

Teaching
Vocabulary

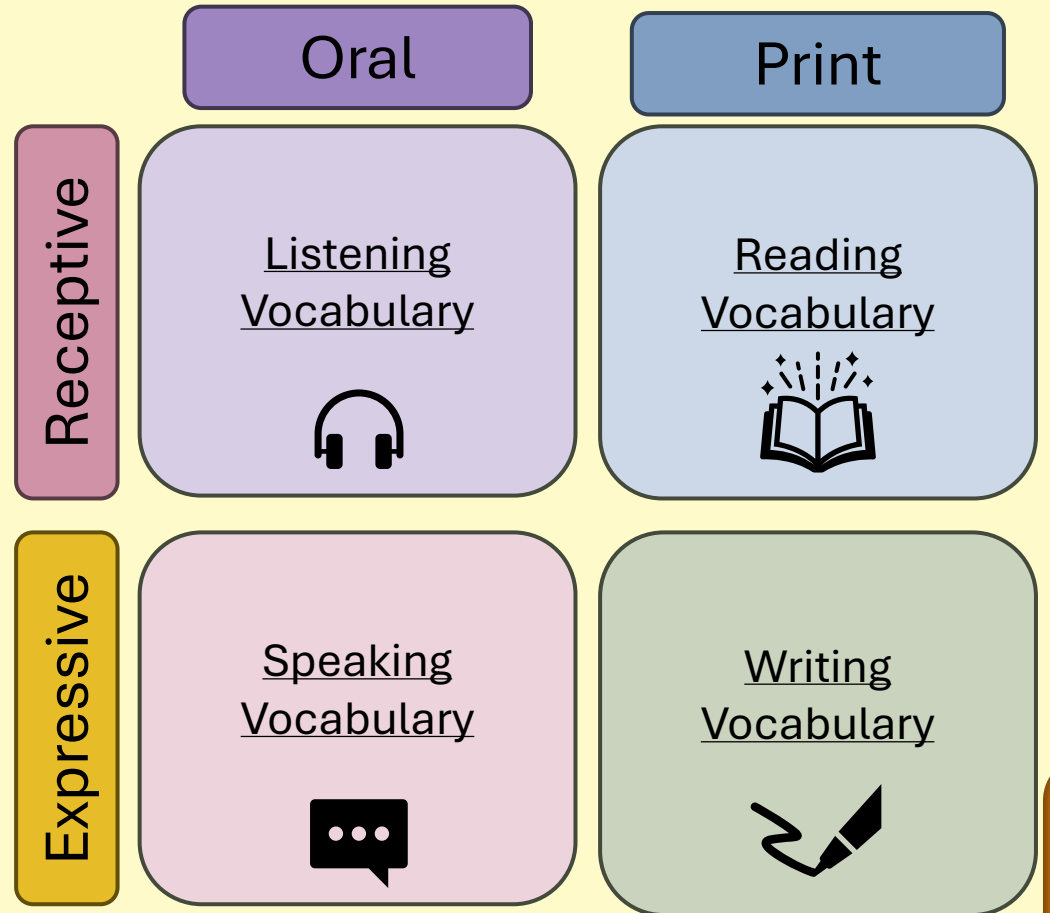
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Vocabulary:

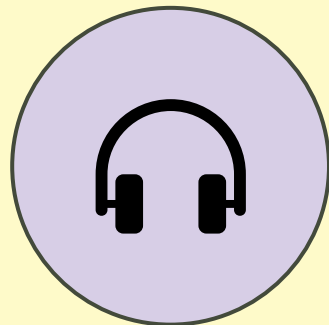
All the words a person knows
the meaning of

