

When you think of the 5 M's (**motivation, meaning, modeling, molding** and **mechanics**) what are ways that you can describe these to students. Below is a list of synonyms and antonyms for each. Writer's workshop incorporates all 5 of these in the setup. A few things that I found interesting when I did this was that there are no antonyms listed for meaning, modeling and mechanics, and when I look at the antonyms listed for the others, they are words that the students can relate to. Also notice how many times the same synonyms are used. Not very many. I used [www.thesaurus.com](http://www.thesaurus.com) for all the words.

**Motivation:**

Definition: ambition, inspiration

Synonyms: action, actuation, angle, catalyst, desire, disposition, drive, encouragement, fire, get up and go, gimmick, goose, hunger, impetus, impulse, impulsions, incentive, incitation, incitement, inclination, inducement, instigation, interest, kick\*, motive, persuasion, predetermination, predisposition, provocation, push, reason, right stuff, spur, stimulus, suggestion, wish

Antonyms: depression, discouragement

**Meaning:**

Definition: message, signification

Synonyms: acceptance, allusion, bearing, bottom line, connotation, content, context, definition, denotation, drift, effect, essence, explanation, force, gist, heart\*, hint, implication, import, interpretation, intimation, meat, name of the game, nature of beast, nitty-gritty, nuance, nuts and bolts, pith, point, purport, sense, significance, spirit, stuff, subject, subject matter, substance, suggestion, symbolization, tenor, thrust, understanding, upshot, use, value, worth

**Modeling:**

Definition: form, shape

Synonyms: base, carve, cast, create, design, fashion, mold, pattern, plan, sculpt

**Molding:**

Definition: form, give shape

Synonyms: build, construct, devise, erect, fashion, forge, form, frame, make, pat, plan, plant, plot, put together, round, scheme, sculpt, whittle

Antonyms: dismantle

**Mechanics:**

Definition: basic parts

Synonyms: basic details, basics, brass tacks, essentials, fundamentals, innards, inner workings, mechanics, nitty-gritty, no frills, no nonsense, practical details, practicalities, workings

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