. As a verb, it can refer to a search for physical objects, such as a missing jacket or hat. People can also find something abstract, however, such as the resolution to a conflict. Because there are different processes at work when finding a physical object versus an abstract idea, many synonyms for *find* have narrow definitions. But some synonyms can serve in either situation.

Follow-Ups

- Can there be different ways to find the correct answer to a math problem?

- In what part of a book would you find the definition of a word?

- How is a map useful to help find a park in an unfamiliar city?

- What might students find out as the result of a science lab?

The Spanish Connection

Find comes from the Old English word *findan*, which means "come upon, alight on." The Spanish word for to *find* is *encontrar*. Even though *find* and *encontrar* are not cognates, some synonyms for *find* do have Spanish cognates.

Word Changes

- The word *find* as a noun refers to something that was found, either a physical object or, an idea. However, when the term is "a find," the assumption is that the find is in some way exceptional. "A find" could be an important archaeological discovery, or a rare comic book turned up in a neighborhood garage sale.

- The word *finder* is a person who finds or discovers something. The suffix *-er* is often used with adjectives to make comparisons (such as big and bigger), but here it is a derivational suffix that indicates the person who performs the action (such as farm and farmer, drive and driver).

- The compound word *viewfinder* is the name for the part of a camera that helps a photographer find and compose a photo.

Find

Find as in to search for something
- search
- discover
- unearth
- locate
- trace
- detect
- recover
- investigate
- seek
- explore
- ascertain
- determine
- conclude
- unmask
- reveal
- uncover

Find as in an exceptional object or idea
- treasure
- breakthrough
- insight
- bargain
- discovery
- innovation

Find

PROVERB

"Seek and you shall find"

COMMON PHRASES
- Find out
- Finders keepers
- Come across
- Hit upon
- Stumble on
- Rummage around
- Looking for
- Find it in your heart
- Find a way

IDIOMS
- Find you red handed
- Weasel/ferret out
- Find yourself
- Find your/my way
- Eureka!
- Finders keepers

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
- To locate / localizar
- To investigate / investegar
- To reveal / revelar
- To conclude / concluir
- To determine / determinar
- Innovation / innovación
- To explore / explorar
- To detect / detectar