Types of Vocabulary



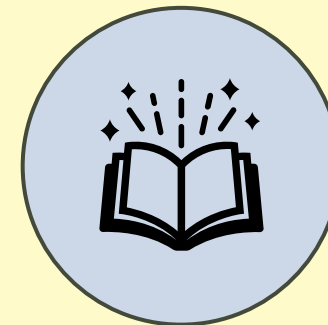
Listening Vocabulary

- Receptive-Oral
- Words we understand when we hear them



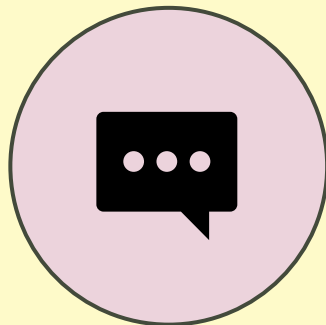
Reading Vocabulary

- Receptive-Print
- Words we understand when we read them



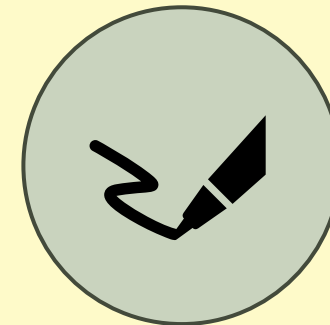
Speaking Vocabulary

- Expressive-Oral
- Words we use to express our ideas in conversation



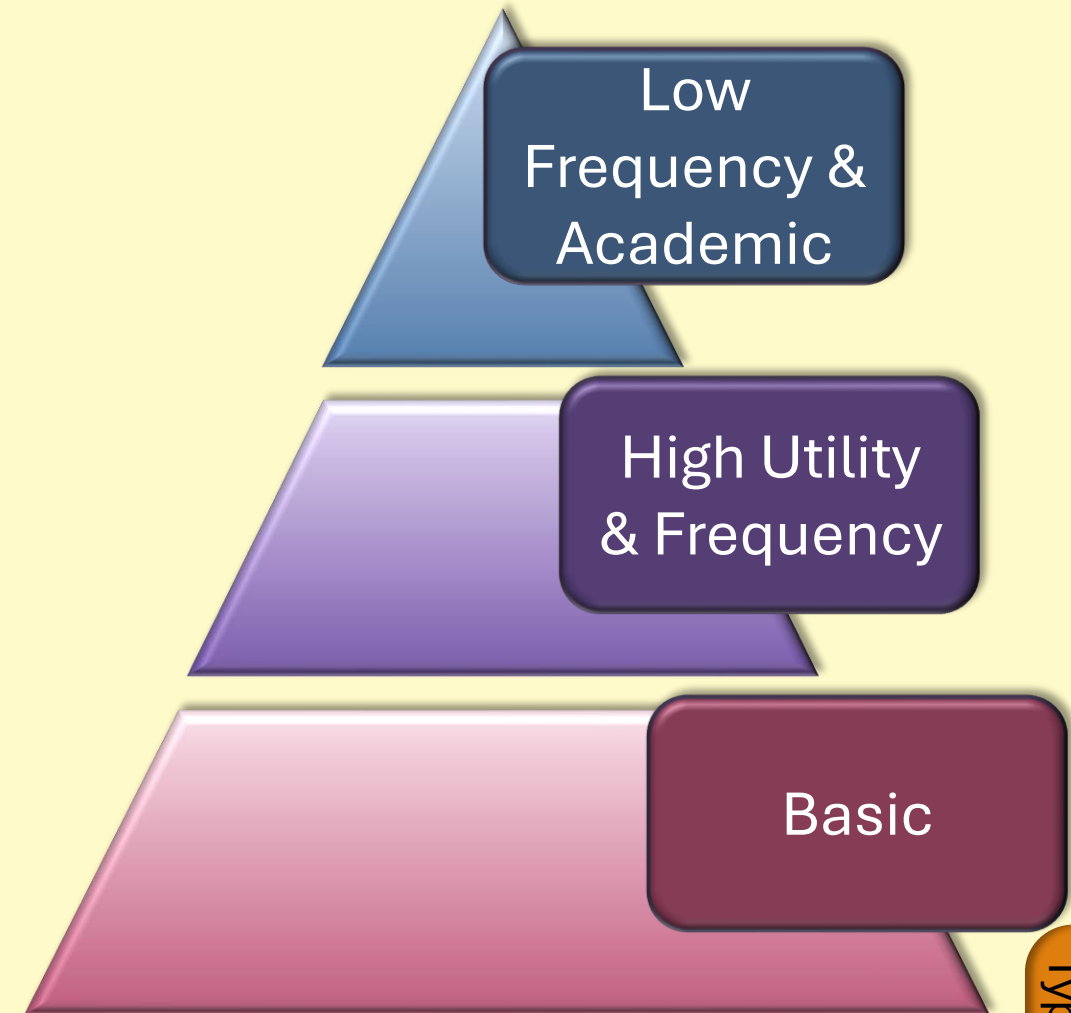
Writing Vocabulary

- Expressive-Print
- Words we use to express our ideas in print



