

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
He/She/It

identify
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 _____ ① known as perfect pitch—the ability to _____ ② any musical note that is played just by listening. People with perfect pitch can also _____ ③ 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 _____ ④, they can do it without hearing the note first. Understandably, perfect pitch is a skill often possessed by musicians and _____ ⑤. However, scientists believe that people aren't born with perfect pitch; instead, these people probably _____ ⑥ to identify pitches after being exposed to music at an early _____ ⑦.