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Find

Find

Find

Derivational Suffixes
- findings^v
- finder^v

Inflected Endings
- finds^{n,v}
- finding^v

Compound Words

Find used as a verb
- find out
- fact-finding
- finder's fee
- finders keepers
- pathfinder
- rangefinder
- viewfinder
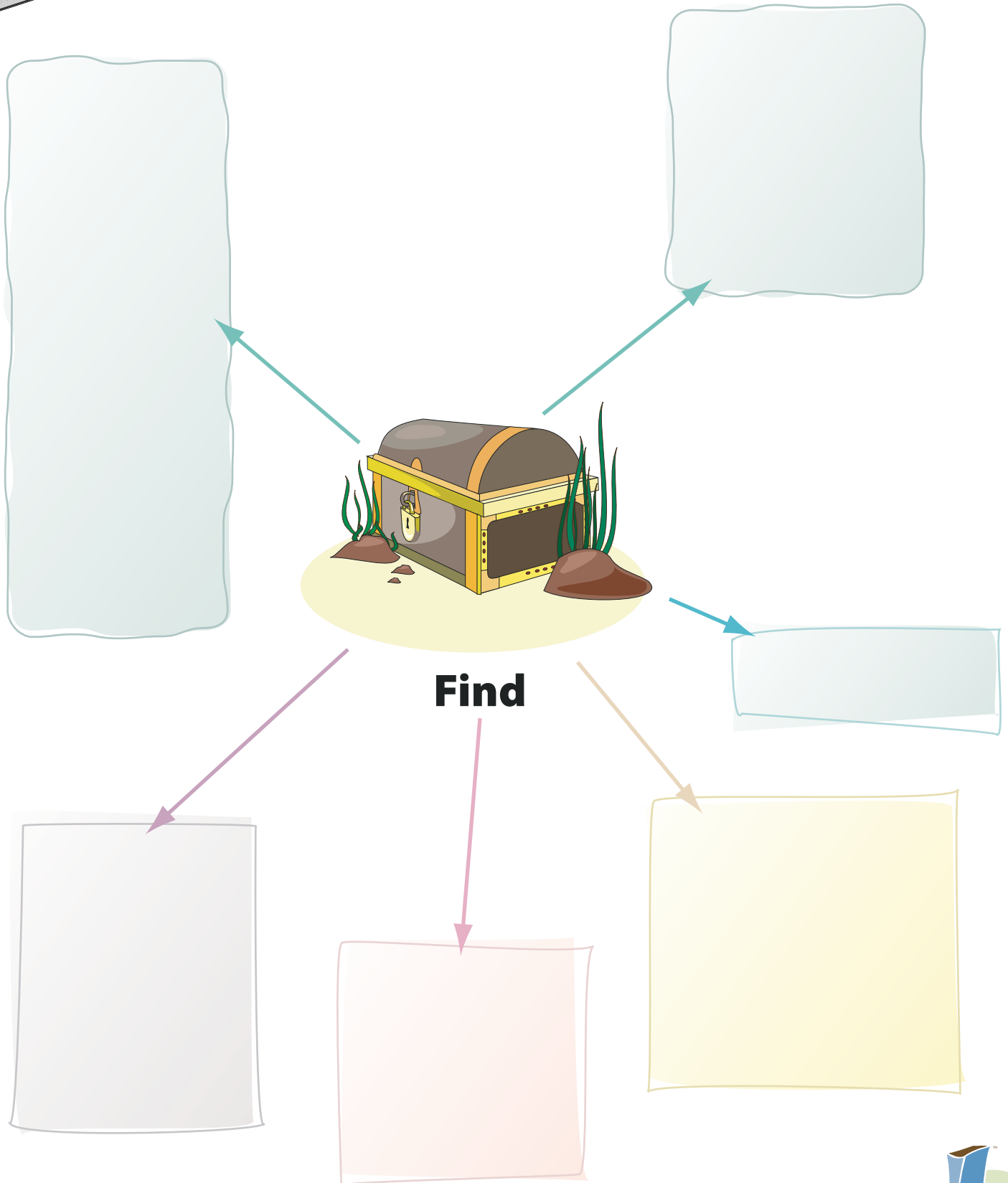
Morphological Family for Find
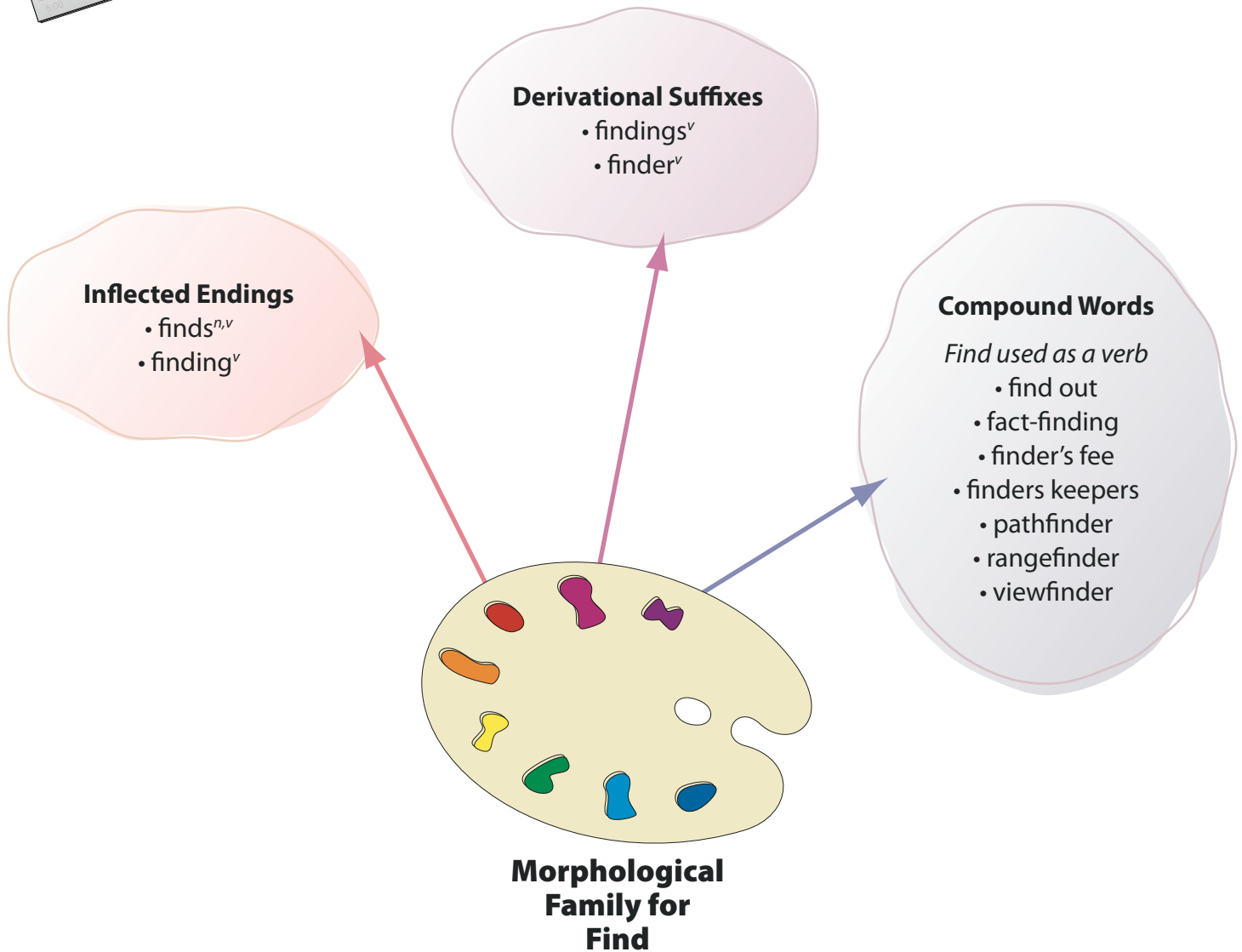
^{n} Find used as a noun
^{v} Find used as a verb

