
VOCABULARY

ASSESSMENTS

- 1 Teacher Developed Vocabulary Assessment
- 2 Vocabulary – Production
Vocabulary – Antonyms
Vocabulary – Synonyms
Vocabulary – Score Sheet
- 3 Oxford Word List

TEACHER DEVELOPED VOCABULARY ASSESSMENT

Provided by Deslea Konza, Edith Cowan University for PALL

Can develop your own assessments based on class reading and themes

- Fairest method because it is related to what children are taught
- Assesses students' vocabulary growth in terms of knowledge of words taught
- Also assesses effectiveness of teaching

Multiple choice after teaching

e.g.. The student was diligent in completing all his work ahead of time.

- a) Lazy
- b) Hard working
- c) Proud
- d) Surprised

Matching

(match each word with its meaning)

- a) big small
- b) tiny scarlet
- c) red large

Synonyms

He discovered a new route through the mountains.

- a) wanted
- b) found
- c) travelled
- d) captured

Fill in the blanks

(supply the answer in a list or not)

1. Sasha asked for a _____ as a birthday gift.
2. Readers anxiously await nine _____ episodes in the exciting tale.
(Also assessing syntactic knowledge here)

Sentence writing

(Use the word in a sentence to show its meaning)

Foreign _____

Plausible _____

“Show you know” sentences

Students show their knowledge of target words by using vocabulary appropriately and in context.

Example:

Vocabulary words: *Protection* and *camouflage*

Student response: The leafy sea dragon looks like a piece of seaweed. It uses this camouflage to protect itself by hiding in the sea grass

Association questions

Write three words that can fit in the blank

A sponge can absorb

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

Personal connection (deeper level knowledge)

- Ask students to connect what they know about a word to personal experiences or background. Create prompts with sentence starters such as
 - Describe a place/event/example...
 - When/ who/where/might...
 - Name a place that reminded you of...
 - Share a time when...
- Ask students to use a target word in a sentence

Prompt: Tell about a time when you were *exhausted*.

Personal example: I was *exhausted* when I ran in the marathon.

Example/non-example

- A vocabulary word is followed by two statements, one is an example of the word and the other is not. Students show their understanding of the word by choosing the correct example.

Word: *postage*

_____ The letter did not have a stamp on it.

_____ The woman was very old. Teacher developed vocabulary

Alike/Different

- When students study words with similar meanings, this a way of honing in on the precise meanings of synonyms.

Example

Word Pair: *mountain* and *hill*

How are they alike? (possible answer: they are both geographical features)

How are they different? (possible answer: a mountain is higher than a hill)Teacher developed vocabulary assessment

Yes-No-Why?

Students must check to see if the sentence using the target word makes sense then explain why it does or doesn't.

Examples

1. Sentence: The *annual* report was published each month.

Response: This doesn't make sense because *annual* means once a year.

2. Sentence: *Recycling* protects the *environment*.

Response: This does make sense because recycling means less garbage which means we keep the world clean

Vocabulary - Production

This assessment is not as objective as the others but it can still be quite informative. For this task, you will need to make a judgement about the child's responses. If it is not clear and obvious that the child knows the meaning of a word, ask the child to explain further; if that does not clear up the ambiguity, then count that item as wrong and move on. For all items, indicate on the score sheet if the child clearly knew or clearly did not know the meanings of the words.

This test should be given orally -- items may be repeated once if necessary. Tactfully discontinue administration of the assessment if the child appears to be frustrated with the task. There are two equivalent versions in case a child needs to be tested twice. To pass this task, the child should get 8 out of 10 correct.

You may give coaching and feedback on the practice items, but do not give any feedback on the actual test items.

Instructions:

Tell the student you would like to talk about word meanings. Ask the student to tell you what the word ALONE means. Discuss the meaning of the word with the child. Ask the child to use the word in a sentence.

Continue with these practice items:

HILL
COUSIN
BUS

List A:

1. SOUP
2. BATH
3. WHISTLE
4. BUBBLE
5. ROAR
6. CHOP
7. WIGGLE
8. BLUSH
9. FROST
10. BEAST

List B:

1. CRAB
2. HIKE
3. UNCLE
4. WITCH
5. WINTER
6. SPOIL
7. BRIDGE
8. DIVE
9. SURPRISE
10. POISON

Vocabulary - Antonyms

This test should be given orally -- items may be repeated once if necessary. Tactfully discontinue administration of the assessment if the child appears to be frustrated with the task. There are two equivalent versions in case a child needs to be tested twice. Record on the score sheet which word the child chose, and indicate incorrect responses by circling them. To pass this task, the child should get 8 out of 10 correct.

