

# **Vocabulary Teaching and Assessment**

Academic Word List

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The Academic Word List from the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary



## THE ACADEMIC WORD LIST

The Academic Word List is a list of words that you are likely to meet if you study at an English-speaking university.

[see more](#)

ENTRIES:

SUBLIST 1:

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- analyse
- analysis
- analyst
- analytic
- analytical
- analyze
- approach
- approachable
- area
- assess
- assessment
- assume
- assumed
- assuming
- assumption
- authoritative
- authority
- available
- beneficial
- beneficiary

SUBLIST 1:

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## Selecting vocabulary: Academic word list

*Academic Word List* Coxhead (2000). The most frequent word in each family is in italics. There are 570 headwords and about 3000 words altogether. For more information see [Lexical Tutor](#).

If you have an iPhone and want to practise these words, you could try: [Flashcards Deluxe](#). Install the application, then search in the shared library for "Academic Word List". Or you

\*Definitions linked to: [Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary](#) (Used with permission)

Headwords	Other words in the family.
<i>abandon</i>	abandoned, abandoning, abandonment, abandons, <i>e.g.</i>
<i>abstract</i>	abstraction, abstractions, abstractly, abstracts, <i>e.g.</i>
academy	academia, <i>academic</i> , academically, academics, academies, <i>e.g.</i>
access	accessed, accesses, accessibility, accessible, accessing, inaccessible
accommodate	accommodated, accommodates, accommodating, <i>accommodation</i>
accompany	<i>accompanied</i> , accompanies, accompaniment, accompanying, unaccompanied
accumulate	accumulated, accumulating, <i>accumulation</i> , accumulates
<i>accurate</i>	accuracy, accurately, inaccuracy, inaccuracies, inaccurate
<i>achieve</i>	achievable, achieved, achievement, achievements, achieves, achieving
acknowledge	<i>acknowledged</i> , acknowledges, acknowledging, acknowledgement, acknowledgements
acquire	acquired, acquires, acquiring, <i>acquisition</i> , acquisitions
adapt	adaptability, adaptable, <i>adaptation</i> , adaptations, adapted, adapting, adaptive, adapts
<i>adequate</i>	adequacy, adequately, inadequacies, inadequacy, inadequate, inadequately
<i>adjacent</i>	
adjust	adjusted, adjusting, <i>adjustment</i> , adjustments, adjusts, readjust, readjusted, readjusting, readjustment, readjustments, readjusts
administrate	administrates, <i>administration</i> , administrations, administrative, administratively, administrator, administrators
adult	adulthood, <i>adults</i>
advocate	advocacy, advocated, advocates, advocating
effect	effected, effecting, <i>effective</i> , effectively, effects, unaffected

# Sources of Vocabulary

**Urban Life  
housing  
city problems  
(pp. 8-13)  
(pp. 16-20)**

Vocabulary:

bright, comfortable,  
convenient, cramped,  
dangerous, dark,  
expensive, huge,

**“Hooked on Crime” (pp. 221-231)**

Vocabulary:

- clean-cut, cons, contentious, created, dependency, dra  
extortion, homelessness, imposed, making amends, m  
modest, principles, robberies, trend, trafficking

**or “Eye Witness” (pp. 231-244)**

Vocabulary:

- *abruptly, accessory, carefully, fear, nervously, person  
quickly, suspiciously, taxpayer, warily, wearily*

Vocabulary from their readings, newspapers  
summaries, and

# Vocabulary Development

- Select vocabulary
- Preview the vocabulary in the text
- Show the word, object, diagram
- Circulate a list
- Recycle through varied activities
- Guide students in collecting words

## II. Assessment

- 1) Vocabulary notebooks, blogs, flashcards
- 2) Matching words and definitions
- 3) Modified cloze
- 4) True/false tests of words in sentences
- 5) Vocabulary Depth tests
- 6) Definition completions
- 7) Sensitive multiple choice
- 8) Translation test
- 9) Self-evaluation checklist

## Vocabulary Notebook

New Word\s	Definition	Example Sentence
<i>hard to come by</i>	not readily available	Good cheese is <b>hard to come by</b> in Tokyo
<i>looked into</i>	studied, examined, researched	she <b>looked into</b> a number of universities before choosing AGU
<i>neglect</i>	<small>to not give enough care or attention to someone or something</small>	I've been <b>neglecting</b> my journal recently

