## Purpose

The quick opener gets you thinking about frequently misunderstood or misused words, which will help you think about the importance of language as you learn more about climate vocabulary.

## Process

1. Circle the correct use of each of the words.

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| **Literally** | |
| I literally died of laughter. | The instructions literally said to wait five minutes before opening the package. |
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| **Ironic** | |
| It’s ironic that it started raining just as I finished washing my car. | It’s ironic that the fire station burned down. |
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| **Except** | |
| She couldn’t except that she wasn’t admitted into the program despite her hard work. | Everyone attended the meeting except for Sarah, who was out of town. |
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| **Tenet** | |
| A core tenet of environmental science is the belief that human actions impact ecosystems, | All the tenets in the building evacuated when they heard the fire alarm. |

1. Can you think of any other words that are misused or misunderstood?

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1. Why do you think it’s so common for these words to be used incorrectly?

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1. Why do you think it’s important to have a common understanding of the meaning of words?

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