



English for University Studies Summer School 2019

General Vocabulary Overview

Discussion Questions

1. How many words do exist in the English language?
2. What are synonyms? What are antonyms? Can you think of examples?
3. Can you explain the phenomenon called “false friends”?
4. Does your language use prefixes and suffixes like English? e.g. un/happy, big/ger
5. Have you heard the terms “collocation” or “word family”? What do they mean?

Exercise: Find synonyms to the following words.

analogous appearance comparable corresponding demonstrate
display drawing exhibit matching parallel photo picture
image illustration portrait present represent reproduction resembling reveal

Image (n.)	Show (v.)	Similar (adj.)

Exercise: Underline words that you do not know. Identify which of them are **NOUNS**, **VERBS** and **ADJECTIVES**. Try to guess their meaning from the context.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
 Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
 All mimsy were the borogoves,
 And the mome raths outgrabe.

"Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
 The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
 Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
 The frumious Bandersnatch!"

He took his vorpal sword in hand:
 Long time the manxome foe he sought—
 So rested he by the Tumtum tree,
 And stood awhile in thought.

And as in uffish thought he stood,
 The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
 Came whiffing through the tulgey wood,
 And burbled as it came!
 One, two! One, two! and through and through
 The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!

He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.

"And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!"
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;
All mimsy were the borogoves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

Exercise: Thinking of word formation rules, connect the weird words with their definitions.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. cupreous | A. to perform carelessly |
| 2. Gibberish | B. of or like copper |
| 3. mimsy | C. a book containing sailing directions with hand-drawn charts and descriptions of harbours and coasts |
| 4. portolan | D. nonsense words and phrases that sound like English but have little or no meaning |
| 5. slubber | E. rather feeble and prim or over-restrained (coined by Lewis Carroll) |

Exercise: Use the words in capitals to form a word that fits in the gap.

- If you make a good _____ at the interview, you will get the job. IMPRESS
- My history teacher has a vast _____ of past events. KNOW
- My greatest _____ was graduating from university. ACHIEVE
- Due to the pilot's _____, the copilot managed to land safely. GUIDE
- Despite her severe _____, she fulfilled her goals in life. DISABLE
- Being _____ is the worst thing that can happen to someone. EMPLOY
- It's important to also see the less _____ sides of the job. DESIRE
- She is always _____ towards her parents. RESPECT

Exercise: Divide the words describing different groups into the following categories.

Age	Profession	Interest /belief	Relation	Status

*allies - associate - band - circle - class - clients - club - colleagues - congregation
- couple - crew - crowd - diaspora - elite - gathering
young adults - in-laws - mob - network - parents - patients - peers -
pensioners - rivals - soldiers - siblings - squad - team - teenagers - toddlers - tribe*

Exercise: Identify the false friends in the following sentences.

1. *Can you tell me about the actual situation in your country?*
2. *Our team has a great chef.*
3. *My family just loves Italian kitchen.*
4. *Could you please control that every student has left the building?*
5. *I saw a fascinating document last night about Vaclav Havel.*

Listening: Watch the video and note down at least one key word for each letter.

A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M
N
O
P
R
S
T

U
V
W
Z