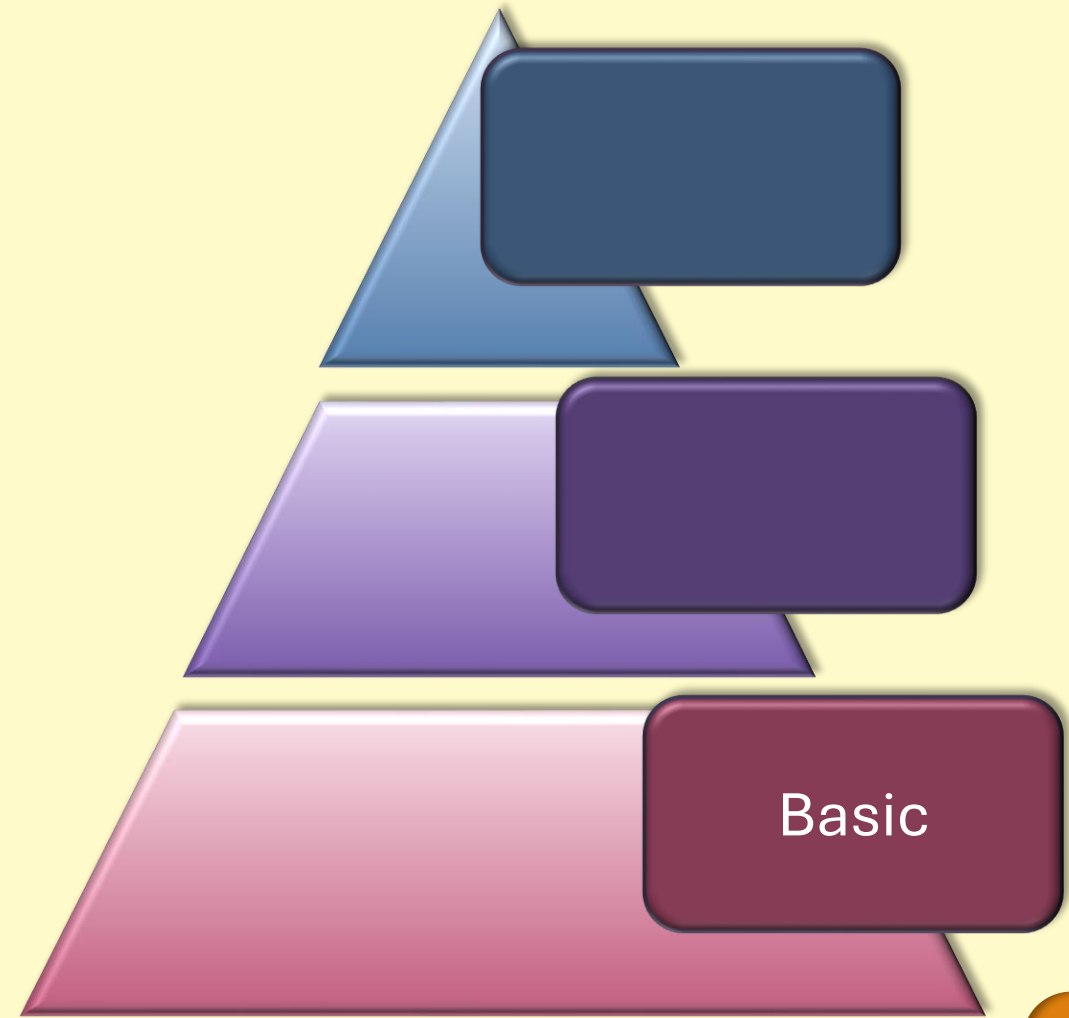
Three Tiers of Vocabulary

- Tier 3 → Low Frequency & Academic
 - Level 4 & Transitions
- Tier 2 → High Utility & Frequency
 - Level 2 & Level 3
- Tier 1 → Basic Words
 - Level Basic & Level 1



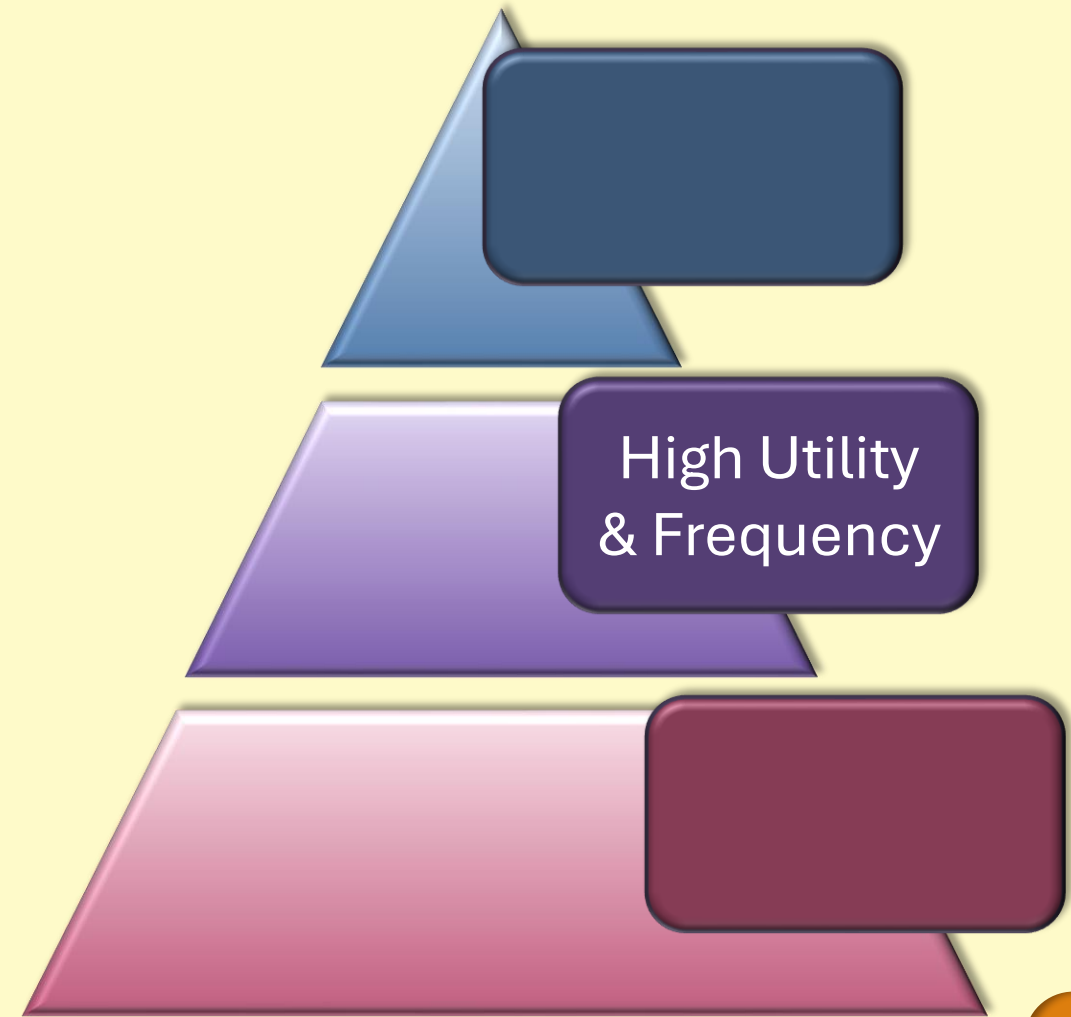
Tier One

- Commonly used in spoken language
- Rarely have multiple meanings
- Sight words, nouns, verbs, common adjectives
- About 8,000 word families in English
- *Book, boy, dog, car, run, sit, eat, blue, green, big, little*