Find

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**Morphological
Family for
Find**
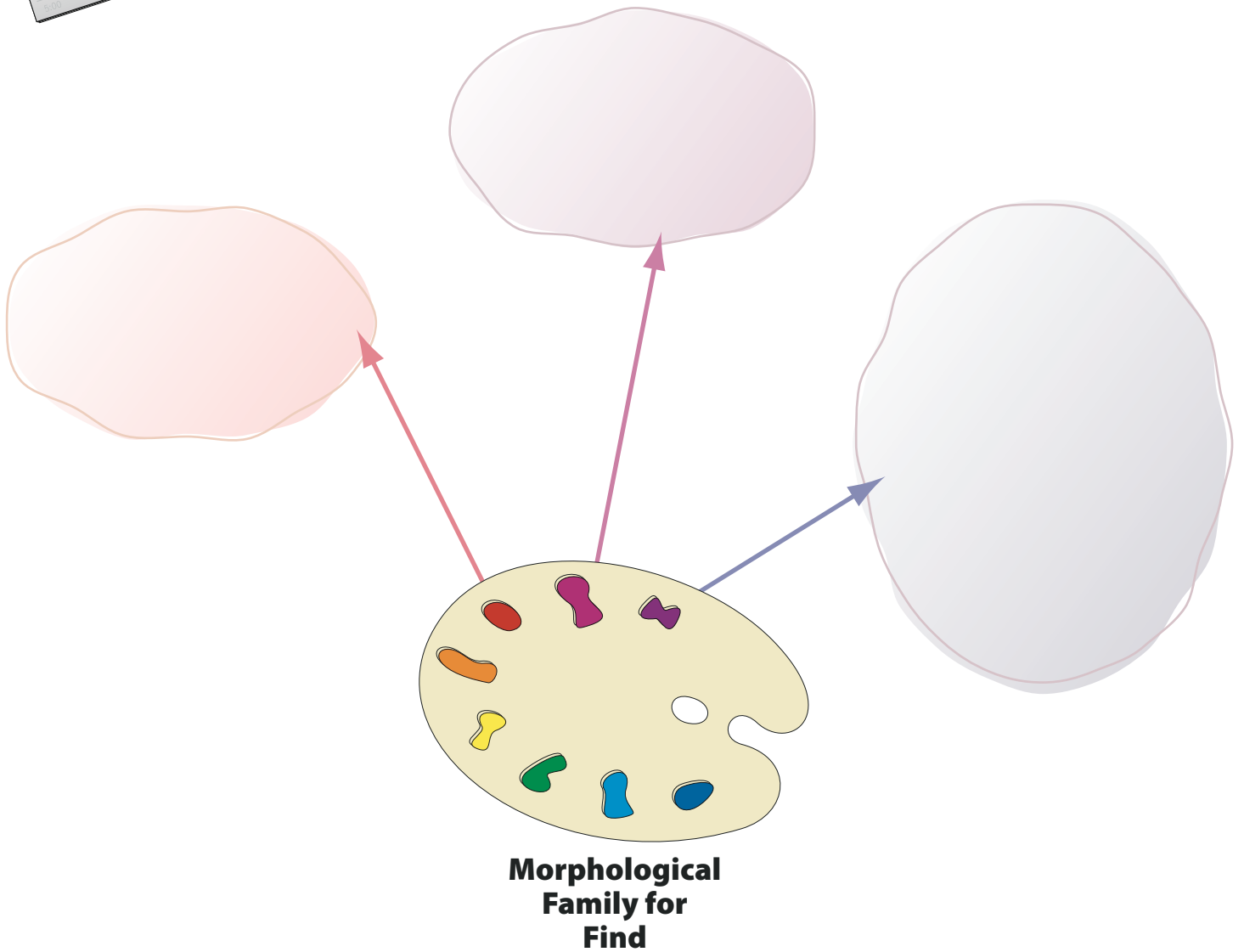
Show

