

explanation

noun

47

► Say it: ex • pla • na • tion

Write it: _____

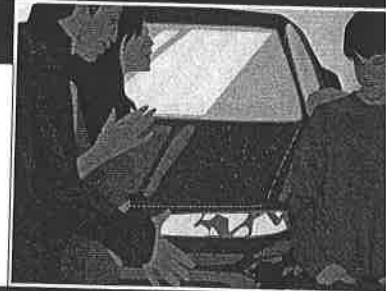
Academic Vocabulary Toolkit

Meaning

a description or reason that you give to make something easier to understand

Example

When Brian _____ the car home with a dented _____, his parents demanded an **explanation**.



Forms

- **Singular:** explanation
- **Plural:** explanations

Family

- **Verb:** explain
- **Adjective:** explanatory

Word Partners

- give an _____
- logical _____
- provide an _____

Our coach demanded that Mark **give an explanation** for why he had missed so many practices.

One **logical explanation** for why some children are scared of the dark is that they have active imaginations.

The video **provided an explanation** for why dolphins in the Amazon river have pink skin.

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 A logical **explanation** for why some students fall asleep in class is that they

② My friend asked me for an **explanation** after I

Writing Practice

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

If your stomach feels upset, two logical _____ might be that you _____ or _____.

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

If you are late for _____, you should give a valid _____ such as " _____."

Be an Academic Author Work independently to write two sentences. In your first sentence, use **explanation** in the *singular form*. In your second sentence, use **explanation** in the *plural form* and include a word partner.

- 1 _____

- 2 _____

grammar tip

Count nouns name things that can be counted. Count nouns have two forms, singular and plural. To make most count nouns plural, add *-s*.

There are many possible explanations.

He likes board games.

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

About 65 million _____¹ ago, a large number of animal and plant species—including all the dinosaurs—suddenly went extinct. No one knows exactly why this happened, but _____² have offered several possible _____³. The most widely accepted _____⁴ is that Earth was hit by one or more giant asteroids. As evidence of this, several large craters dating to 65 million years ago have been _____⁵. One is the Chicxulub crater in Mexico, which is about 111 miles wide and one mile deep and would have caused catastrophic damage upon impact. Whatever the full _____⁶ for the extinction of the dinosaurs, those events made way for a new era of _____⁷ on Earth: humans.