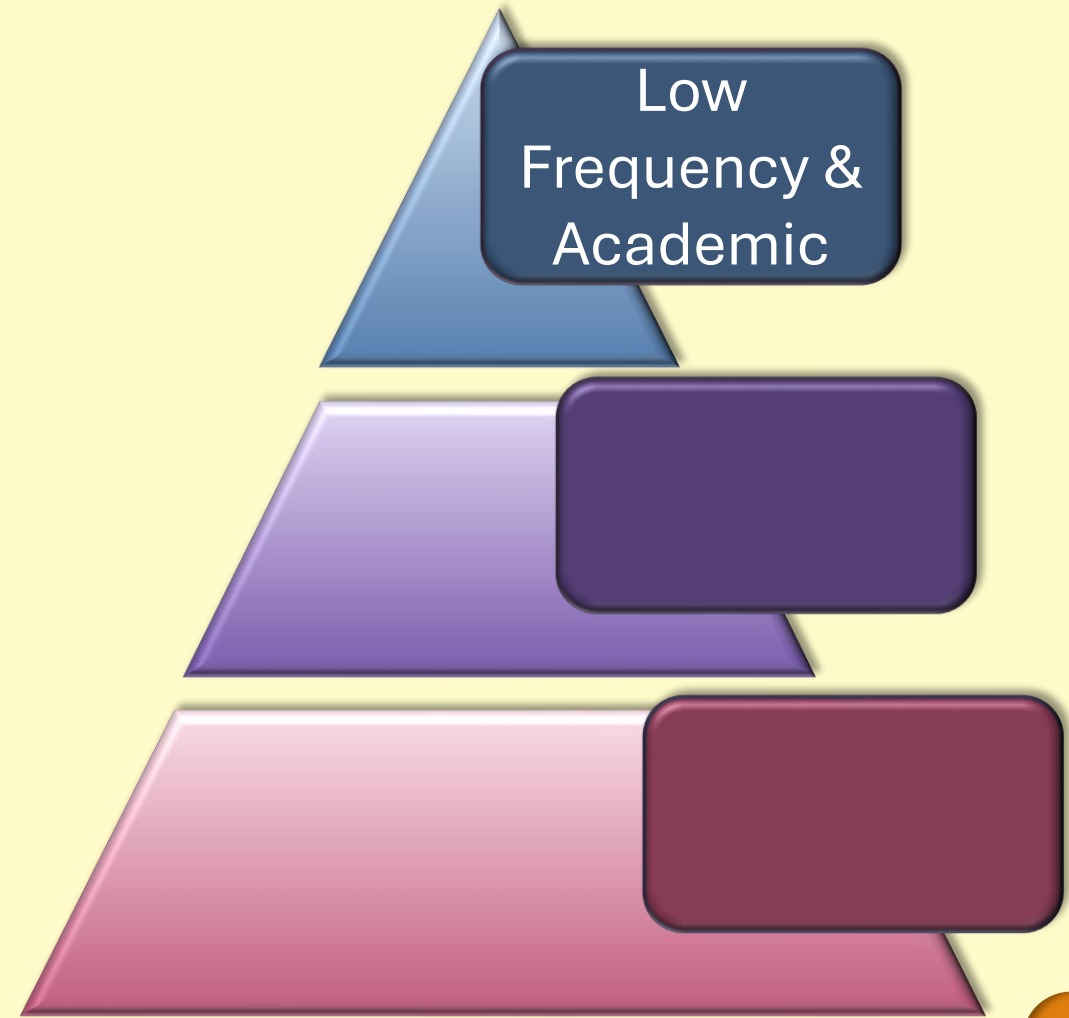
Tier Two

- High frequency across a variety of usages (work, school, conversation)
- Important for reading comprehension
- Some may have multiple meanings
- About 7,000 word families
- *Fortunate, industrious, measure*



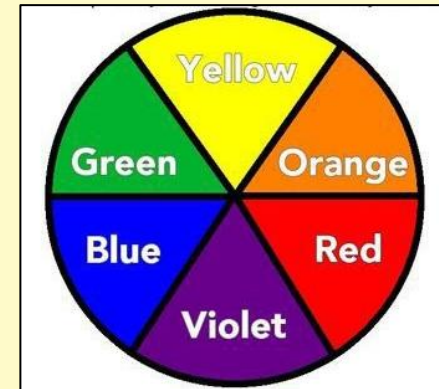
Tier Three

- Low frequency words that occur in a specific area (school subject, hobby, occupation, technology, etc.)
- About 400,000 words
- *Economics, asphalt, sauté, appendix, crank shaft*



Teaching Vocabulary

- Start with Tier One
 - Common words
 - Foundation for everyday life
- Pictures
- Gestures
- Realia



Teaching Vocabulary

- Add in Tier Two
 - Words your student will encounter in multiple contexts
 - Start with the most likely way the student will experience the word
 - Then add other possibilities one at a time
 - Don't overwhelm with too many at once



Teaching Vocabulary

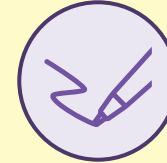
- Add in Tier Three
 - Choose words focused on your student's goals
 - Teach words in context
 - How will they use this word at work?
 - How will they use this word at a doctor's appointment?
 - Will this word appear on their citizenship test?