Exceptional Expressions For Everyday Events

In a classroom, students may be asked to show how they solved a math problem. Teachers may show students how to use microscopes correctly. In both situations, the activity requires a demonstration of how a task is accomplished. The word **show** can be used as a verb or as a noun.

To show artwork is to let people see it. A student might need to show a note from a teacher to his parents. A traveler could be asked to show her passport at an airport. **To show** can also mean to prove or to confirm. For example, a student might be asked to show that he can be trusted to care for the class pet.

As a noun, **show** refers to a public display or performance. A show could be live theater, such as a play on Broadway in New York City. It could be a television or radio program, or even the entertainment provided by a musician on the street.

Follow-Ups

- How is demonstrating a concept different from putting your work on display?

- What does it mean to exhibit certain behaviors or traits?

- How might students who like to write showcase their talent?

The Spanish Connection

The word **show** comes from the Middle English *sheuen* that means "to look at, display." From the definition of *sheuen*, we see that the original meaning for **show** was a verb that over time developed into use as a noun. The Spanish word for **to show** is *mostrar*. **Show** and *mostrar* are not cognates, but some synonyms for **show** are.

Word Changes

- In the late 19th century, a popular form of public entertainment was provided by groups of traveling performers. These events were known as **dog and pony shows** because these groups often performed with these animals. Today the idiom **dog and pony show** is used, in a somewhat negative sense, to refer to a presentation that is overdone, especially one that is part of a promotional campaign.

- In modern times, there are many different kinds of shows, and **show** is often used to form compound words such as showcase, showtime, and showmanship.

- Some synonyms for the verb **show** are morphological family members of some synonyms for the noun **show**. For example, **to exhibit** is often defined as "to show artwork," while the noun **exhibition** is a public display of artwork.

Show

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Tuesday 17

**Show as in
an exhibition**
• display
• exhibition
• demonstration
• presentation
• play
• act
• program

**Show as in
to demonstrate**
• demonstrate
• display
• exhibit
• present

**Show as in
to prove**
• prove
• illustrate
• confirm
• establish

Show

IDIOMS
• Show off
• The show must go on
• Show and tell
• Show me the light/way
• Show the world
• Dog and pony show
• No show
• Show you the door
• Show your true colors
• Show your face
• Show of good faith
• Steal the show
• Tip your hand

COMMON PHRASES
• TV/radio/game show
• Show case
• Show up
• Show business
• Show of hands
• Show me

THE SPANISH CONNECTION
• demonstration / demostración
• exhibition / exposición
• exhibit / exhibir
• presentation / presentación
• illustrate / ilustrar
• illustration / ilustración
• confirm / confirmar

Show

Show

Show

Derivational Suffixes
- showy[v]
- shower[≠]
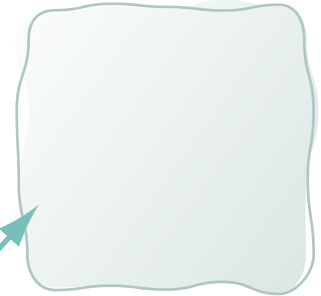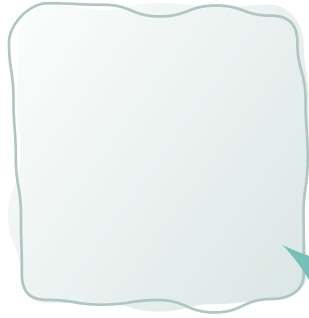
Inflected Endings
- shows[v]
- showed[v]
- showing[v]

Compound Words

Show used as a noun
- auto show
- cat show
- dog show
- air show
- horse show
- light show
- news show
- quiz show
- puppet show
- tv show
- one-man show
- show stopper
- showboat

