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**VOCABULARY ONE OF THE MOST ASPECTS OF THE LANGUAGE**

*'Vocabulary knowledge is knowledge; the knowledge of а word not only implies а definition, but also implies how that word fits into the world'.Steven Stahl*

Vocabulary describes that area of language learning that is concerned with word knowledge. Vocabulary learning is a major goal in most teaching programmes. It is now generally agreed that, in terms of goals, learners need a receptive vocabulary of around 3000 high-frequency words, in order to achieve independent user status. This will give them around ninety per cent coverage of normal text. For the productive vocabulary, especially for speaking, they may only need half this number. One should focus on the vocabulary that you need, and make sure that it’s universally useful. This vocabulary makes up the core of what I term basic fluency; the terms that relate to everyday life and conversations, such as the following verbs: to go, to walk, to sleep, to want — and nouns like name, house, car, city, hand, bed.

One of the main reasons for this is because, as your vocabulary in a language grows, it becomes much more difficult to find more useful words to learn, let alone memorize them. In this phase, it is important that you focus on words that are useful and relevant to you — words applicable to your home life, your job, and your interests.

Building vocabulary is a powerful way to enhance your life and career. Learning how to build a better vocabulary can be a pleasurable and profitable investment of both your time and effort. At least fifteen minutes a day of concentrated study on a regular basis can bring about a rapid improvement in your vocabulary skills, which in turn can increase your ability to communicate by writing, conversing, or making speeches. Acquiring a large vocabulary can benefit you in school, at work, and socially. It will enable you to understand others' ideas better and to have the satisfaction of getting your thoughts and ideas across more effectively. Of course, you already know thousands of words, and you will continue to learn more whether you work at it or not. The fact is that many of the words you know were probably learned simply by coming across them often enough in your reading, in conversation, and even while watching television. But increasing the pace of your learning requires a consistent, dedicated approach. If you learned only one new word a day for the next three years, you would have over a thousand new words in your vocabulary. However, if you decided right now to learn ten new words a day, in one year you would have added over three thousand to what you already know, and probably have established a lifetime habit of learning and self-improvement.

Vocabulary doesn’t just mean individual words anymore; there are a lot of chunks or set phrases that are better as a single item. People now often refer to this as lexis. The term vocabulary has an association of individual words for most, but over the past few words it has been established that vocabulary encompasses more than this. Looking at the examples here, as ‘swim against the tide’- the individual words mean one thing, but the words combined mean something else, there’s no point in teaching the individual items and then trying to work it out from there, far better working with it as a ‘fixed expression’ or chunk of language.

Let’s speak about word. What does it mean to know a word?

First: meaning. Does the same word have different meanings?

For example: a book- a subject, to book - a verb.

Close- adjective, eg,: close friend.

To close- a verb, eg., : close the door please.

Second. Pronunciation. Where is the stress?

Present- antonym of *absent.,* Present- a gift.

Senteness stress. He sent her a letter. (He sent her a letter not telegram.)

Third. Form. How do you form plurals? How’s it spelt? Un/countable?

Eg. Lady- ladies., leaf-leaves

Man-men. Child-children

Fourth. Formality. Cheers mate! vs Thank you!

Fifth. Frequently. How often is it used?

Sixth. Connotation.

Creating your own example is a good idea, too. Most important, write down *collocations* or common combinations with the word. For instance, *a person can make a mistake* or *make an important decision*. If you learn those kinds of collocations, you’ll have an easier time putting your thoughts together in English. Isn’t it faster to build with larger bricks?

When you look for vocabulary resources, stay away from long lists of words, unless you simply want to review. Choose a lesson that groups a small number of words or expressions together in a logical way. You’ll have an easier time remembering everything. A good conversation or reading will show you how and when to use a word. Each USA Learns unit is based on a topic like education, women’s changing roles, community life, or workplace issues.

Learning a new word means more than understanding the meaning. Take the time to learn the correct pronunciation. Listen closely to a model and repeat the word several times. Next, note how the word is used. What part of speech is it? If it’s a noun, is it countable? If it’s a verb, does it take an object? Is there a whole expression you can learn with the word?

