

elaborate

verb

39

► Say it: e • lab • o • rate

Write it: _____

Academic Vocabulary Toolkit

Meaning

to give more details about something

Synonyms: develop, expand

Example

The _____ officer wasn't sure what the missing _____ looked like, so he asked the owner to elaborate.



Forms

Present:

I/You/We/They

elaborate

He/She/It

elaborates

Past:

elaborated

Family

• *Noun:* elaboration

• *Adjective:* elaborate

• *Adverb:* elaborately

Word Partners

• decline to _____

The actress **declined to elaborate** on her reasons for quitting the film.

• refuse to _____

My dad said I couldn't borrow the car on Saturday, but when I asked him why, he **refused to elaborate**.

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 My teacher asked me to **elaborate** on my description of the book I read because I didn't include enough _____

② If someone I didn't know well asked me for more information about myself, I would refuse to **elaborate** because _____

Writing Practice

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

If I had to _____ on why I like my neighborhood, I would say that I enjoy _____.

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

I really wanted to know why my friend _____, but she declined to _____.

Be an Academic Author Work independently to write two sentences. In your first sentence, use **elaborate** in the *simple past tense*. In your second sentence, use **elaborate** with the word partner *refuse to elaborate*.

① _____

 ② _____

grammar tip

To make the simple past tense of regular verbs, add *-ed* or *-d*.

She elaborated on the points in her essay.
 I played tennis today.

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

Speaking in front of an audience can be _____ ①, especially for people who are _____ ②. However, if you prepare well, you can give a successful speech. First, you should brainstorm ideas and research your topic. If you are giving a persuasive speech, develop your best arguments and gather _____ ③ to back up your opinions. Next, take notes and organize them. Keep your notes short so you can use them as a quick reference; you should _____ ④ on your points in the speech itself. Finally, rehearse your speech in front of a _____ ⑤. Be prepared to answer follow-up questions from the _____ ⑥ after your speech—you may be asked to _____ ⑦ on some of the points you made.