Show used as a verb
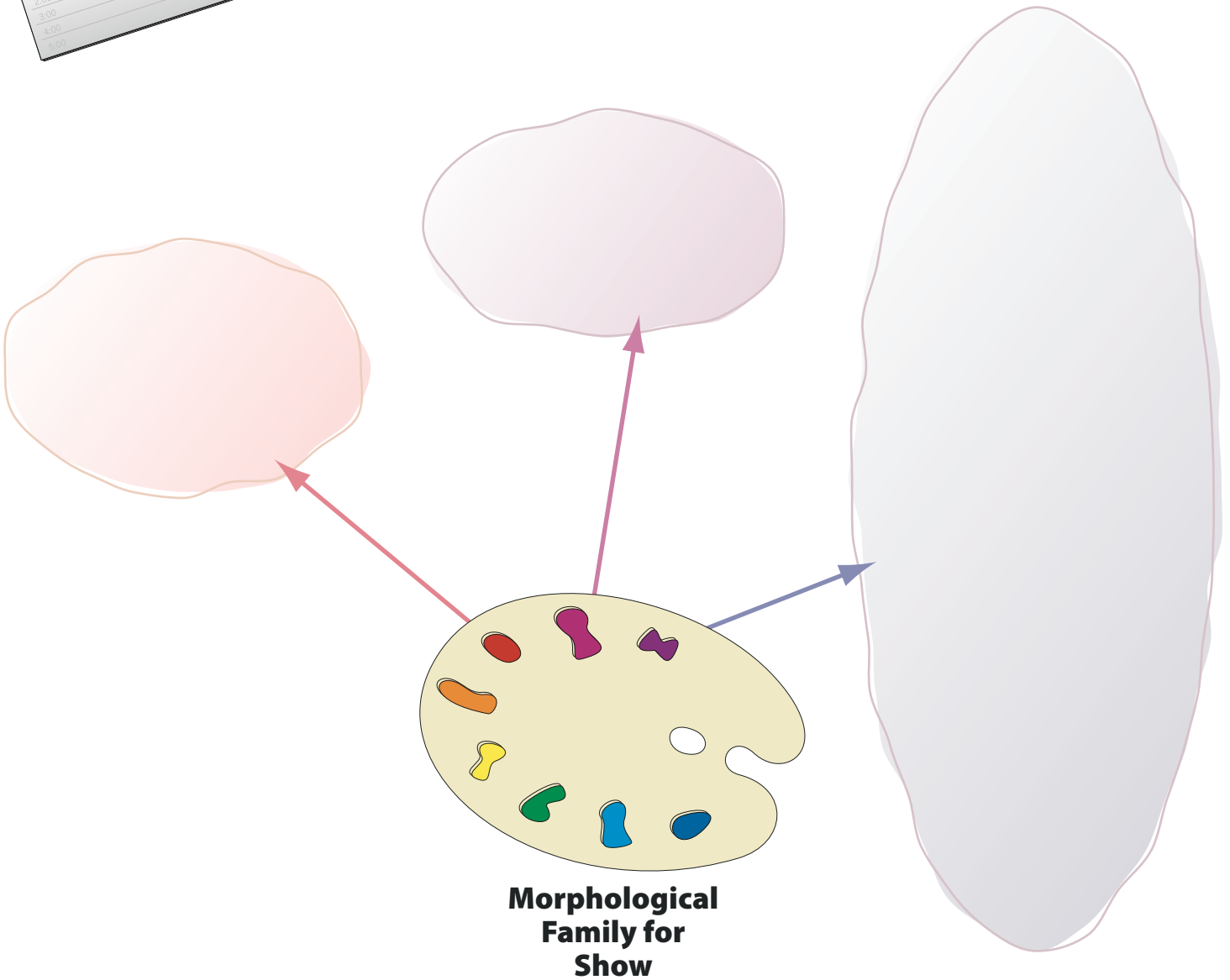- show [animal] (e.g., show dog)
- show-and-tell
- showbiz
- showtime
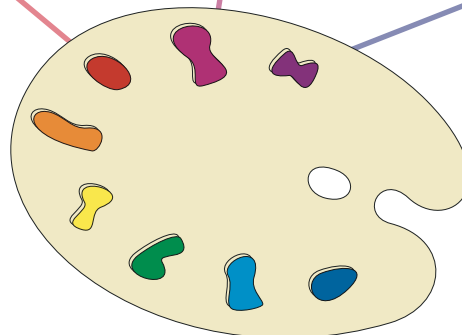
Morphological Family for Show

[v] Show used as a verb

[≠] Not derived from Show

Show

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Tuesday 17

Morphological Family for Show

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