Steps for Teaching Vocabulary

1. Introduce the word

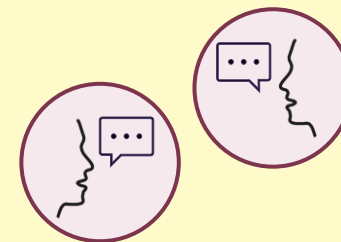
Write the word and pronounce it a few times



Break long words into syllables and tap out syllables, emphasizing the stressed syllable

SILL'-a-ble

Lead students in quick pronunciation practice



Steps for Teaching Vocabulary

1. Introduce the word
2. Explain the word clearly

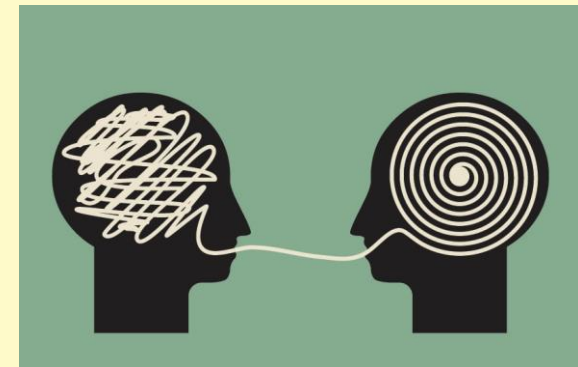
- Use student-friendly language
- Focus on a single definition, even if the word has multiple meanings
- Don't overdo it



Steps for Teaching Vocabulary

1. Introduce the word
2. Explain the word clearly
3. Build on the definition

- Provide/create pictures to help with understanding
- Create sentences to show usage
- Connect word to real-life usage
- Provide easy-to-understand examples or synonyms



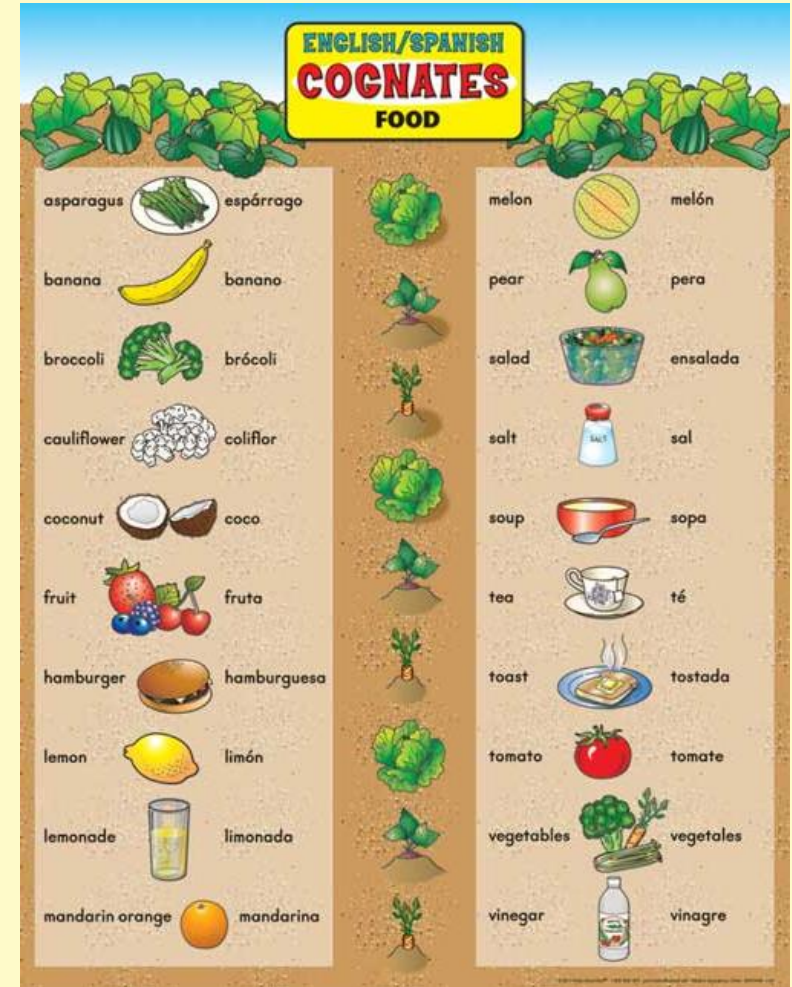
Steps for Teaching Vocabulary

1. Introduce the word
2. Explain the word clearly
3. Build on the definition
4. Engage learners in structured oral & written tasks

- Practice using the new vocabulary in conversation
- Practice sentences or dialogues to show uses
- Create dialogues together using the new words

Teaching Vocabulary

- Teach vocabulary explicitly
- Be care about teaching too many words within a language group
- Use cognates