You may give coaching and feedback on the practice items, but do not give any feedback on the actual test items.

Instructions:

Some words have opposites -- like the opposite of HOT is COLD and the opposite of DAY is NIGHT. What's the opposite of FAST? (Wait for response) SLOW is the opposite of FAST.

So which of these words is the opposite of THIN -- WEAK, FAT or TALL? (Wait for response) The answer is FAT -- the opposite of THIN is FAT.

Practice Items:

What is the opposite of PUSH?	SHOVE	PULL	TRACK
What is the opposite of ROUGH?	SMOOTH	HOUSE	TOUGH
What is the opposite of CHILD?	KID	BABY	ADULT

List A:

1. What is the opposite of YELL?	HURT	WHISPER	SHOUT
2. What is the opposite of TRUTH?	TELL	LIE	BEAR
3. What is the opposite of SOUR?	TART	GRAPE	SWEET
4. What is the opposite of QUIET?	STORY	LOUD	DRAW
5. What is the opposite of CIRCLE?	SQUARE	ROUND	RING
6. What is the opposite of COLD?	BREEZE	WINTER	HOT
7. What is the opposite of FOLLOW?	FIND	PUSH	LEAD
8. What is the opposite of LIFT?	LEVER	DROP	PUSH
9. What is the opposite of SMALL?	BIG	TINY	SMART
10. What is the opposite of MEAN?	BULLY	MIDDLE	NICE

List B:

1. What is the opposite of HARD?	SHOVE	SOFT	ROCK
2. What is the opposite of HAIRY?	HEAD	DOG	BALD
3. What is the opposite of OLD?	WISE	YOUNG	HAT
4. What is the opposite of EMPTY?	CUP	FULL	LINE
5. What is the opposite of FIRST?	BEGIN	START	LAST
6. What is the opposite of ASLEEP?	AWAKE	TIRED	BED
7. What is the opposite of FUNNY?	CLASS	SAD	LAUGH
8. What is the opposite of FLOAT?	SINK	DRAIN	FILL
9. What is the opposite of ASLEEP?	DOZE	TIRED	AWAKE
10. What is the opposite of LOSE?	HIDE	FIND	COVER

Vocabulary - Synonyms

This test should be given orally -- items may be repeated once if necessary. Tactfully discontinue administration of the assessment if the child appears to be frustrated with the task. There are two equivalent versions in case a child needs to be tested twice. Record on the score sheet which word the child chose, and indicate incorrect responses by circling them. To pass this task, the child should get 8 out of 10 correct. You may give coaching and feedback on the practice items, but do not give any feedback on the actual test items.

Instructions:

Sometimes two different words can mean the same thing. Like, for example, I could say that you're smart, or I could say you're clever or intelligent or bright. Those words mean the same thing. There are lots of words that have the same meaning -- you could say you're sad or unhappy -- they mean the same thing.

Listen to these words and tell me which word means the same thing as CHILLY -- SNOW, WINTER or COLD. (Wait for response). COLD is the right answer -- CHILLY and COLD mean the same thing. Let's do another one. Which of these words means the same thing as INSECT -- SNAKE, BUG or FISH? (Wait for response) BUG is the right answer -- BUG and INSECT mean the same thing.

Practice Items:

Which word means the same as TALK:	SPEAK	SOUP	GROW
Which word means the same as SMELLY:	NOSEY	STINKY	LOUD
Which word means the same as KICK:	PASS	FOOT	PUNT

List A:

- | | | | |
|---|--------|---------|--------|
| 1. Which word means the same as HORSE? | PUPPY | PONY | COW |
| 2. Which word means the same as AIRPLANE? | TRAIN | JET | ROCKET |
| 3. Which word means the same as TOSS? | THROW | HIT | CATCH |
| 4. Which word means the same as TOUCH? | HURT | SAD | FEEL |
| 5. Which word means the same as RIP? | TEAR | PULL | BRING |
| 6. Which word means the same as COOK? | BAKE | BOOK | OVEN |
| 7. Which word means the same as HEAR? | LISTEN | WATCH | LOOK |
| 8. Which word means the same as GIFT? | DEAR | PRESENT | WRAP |
| 9. Which word means the same as STREET? | CURB | HILL | ROAD |
| 10. Which word means the same as BOAT? | SHIP | LAKE | SAIL |

List B:

- | | | | |
|--|--------|-------|---------|
| 1. Which word means the same as CAT? | KITTY | HORSE | DOG |
| 2. Which word means the same as BITE? | PUSH | CHOMP | TEETH |
| 3. Which word means the same as RUG? | CARPET | FLOOR | TILE |
| 4. Which word means the same as HUSH? | QUIET | PUSH | SWITCH |
| 5. Which word means the same as QUILT? | BED | FLOOR | BLANKET |
| 6. Which word means the same as BEGIN? | STOP | QUIT | START |
| 7. Which word means the same as BREEZE? | RAIN | WIND | AIR |
| 8. Which word means the same as OCEAN? | BOAT | FISH | SEA |
| 9. Which word means the same as ROCK? | STONE | CREEK | RIVER |
| 10. Which word means the same as LITTLE? | SMALL | TALL | MOUSE |

Vocabulary - Score Sheet

Student Name _____

Date _____

Production	Total: _____	Total: _____
List A: 1. SOUP _____ 2. BATH _____ 3. WHISTLE _____ 4. BUBBLE _____ 5. ROAR _____ 6. CHOP _____ 7. WIGGLE _____ 8. BLUSH _____ 9. FROST _____ 10. BEAST _____		List B: 1. CRAB _____ 2. HIKE _____ 3. UNCLE _____ 4. WITCH _____ 5. WINTER _____ 6. SPOIL _____ 7. BRIDGE _____ 8. DIVE _____ 9. SURPRISE _____ 10. POISON _____

Antonyms	Total: _____	Total: _____
List A: 1. Opposite of YELL? (WHISPER) _____ 2. Opposite of TRUTH? (LIE) _____ 3. Opposite of SOUR? (SWEET) _____ 4. Opposite of QUIET? (LOUD) _____ 5. Opposite of CIRCLE? (SQUARE) _____ 6. Opposite of COLD? (HOT) _____ 7. Opposite of FOLLOW? (LEAD) _____ 8. Opposite of LIFT? (DROP) _____ 9. Opposite of SMALL? (BIG) _____ 10. Opposite of MEAN? (NICE) _____		List B: 1. Opposite of HARD (SOFT) _____ 2. Opposite of HAIRY (BALD) _____ 3. Opposite of OLD (YOUNG) _____ 4. Opposite of EMPTY (FULL) _____ 5. Opposite of FIRST (LAST) _____ 6. Opposite of ASLEEP (AWAKE) _____ 7. Opposite of FUNNY (SAD) _____ 8. Opposite of FLOAT (SINK) _____ 9. Opposite of ASLEEP (AWAKE) _____ 10. Opposite of LOSE (FIND) _____

Synonyms	Total: _____	Total: _____
List A: 1. Same as HORSE: (PONY) _____ 2. Same as AIRPLANE: (JET) _____ 3. Same as TOSS: (THROW) _____ 4. Same as TOUCH: (FEEL) _____ 5. Same as RIP: (TEAR) _____ 6. Same as COOK: (BAKE) _____ 7. Same as HEAR: (LISTEN) _____ 8. Same as GIFT: (PRESENT) _____ 9. Same as STREET: (ROAD) _____ 10. Same as BOAT: (SHIP) _____		List B: 1. Same as CAT: (KITTY) _____ 2. Same as BITE: (CHOMP) _____ 3. Same as RUG: (CARPET) _____ 4. Same as HUSH: (QUIET) _____ 5. Same as QUILT: (BLANKET) _____ 6. Same as BEGIN: (START) _____ 7. Same as BREEZE: (WIND) _____ 8. Same as OCEAN: (SEA) _____ 9. Same as ROCK: (STONE) _____ 10. Same as LITTLE: (SMALL) _____

Notes: _____

Vocabulary

Oxford wordlist



Comprehensive
wordlist relevant
to kids of today

About the Research

- 2007 research conducted in Australian schools
- The 307 most frequently used words collected from over 4000 writing samples of students in their first three years of school
- Wordlist available to ALL Australian educators
- Supported with FREE fully customisable classroom support material
- Gathered under the guidance of, and endorsed by, the University of Melbourne
- Ready for use in your classroom in 2008!

This is your FREE copy of the most up-to-date high frequency wordlist. For more details go to:

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Full **Oxford Wordlist** research summary by the University of Melbourne will be available in April 2008.