Double space  
your  
vocabulary  
notebook.  
Make it as  
clear and easy  
to read as  
possible

Use colour to  
make the new  
word leap off  
the page

Always write  
an English  
definition,  
but also add a  
Japanese  
definition  
when you  
think you  
need it

Always write  
your own  
sentence.  
It's easier to  
remember

Keep updating your vocabulary notebook throughout the semester, and remember this is not just a list of words. The aim is to increase your vocabulary, so keep looking back through your notebook and try to learn the words. Try and use your new words as often as possible in your discussions, in presentations, in your journal, your book reports and your essays for writing class.

## 2. Matching words and definitions

I. **Matching** (14 marks). Choose *one* correct letter for matching.

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. _____ <u>simplify</u>        | a) make something easier                            |
| 2. _____ <u>administer</u>      | b) <u>repair</u> something                          |
| 3. _____ <u>cognition</u>       | c) organize or control something                    |
| 4. <u>e</u> _____ <u>advise</u> | d) <u>thinking</u> or understanding                 |
| 5. _____ <u>authority</u>       | e) give a suggestion to someone                     |
|                                 | f) <u>someone</u> with recognized ability or status |
|                                 | g) someone who has written a book                   |
|                                 | h) <u>find</u> a direction                          |
|                                 | i) a type of dream                                  |

### 3. Modified Cloze

trade

Columbus

Newfoundland

descendents

Vikings

wood

ice age

ivory

After the last 1. ice age some groups of homo sapiens (i.e., humans) moved to Eurasia and others crossed the Bering Strait to become the 'native peoples' of the New World. About 905 A.D., the 2. descendents of these two peoples met in modern-day 3. Newfoundland and Labrador. Those who came from the European continent were called 4. Vikings. So, contrary to the popular understanding, 5. Columbus was not the first white man to come to the New World. The Vikings came to Canada before him, by way of Greenland. They came for 6. wood to build their ships and to 7. trade with the Inuits, the natives of that region. The Vikings needed walrus 8. ivory because they used it as 'money' in Europe.

## 4. True/false sentences

*A 1,000 word level true/false test (Nation, 1993a)*

Write T if a sentence is true. Write N if it is not true. Write do not understand the sentence.

1. We cut time into minutes, hours and days. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Some children call their mother Mama. \_\_\_\_\_
3. All the world is under water. \_\_\_\_\_
4. When you keep asking, you ask once. \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Vocabulary Depth test

*Sudden*

beautiful	quick	change	doctor
surprising	thirsty	noise	school

## 6. Definition Completion

*A definition completion test (Read, 1995)*

Choose one word from the list on the right to complete the sentence.  
Do not use the same word twice.

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| 1. A journey straight to a place is _____                        | faint  |
| 2. An illness that is very serious is _____                      | acute  |
| 3. A river that is very wide is _____                            | common |
| 4. Part of your body that is not covered by any clothes is _____ | bare   |
| 5. Something that happens often is _____                         | alien  |
|  | broad  |
|  | direct |

## 7. A Sensitive Multiple Choice Test

*A sensitive multiple-choice test (Joe, 1994)*

Circle the choice that best gives the meaning of the underlined word.

- chronic means
- a. lasting for a long time
  - b. dissatisfied
  - c. to greatly decrease
  - d. effective and harmless
  - e. don't know

*A translation test (Nunnesi and Reed, 1999)*

## 8. A Translation Test

*A translation test (Nurweni and Read, 1999)*

Translate the underlined words into your first language.

1. You can see how the town has developed.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I cannot say much about his character.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Her idea is a very good one.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. I want to hear only the facts.

\_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Self-evaluation Checklist

Tick the words you know.

adviser \_\_\_\_\_

ghastly \_\_\_\_\_

contord \_\_\_\_\_

implore \_\_\_\_\_

morlorn \_\_\_\_\_

moisten \_\_\_\_\_

patiful \_\_\_\_\_

profess \_\_\_\_\_

stourge \_\_\_\_\_

discard \_\_\_\_\_