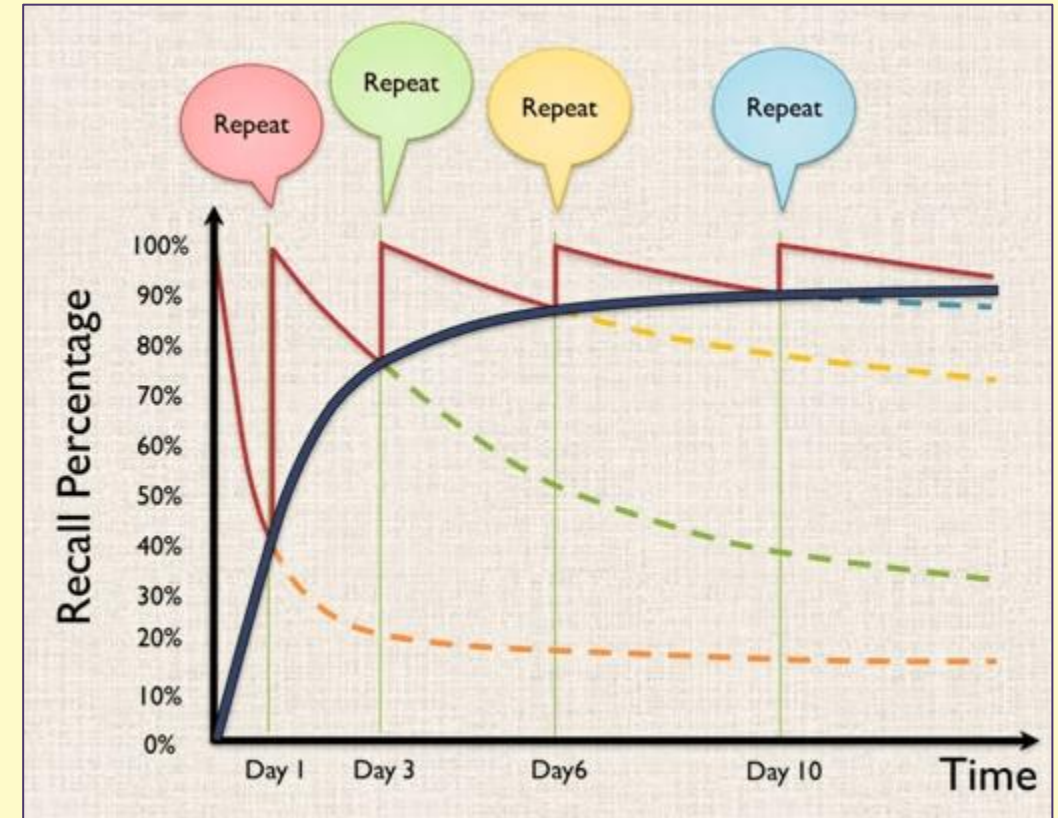
Teaching Vocabulary

- Preteach
 - Teach the words BEFORE they see them in a reading passage
- Review
 - It can take 12-20 encounters with a word for it to stick



Teaching Vocabulary

- Timely Repetition
 - Schedule reviews into your lesson plans – ideally some vocabulary review every lesson
 - Encourage student to review vocabulary a few hours after every lesson and again a few days after the lesson



Teaching Vocabulary

- Make sure you **know** the words you're teaching
 - Does it always mean the same thing?
 - Are there times when it isn't the right word for that meaning?
 - Is there a nuance to it?

Drop-dead gorgeous!
Drop dead!

To fancy = to really like someone

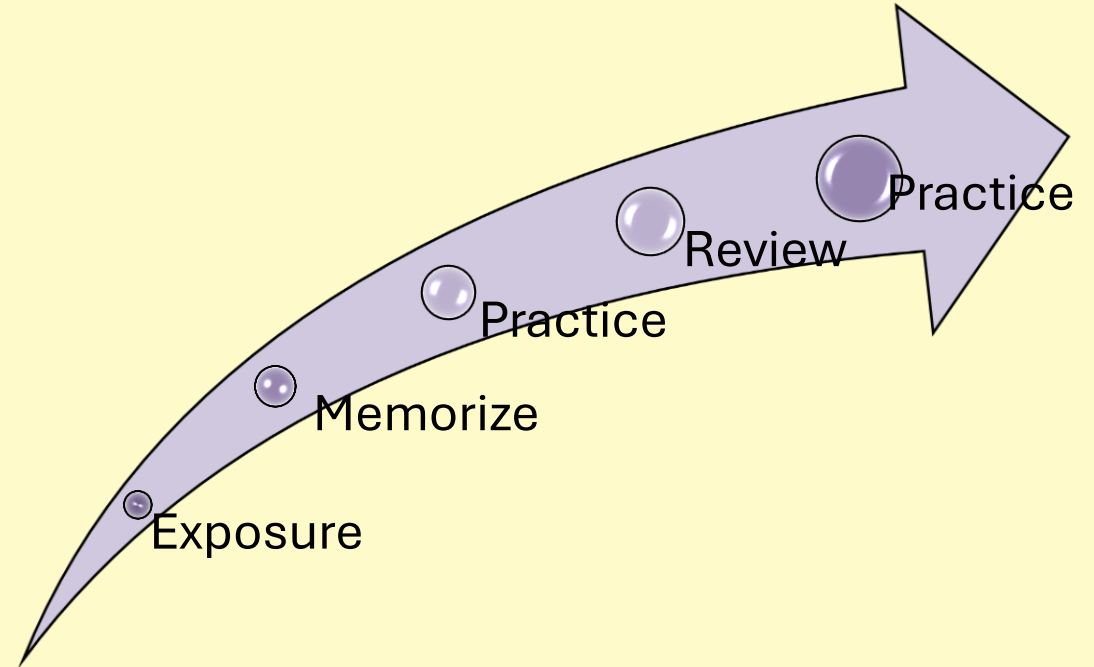
“She fancies her uncle.”