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100 YEARS OF PUBLISHING
AUSTRALIA 1908-2008

Oxford Wordlist

Words 1–100

I	were	fun	can
the	day	like	bought
and	so	some	brother
to	when	have	big
a	home	are	birthday
was	you	out	them
my	at	going	bed
went	me	called	made
we	mum	all	name
on	for	play	too
it	dad	Sunday	next
then	but	upon	dog
he	saw	Saturday	lots
had	house	did	night
in	that	school	not
they	weekend	two	friends
with	time	very	into
of	her	back	an
there	go	ate	park
got	came	get	will
she	because	lived	car
said	up	am	our
played	his	him	do
one	once	watched	sister
is	after	little	be

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Oxford Wordlist

Words 101–200

people	won	outside	new
didn't	morning	away	room
friend	playing	favourite	nice
their	want	has	scared
put	happy	family	who
gave	what	lunch	inside
found	as	man	it's
from	love	shops	tree
down	if	football	cake
water	again	looked	best
party	game	wanted	fell
about	really	bike	long
took	could	no	movie
good	shop	lost	soccer
other	would	TV	how
see	eat	fairy	also
girl	fish	cousin	know
boy	this	stayed	last
over	ran	Friday	sleep
us	first	games	swimming
your	by	old	don't
off	food	woke	just
three	named	ball	told
dinner	baby	come	yes
liked	cat	ever	around

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Oxford Wordlist

Words 201–307

lot	rabbit	princess	asked
today	five	shopping	OK
beach	turned	until	scary
finished	another	only	every
funny	make	black	walked
book	cousin's	garden	read
bad	breakfast	still	world
things	chips	beautiful	monster
yesterday	door	pool	slide
computer	couldn't	take	thank
help	present	well	white
zoo	together	animals	buy
now	walk	horse	dressed
ride	great	movies	fast
castle	icecream	names	head
toy	loved	bit	walking
cousins	magic	race	why
look	work	sad	blue
more	coming	snake	dogs
tried	someone	jumped	footy
find	team	place	here
four	thing	show	killed
I'm	always	where	need
happily	boat	everyone	playground
started	red	or	that's
dragon	teacher	shark	watch
much	its	something	

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Words 1-404 in order of frequency

Words in red did not appear in the *Oxford Wordlist* — the 307 most frequently used words by students in their first three years of school.

1-100

the	got	get	their
and	when	as	will
I	one	like	an
to	were	back	about
a	for	after	played
was	her	going	people
it	at	him	down
my	day	what	no
we	with	be	big
in	me	dad	just
he	up	not	our
they	all	do	off
went	mum	them	didn't
of	his	two	put
said	go	school	friends
on	out	some	am
so	have	this	would
then	because	did	see
she	home	next	once
is	are	ran	little
had	saw	could	play
there	came	very	if
you	time	from	name
that	house	into	night
but	called	can	found

101-200

I'm	man	find	eat
started	too	woke	wanted
really	morning	yes	inside
first	boy	family	five
bed	come	suddenly	here
again	good	happy	won
know	where	told	why
other	asked	everyone	also
now	best	or	ate
took	friend	thought	every
lived	us	food	outside
it's	game	around	way
later	water	heard	let's
your	car	long	dark
over	how	upon	last
who	OK	well	new
by	three	more	scared
dog	brother	named	another
fun	lots	look	opened
looked	only	birthday	until
don't	old	playing	couldn't
girl	room	make	world
door	something	sister	sleep
want	away	still	think
made	has	ever	walked

201-300

years	take	walking	getting
things	watched	much	today
ball	four	dinner	been
never	lot	tree	fish
fell	even	before	hours
party	looking	lunch	Saturday
black	great	right	bad
gave	eyes	TV	buy
tried	fast	cat	can't
always	girls	shop	head
finished	person	knew	parents
turned	tell	let	blue
help	work	park	hard
thing	shouted	soon	mother
teacher	nice	wasn't	bit
that's	ten	everything	games
favourite	while	hair	weekend
minutes	jumped	lost	say
bought	need	pool	swimming
place	dragon	each	scary
finally	which	screamed	beach
yelled	box	kids	replied
coming	cool	red	should
left	love	whole	someone
ready	through	stopped	Sunday

301-404

class	no one	decided	hole
second	most	kept	drove
year	movie	nothing	rain
beautiful	animals	doing	week
money	baby	open	breakfast
felt	football	pet	different
happened	give	wait	puppy
story	watch	book	ride
hit	white	few	sunny
king	stop	front	bus
run	died	happily	giant
life	end	than	hot
live	anything	stuff	its
boys	cousin	top	sat
light	monster	any	six
small	used	having	clothes
ghost	excited	town	goal
team	gone	forest	brown
cold	shot	ground	face
fire	together	hand	hear
same	under	space	hour
I'll	walk	window	*gold
police	arrived	eating	*horse
quickly	chocolate	green	*kicked
loved	days	land	*race
running	both	gun	*stay

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*Words 400 to 404 occurred with equal frequency. This influenced the number of words in this list.

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