**Check for Understanding (Notecard reflections or GOGOMO documents) may include:**

* Explicit vocabulary instruction is the direct teaching of words using discrete lessons or activities
* Teacher discusses the meaning of words before students engage with the text
* Primary goal of explicit vocabulary instruction is depth of word knowledge - takes a deep dive into a limited number of words
* Allows for mastery of a word such that students can accurately use it in multiple contexts and can adapt the word into its different forms.
* Requires studying fewer words more in-depth - sometimes just one or two rather than a long list of terms
* A set of tools for teachers to use to teach words directly
* Words are chosen in advance because of their importance to the text
  + Focus vocabulary instruction on words that students won’t hear through conversation
  + Tier 2 words are most often those chosen to explicitly teach since these words primarily appear in print and are likely to appear in multiple contexts or with varying meanings
  + Critical for understanding the text
  + Related to the content or theme
  + Related to other vocabulary words that can be compared
  + Words that enable students to “upgrade their word choice”
* Basic structure for explicitly teaching a word
  + Accurate and student-friendly definition
  + Use the word in sentences modeling how the word might be used in multiple ways and situations
  + Add a visual to help students make an association (These can be posted)
  + Act out the word
  + Provide experience with parameters of use
    - Common Use -explanation of how word is commonly used
    - Word partners - If word is often used with another
    - Forms and prefixes - How the word changes with a new prefix or suffix
    - Similar to / Different From
  + Active practice (Make it stick!) Students need to say and hear a word multiple times
    - 5-7 quick questions both verbal and written for students to interact with the word
    - Helps practice mastering both meaning and usage