Painting With Words

A general word is a word that you use in everyday language. A precise word is a higher level word that has a meaning similar—but more specific than—the general word. Think of a general word as being like a quick pencil sketch, and a precise word as being like a painting whose every colorful brush stroke has been carefully chosen.

DIRECTIONS: Replace the underlined general word in each sentence with a precise word. Write the precise word on the line.

Example: I ate the sandwich.
I devoured the sandwich.

1. We sat on the sofa.

2. The big dog was friendly.

3. I chose a red apple.

4. Jill gave $20 to charity.

5. The children played nicely.

6. We ran to the store.

7. She spoke to the mailman.

8. John watched Karen all day.

9. Tim asked for a slice of cake.

10. Wendy drew a picture.

11. Ann put the glass on the table.

12. The bus came up.

13. The room is messy.