The Verb (infinitive form), the meaning,an example whether regular/irregular

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TheVerb (infinitiveform) | TheMeaning | An example  ( Simple Past Tense) | Regular /Irregular |
| Toeducate | To teach someone, especially using the formal system of school, college or university. | He was educated at a public school. | Regular |
| Tolearn | To obtain knowledge or skill in a new subject or activity: | He learnt English at school. | Irregular |
| Tostudy | To learn about a subject | I studied information systems at University. | Regular |
| [Toteach](https://www.learnenglish.de/vocabulary/tenses/teachtense.html) | To give someone knowledge or to instruct or train someone. | She taught geography before she retired. | Irregular |

Let’s take this little text with its’ tasks.

**Task 1**.*Complete the description of weddings with words from the box, make up the dialogue according to the text.*

*ceremony guests honeymoon reception registry office speech*

*The (1)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ usually takes place in a church or (2)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. After the ceremony, the couple and their (3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ go to the (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, where they drink champagne and eat wedding cake. Later on, at the wedding meal, the best friend of the groom makes a (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The married couple often leave the party early to go on their (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

This task will help student first – learning new words, second- guessing right word or identifying the parts of speech, third- making up the dialogue according to the text.

**Task 2.** *Match the adjectives and definitions.Complete the opposite column.*

|  |
| --- |
| **friendly funny generous lazy shy ~~talkative~~** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Adjective | Opposite |
| A person who talks a lot | *talkative* | *quiet* |
| A person who likes giving presents |  |  |
| A person never does any work |  |  |
| A person who makes people to laugh |  |  |
| A person who is open and nice |  |  |
| A person who is nervous in the company of other people |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **extrovert hard-working mean  ~~quiet~~ serious unfriendly** |

*Let's look at some tasks bellow, may be you find something interesting to enrich your vocabulary.*

**Part of speech**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a word that means the same as another word | verbs |
| a, an, the | adjectives |
| he, we, they, I, my, her .... | pronouns |
| table, teacher, city, feeling .... | syllable |
| in, on, at, through, with .. | synonym |
| slowly, carelessly, suddenly, usually .... | conjunctions |
| run, drink, think, forget, play .... | adverbs |
| but, and, or, because, while .... | articles |
| large, clever, good, sudden, careful | prepositions |

part of a word; eg "pen" in "pencil" nouns

**Finding out definitions.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | A king lives in a ....... . | hive |
| 2. | A monk lives in a ....... . | stable |
| 3. | A prisoner lives in a ....... . | palace |
| 4. | An eskimo lives in an ....... . | sty |
| 5. | A bee lives in a ....... . | monastery |
| 6. | A bird lives in a ....... . | igloo |
| 7. | A dog lives in a ....... . | kennel |
| 8. | A horse lives in a ....... . | web |
| 9. | A pig lives in a ....... . | nest |
| 10. | A spider lives in a ....... . | cell |

**Learning Idioms**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | ascoolas a ....... | post |
| 2. | asdeafas a ....... | hatter |
| 3. | asmadas a ....... | chalkfromcheese |
| 4. | askeenas ....... | nails |
| 5. | asblindas a ....... | cucumber |
| 6. | ashardas ....... | pancake |
| 7. | asbusyas a ....... | mustard |
| 8. | asregularas ....... | bee |
| 9. | asflatas a ....... | bat |
| 10. | asdifferentas ....... | clockwork |

Using the Internet resources will help you with borrowed words, idioms, collocations etc.Reading ‘Report and vocabulary”with word definitionswill help to learn as many wordsas possible, especially borrowed words.