Hideous = extremely bad

That movie was hideous!

Teaching Vocabulary (the bad news)

- Some words must be learned by rote
 - Prepositions!
 - Signal words
 - Conjunctions
 - Adverbs
 - Adverbial phrases



Activities for Learning Vocabulary

- Assess student's familiarity with new words

Level 1

I don't know this word at all



Level 2

I've seen/heard it, but I'm not sure what it means



Level 3

I recognize it when I see/hear it, but I don't use it in my own speaking/writing






Level 4

I know and use this word.



Activities for Learning Vocabulary

- Create a WordWall (personal dictionary)
- Can be done on paper or online with Google Docs
- Add as many columns as you like to help the student remember

	Word	Definition	Sentence	Picture
1	Crutch	Something to help a person with a broken leg walk	He needed a crutch after he hurt is ankle.	
2	Xray	A picture used by doctors to see bones inside a body	The boy needed an xray to see if he had a broken leg.	
3	accident	Something bad that happened by chance	He broke his leg in the bicycle accident.	

Activities for Learning Vocabulary

- Vocabulary Bingo
 - Create/find a bingo card to practice new vocabulary
 - www.eslactivities.com/bingo.php

VOCABULARY

Online Resources:

- [Appalachian State University Vocabulary Lessons for Adult Learners](#) - This is a resource created for Adult Basic at Appalachian State University. The article provides information on how to select words for vocabulary instruction, and how to teach using direct and explicit instruction.
- [ATLAS \(ABE Teaching & Learning Advancement System\)](#) - They have collected a series of resources all related to ABE, and links to other sites, others are documents you can download.
- [EFLnet](#) - This website has many resources including vocabulary. The vocabulary section includes an idioms gallery, vocabulary, and word lists.
- [ESL Bingo Games](#) - This website has a large variety of premade bingo cards available for download. These would be useful for students.
- [Memrise English Visual Dictionary](#) - An interactive webpage that divides vocabulary into short lessons such as, Foods, etc. You will need to create an account to access the lessons.
- [Online Picture Dictionary](#) - This online picture dictionary is free to use for educational, non-commercial purposes.
- [Oxford Picture Dictionary on YouTube](#) - Short vocabulary videos taken directly from the Oxford Picture Dictionary.
- [Sight Words](#) - This website provides a free source of word flashcards, games, lessons, and activities.



Activities for Learning Vocabulary

- Play games like Pictionary



Pictionary

Activities for Learning Vocabulary

- Use matching and fill-in-the-blank activities
 - Start easy: match word to definition
 - Get harder: insert word into a sentence (give the word bank)
 - Even harder: remove the word bank.

Matching Activity

Directions: Listed below is a definition for each word. Write each word next to its definition.

factor occur	major distinction	concept
-----------------	----------------------	---------

1. _____ to happen, especially without being planned first
2. _____ an idea of how something is
3. _____ very large or important
4. _____ a clear difference between things
5. _____ one of several things that influence or cause a situation

Fill in the Blank Activity

Directions: Fill in a word from the list to complete each sentence. Each word can be used only once.

factor occur	major distinction	concept
-----------------	----------------------	---------

1. Global warming is a key _____ in why there are more hurricanes.
2. With two year olds, you never know when a tantrum is going to _____.
3. There are strong _____ between the Republican Party and the Democratic Party.
4. When our basement flooded, we had _____ repairs to make.
5. I have a problem understanding many _____ in physics because I never took a physics class in school.

Activities for Learning Vocabulary

- Practice writing with sentence starters
- Move to more open-ended writing with a theme and chosen vocabulary

Sentence Completion Activity

Directions: Complete each sentence.

1. Most bad weather *occurs* during _____
_____.
2. A *major* challenge in my life is _____
_____.
3. A *distinction* between adults and children is _____
_____.
4. One *factor* I considered when I enrolled in school was _____
_____.
5. One *concept* I disagree with is _____
_____.

Write three sentences using at least 5 of these words:

Appliance	Stove	Salesperson	Store
Refrigerator	Microwave	Kitchen	Expensive
Price tag	Customer	Heavy	Cheap

Additional Resources

- Our Library!



