

# identify

verb

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► Say it: i • den • ti • fy

Write it: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Vocabulary Toolkit

### Meaning

to recognize or say what something is

*Synonym:* distinguish

### Example

The witness **identified** the \_\_\_\_\_ who had stolen his \_\_\_\_\_.



### Forms

*Present:*  
I/You/We/They identify  
He/She/It identifies  
*Past:* identified

### Family

- *Noun:* identification
- *Adjective:* identifiable
- *Adverb:* identifiably

### Word Partners

- difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ Sometimes it is **difficult to identify** the cause of an illness without performing multiple tests on a patient.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a factor The researchers **identified factors** that may endanger the quality of the city's drinking water.
- \_\_\_\_\_ a/the problem My mother **identified the problem** with our air conditioner and fixed it.

## Verbal Practice

**Talk about it** Read each sentence and think about how you would complete it.

**Discuss** your idea with your partner using the sentence frame.

**Listen** carefully to your partner's and classmates' ideas.

**Write** your favorite idea in the blank.

- 1 When I look at the sky at night, I can identify \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 In science class, we **identified** the anatomy of a \_\_\_\_\_.

## Writing Practice

**Collaborate** Work with your partner to complete the sentence using the correct form of identify and appropriate content.

I can \_\_\_\_\_ most \_\_\_\_\_ within ten seconds of seeing them.

**Your Turn** Work independently to complete the sentence using the correct form of identify and appropriate content.

I \_\_\_\_\_ the problem with my \_\_\_\_\_ and repaired it.

**Be an Academic Author** Work independently to write two sentences. In your first sentence, use identify with the modal verb *can*. In your second sentence, use identify in the *simple past tense*.

① \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

② \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**grammar tip**

**Modal verbs are helping verbs that give additional meaning to the main verb. *Can* often expresses ability.**

Sarah can identify what kind of flower that is.

I can fix bicycles.

**Write an Academic Paragraph** Complete the paragraph using the correct form of identify and original content.

Some people have a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>①</sup> known as perfect pitch—the ability to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>②</sup> any musical note that is played just by listening. People with perfect pitch can also \_\_\_\_\_<sup>③</sup> the pitches of ordinary noises such as car horns and bird calls. Others can even produce specific pitches on their own without any external help. For example, if you ask them to sing the note \_\_\_\_\_<sup>④</sup>, they can do it without hearing the note first. Understandably, perfect pitch is a skill often possessed by musicians and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>⑤</sup>. However, scientists believe that people aren't born with perfect pitch; instead, these people probably \_\_\_\_\_<sup>⑥</sup> to identify pitches after being exposed to music at an early \_\_\_\_\_<sup>⑦</sup>.