# Essential Element, Linkage Levels, and Mini-Map

## ELA: Grade 9-10

### ELA.EE.RI.9-10.4

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| Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language of a court opinion differs from that of a newspaper) | Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in text, including common idioms, analogies, and figures of speech | **Initial Precursor**  
  - Can determine some of the relevant words for describing people, places, things, or events familiar to the student  

**Distal Precursor**  
- Can ascertain which words or phrases fit the meaning of literal sentences in a text and can complete those sentences by choosing the best ones  

**Proximal Precursor**  
- Can identify the commonly understood cultural and/or emotional meaning of words and phrases in a text  

**Target**  
- Can determine the figurative meaning of words and phrases as the author intended in an informational text, such as common idioms, analogies, and figures of speech  

**Successor**  
- Can determine how words and phrases, especially words with multiple meanings and figurative meaning, impacts the meaning that a reader derives from an informational text  

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### How is the Initial Precursor related to the Target?

**Initial Precursor:** Students at the Initial Precursor linkage level can work toward determining the meaning of idioms, analogies, and figures of speech by working to understand words that are most relevant in describing the people, places, things, or events that occur in texts. Teachers can use DLM Familiar Texts aligned with this Essential Element and linkage level during repeated shared reading interactions to help students learn to distinguish between the words that do and do not describe the people, places, things, or events that are described in the texts.

### How is the Distal Precursor related to the Target?

**Distal Precursor:** Working to understand idioms, analogies, and figures of speech requires students to first understand the literal meaning of words in texts. Teachers can help students work toward this by asking them to determine words that would fit in a sentence in a text but have been masked.

A diagram showing the relationship of nodes in the mini-map appears below.

**Key to map codes in upper right corner of node boxes:**

- **IP** Initial Precursor
- **SP** Supporting
- **DP** Distal Precursor
- **S** Successor
- **PP** Proximal Precursor
- **UN** Untested
- **T** Target
ELA.EE.RI.9-10.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in text, including common idioms, analogies, and figures of speech.
ELA-1413
Can identify both the literal and nonliteral meaning of words in context

ELA-1174
Can determine the meaning of simple idioms and figures of speech in a narrative.

ELA-832
Determine the connotative meaning of words and phrases in a text

ELA-1243
Can determine the figurative meaning of words and phrases as they are used in an informational text

ELA-1247
Can determine how words and phrases impact the meaning of an informational text