

# VOCABULARY

Vocabulary involves understanding the meaning of words and using these words appropriately in language. Vocabulary can be classified into three tiers by the frequency of use, complexity of words, and the meaning of the word.

The three tiers include:

- Tier 1 - Basic Vocabulary

There are around 8,000 words in this tier of vocabulary. These words are generally established by the end of primary school and do not need to be directly taught. Within this tier, the words generally have one meaning. These words include nouns (e.g., girl), verbs (e.g., run), adjectives (e.g., orange).

- Tier 2 - High frequency & multiple meaning

There are approximately 7,000 words in Tier 2. These words include words that are used frequently over multiple contexts, words that contain multiple meanings (e.g., spring), and increased number of descriptive vocabulary. Words in this tier include: masterpiece, fortunate, measure.

- Tier 3 - Low frequency & context specific

There are approximately 400,000 words in this tier of vocabulary. These words are specific for each subject/domain, and includes words such as amino acid, latitude, microeconomics, photosynthesis.

These tiers of vocabulary can be used to help determine which words to target during intervention. It is recommended that Tier 2 words are targeted, to maximise efficiency.

Students who have difficulties with vocabulary:

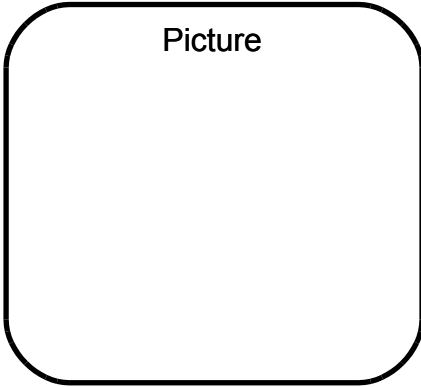
- struggle with topic-specific vocabulary of subjects (e.g. science – photosynthesis, chlorophyll)
- confuse words that have more than one meaning e.g. bark, palm, bank
- difficulty with understanding meaning of unfamiliar words from context;
- confuse words that sound similar e.g. consistent/constant, defence/defect
- use basic vocabulary in writing

We can help students to increase their vocabulary by understanding vocabulary in context, using prefixes and suffixes and using the dictionary.

# VOCABULARY – Quick Definitions

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Target word: \_\_\_\_\_



Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

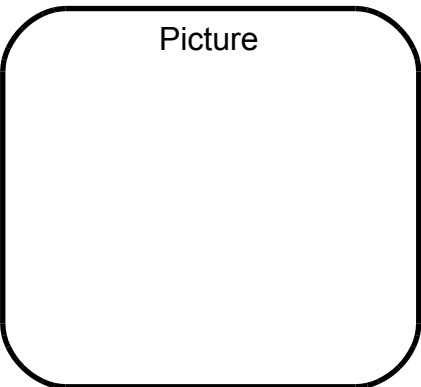
Own sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Target word: \_\_\_\_\_



Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

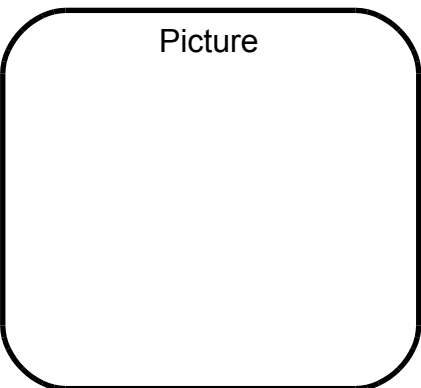
Own sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Target word: \_\_\_\_\_



Meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Own sentence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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# VOCABULARY – In Depth Word Analysis

Word in sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Guess of definition: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Target word: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of word:  
 Nouns (object, place, name)  
 Verb (action)  
 Adjective (description)  
 Other .....

Picture: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Similar meaning words: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Opposite meaning words: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My own sentence: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_