

Name: _____ Date: _____

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and definitions
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Paired Texts Vocabulary

"My Life With Autism"

1. **spectrum (SPEK-truhm)** *noun*; A spectrum is a wide range of something. There might be a spectrum of musical tastes in your class, with kids who like everything from classical to country and everything in between. The colors of the rainbow are another example of a spectrum.
2. **integrate (IN-tih-grayt)** *verb*; *Integrate* can mean "to make two or more things into a whole" or "to add something in so that it becomes part of the whole." A cake recipe might tell you to slowly integrate the flour into the butter and sugar. Your teacher might ask you to integrate photos into your presentation.
3. **physical therapist (FIZ-i-kuhl THER-uh-pist)** *noun*; A therapist is someone who performs therapy: treatment given for a physical or mental illness or injury.

A physical therapist treats people with physical conditions that cause pain or limit their ability to move or perform physical activities. Physical therapists do not perform surgery or prescribe medicine; rather, they use therapies such as exercises, massage, and heat. If you break your arm, your doctor might send you to a physical therapist after your cast is removed; the physical therapist will help you rebuild your strength and will make sure that your arm heals completely.
4. **speech therapist (speech THER-uh-pist)** *noun*; A speech therapist provides therapy to people with speech and language difficulties, so that those people are able to communicate more successfully. A speech therapist might help people learn how to make certain sounds, improve their written or spoken language, or express their thoughts and emotions more easily.
5. **sarcasm (SAHR-kaz-uhm)** *noun*; Sarcasm is the use of words that usually mean one thing to mean just the opposite. If you look out the window on Saturday morning and say, "Oh *great*, it's raining," but what you really mean is, "Ugh! This rain is going to ruin the whole day," you are using sarcasm. Sarcasm can be funny and lighthearted, but it is often used to show irritation or to hurt someone's feelings.
6. **ensure (en-SHUR)** *verb*; To ensure something is to make sure or certain of it—to guarantee it. Lifeguards ensure the safety of swimmers.

7. fulfilling (fuhl-FIL-ing) *adjective*; Something that is fulfilling provides happiness and satisfaction. Volunteer work is often fulfilling—it makes you feel good that you are helping others and making a difference in the world.

"My Brother Has Autism"

1. developmental (dih-vel-uhp-MEHNT-uhl) *adjective*; *Development* (dih-VEL-uhp-muhnt) is the act or process of growing, progressing, or improving. *Developmental* means "relating to the growth or development of someone or something." Between the ages of about 10 and 15, people experience intense developmental change: We rapidly get taller, our ability to understand and reason increases because of changes in our brains, and we develop a stronger emotional connection to ourselves and to others.

Directions: Below and on the back of this page, list any other words from the articles whose definitions you are not sure about. For each word, use context clues to try to figure out the meaning. Then look up the word in a few different dictionaries. Discuss the meaning of the word with your teacher or another adult. Then write a definition for the word and one example sentence.

Paired Texts Vocabulary Practice

Directions: Rewrite each sentence below using one of the words in the box. There is one word you will not use.

ensure	speech therapist	sarcasm	spectrum	fulfilling
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1. The newest Star Wars film made me feel a wide range of emotions; it was touching, frightening, and funny.

2. Before Tonya began whispering in my ear, she glanced around to make sure no one else was listening.

3. Reading a good book on the couch is a satisfying way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

4. Kate visits a special teacher twice a week to practice her speaking and listening skills.

Directions: In each pair of boldfaced words, underline the word that best completes the sentence.

5. "What a wonderful surprise!" said Ty, his voice filled with disgust.

"Ty, we can do without your **sarcasm/spectrum**," replied Ty's dad.

6. A **physical therapist/speech therapist** can design an exercise program to reduce lower back pain.

7. Songwriting is the perfect way to **integrate/ensure** my love of poetry and playing piano.

8. In the Hunger Games series, Katniss and Peeta make alliances with other tributes to **ensure/integrate** their survival.