



## English for University Studies Summer School 2019

### How to Learn Vocabulary

#### Discussion Questions

Is learning new vocab easy or difficult? Why?

Do you know what does “chau” and “a robot” mean?

Is there a word from your language that is used in English?

Listening: Watch the video and take notes using the following numbers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmd74ivVTjg>

1.

2.

3.

2000

millions

3

4

Speaking: Try to define explain and illustrate what is the Academic Word List.

Writing: Write a definition of the following words.

SIGN

SYMBOL

SYNONYM

Reading: Guess the meaning of the highlighted words. Are they important for understanding the text?

English has a large vocabulary with an **estimated** 250,000 **distinct** words and three times that many distinct meanings of words. However, most English teachers will tell you that **mastering** the 3000 most common words in English will give you 90 to 95% **comprehension** of English newspapers, books, movies, and conversations. In addition, with that size of a vocabulary, you'll easily be able to learn from context to expand your vocabulary as you go. The important thing is choosing the right words to learn so you gain comprehension quickly and don't waste time. One of the most effective ways to **prioritize** your English vocabulary studies is to start with the most common words. Use a dictionary or other online resources to look up the meanings of words you don't know. Flashcards, **either** paper-based or online, are still one of the most effective ways to learn new words. The key to memorizing English vocabulary is regular practice. Remember, although a native English speaker has a vocabulary of 20,000 words or more, learning just 3,000 words is enough to understand most of everyday English conversation and writing as long as you're working from the right **list**. To learn English faster and more efficiently, focus on memorizing the most common vocabulary first, rather than a **haphazard** collection of words that you are unlikely to use.

Writing: Write 10 tips for learning vocabulary using the following words.

READ            INVESTIGATE            BE    USE   EXPOSE    TAKE            CHECK  
          LISTEN            REVISE            GUESS

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.