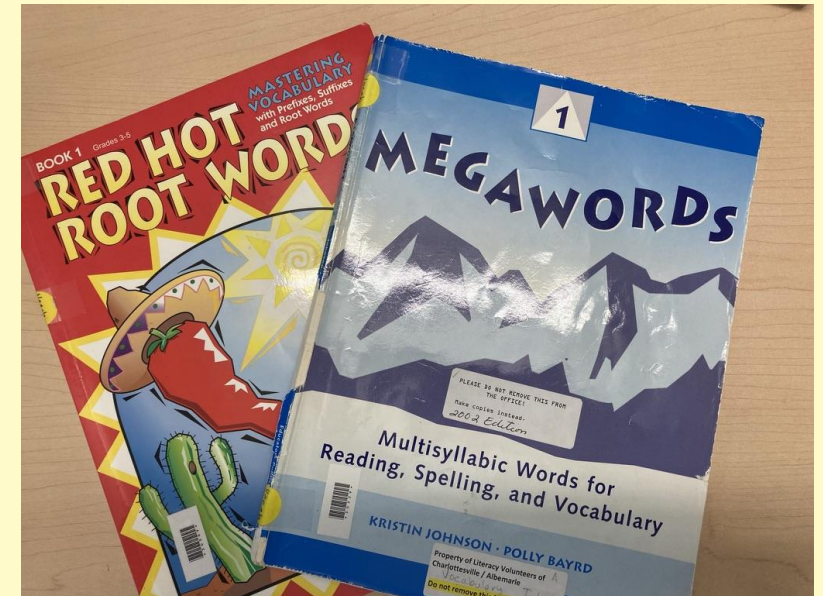
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Additional Resources

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Additional Resources

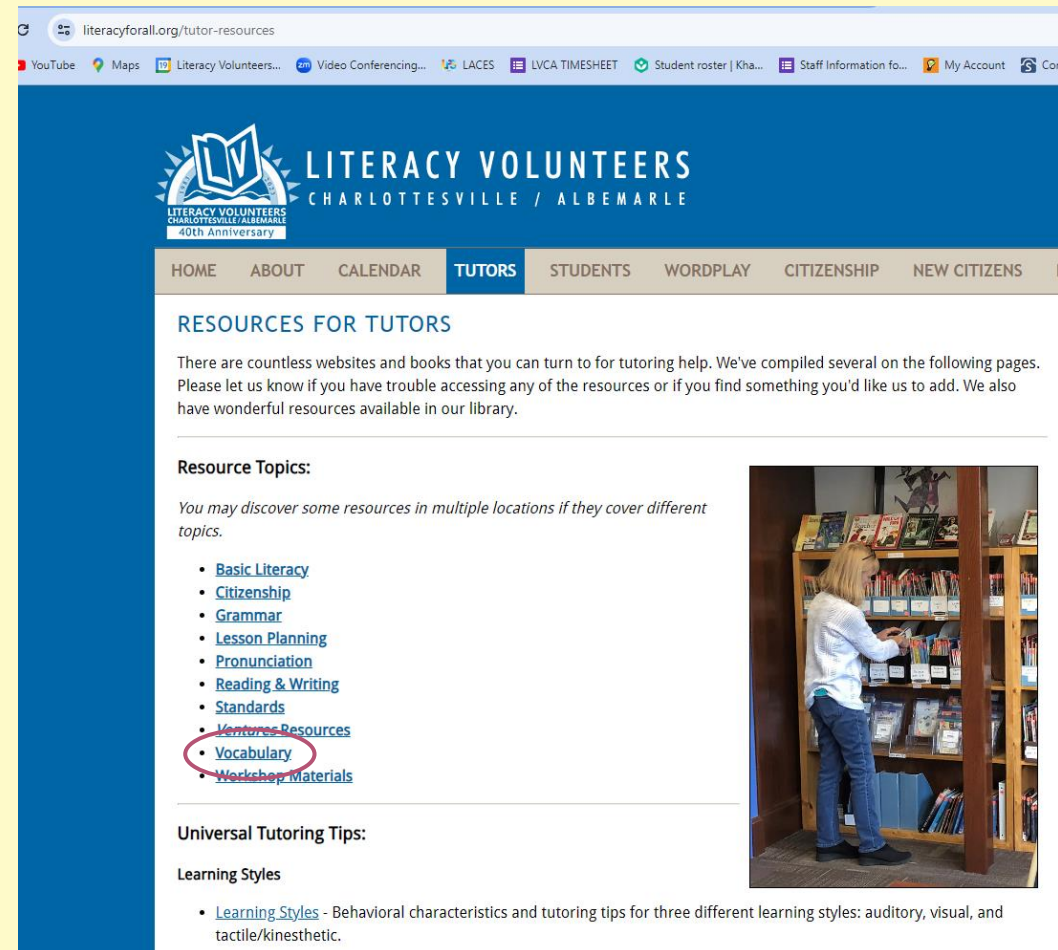
- Our website!
 - www.literacyforall.org/tutor-resources



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literacyforall.org/tutor-resources

HOME ABOUT CALENDAR **TUTORS** STUDENTS WORDPLAY CITIZENSHIP NEW CITIZENS

RESOURCES FOR TUTORS

There are countless websites and books that you can turn to for tutoring help. We've compiled several on the following pages. Please let us know if you have trouble accessing any of the resources or if you find something you'd like us to add. We also have wonderful resources available in our library.

Resource Topics:


You may discover some resources in multiple locations if they cover different topics.

- [Basic Literacy](#)
- [Citizenship](#)
- [Grammar](#)
- [Lesson Planning](#)
- [Pronunciation](#)
- [Reading & Writing](#)
- [Standards](#)
- [Ventures Resources](#)
- [Vocabulary](#)
- [Workshop Materials](#)

Universal Tutoring Tips:

Learning Styles

- [Learning Styles](#) - Behavioral characteristics and tutoring tips for three different learning styles: auditory, visual, and tactile/kinesthetic.



Questions?



Thank
you



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