*This village* ***on the outskirts*** *of Delhi is famous for its wrestlers.*

*They follow a* ***strict regime*** *of healthy food and exercise.*

*Vijay Pahelwan also works as a* ***bouncer*** *in the* ***upmarket*** *bars and nightclubs of the Indian capital.*

*He says he's helped over 100 village boys find work there, but his dream is to see his* ***proteges*** *compete in the Olympics one day.*

Definitions:on the outskirts- in areas around the edge of the town or city

in areas around the edge of the town or city

strict regime- careful and exact system with rules that must be obeyed

careful and exact system with rules that must be obeyed

bouncer-someone who works in a bar or club and stops trouble or violence from happening

someone who works in a bar or club and stops trouble or violence from happening

upmarket- describes goods and products designed for people who have a lot of money

describes goods and products designed for people who have a lot of money

proteges - young people who are trained by older (and often famous) people

Report and vocabulary

*This man is not enjoying the sun. He's here as a punishment.  
Edmond Aviv was ordered by a US judge to hold a sign saying he was a* ***bully****. Aviv was convicted of* ***harassing*** *his neighbour and her* ***disabled*** *children.   
He was also* ***sentenced*** *to two weeks in jail and community service.*  
Aviv claims the judge has **ruined** his life. But he didn't respond when asked if he was sorry.

Bullyperson who frightens or hurts smaller or weaker people

Harassingbehaving in a way that upsets and annoys people

Disablednot having one or more of the physical or mental abilities that most people have

Sentencedgiven a punishment by a judge

Ruineddestroyed

Another interesting new ways of learning vocabulary finding out from the net different kind of language tips like, ‘Today's Phrase’, ‘Take note’, ‘Interesting fact’ etc.

Today's Phrase

If someone says they've done something with their bare hands, it means that they have done it without using any kind of tool or weapon.

Examples:

*I didn't have a fishing rod, so I caught the fish with my bare hands.*

*The policeman was shocked when he realised that the murderer had killed the victim with his bare hands.*

Take note

If you say you've managed to do something successfully with one hand tied behind your back or with both hands tied behind your back, you mean that you've done it very easily.

Example:

*Janette doesn't find the work difficult. She can do most tasks with one hand tied behind her back.*

Interesting fact

Lizards are cold-blooded reptiles that emerged from water millions of years ago. Nowadays, they come in different shapes and sizes. Iguanas are a particular family of lizards which have evolved to cope with life in arid climates.

Today's Phrase

If you turn to jelly, it really means you suddenly feel very weak because you are nervous or frightened. Sometimes you can say your legs or another part of your body turns to jelly and this means the same thing.

Examples:

*When I saw how high up we were, I turned to jelly and I couldn't speak.  
His legs turned to jelly after riding the ghost train at the funfair!*

Take note

If something is like nailing jelly to the wall, it is impossible to understand or describe exactly what it is.

A great way to build up you vocabulary is to have a go at reading books, magazines, newspapers or comics. Ideally look for reading material covering topics you find interesting. When reading, try to guess the meanings of any words you don't know and then check them in a dictionary to see if your guesses were correct. You don't have to look up every unfamiliar word as long as you can get the gist of the text.

Reading helps you revisit learned vocabulary, and see those words in new sentences and contexts. One excellent source of foreign language exposure is through graded readers, which are designed specifically for language learners. Another good source is advertisements or menus, which tend to use short, colloquial text.

To know a language means to master its structure and words. Thus, vocabulary one of the aspects of the language to be taught in school. The problem is what words and idioms pupils should retain. It is evident that the number of words should be limited because pupils have only 2-4 periods a week; the size of the group is not small enough to provide each pupil with practice in speaking; schools are not yet fully equipped with special laboratories for individual language learning. The number of words pupils should acquire in school depends wholly on the syllabus requirements. The later are determined by the condition and method used. For example, experiments have proved that the use of programmed instruction for vocabulary learning allows us to increase the number of the words to be learned since pupils are able to assimilate them while working independently with the programme.

Perhaps the most important factor in a successful vocabulary-building program is motivation. It will be very difficult for you to study words month after month without a strong feeling that it is worth doing, that a larger vocabulary will help you in school and on the job, and that it can well lead to a more exciting and fulfilling life.

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