



VOCABULARY

Patricia Dunn-Rankin

SECOND EDITION

VOCABULARY

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Introduction

An extensive vocabulary allows you to speak and write interestingly and clearly. Your knowledge of words is also closely related to your ability to understand what you read and hear.

No vocabulary book can present all of the interesting or useful words that you will encounter. This book is, therefore, based on teaching methods that research has shown to be most effective in learning vocabulary. You are encouraged to use these methods on any new word you wish to learn.

Vocabulary improvement happens for most people if they have direct instruction and practice. "Practice" means seeing the word, saying the word, associating it with at least three meaningful examples, and creating with the word.

This word-study course has two major objectives: (1) to let you experience several different practice methods, and (2) to directly teach you from 110 to 130 important words.

The words chosen for this book are called "power words*." This is because they give you the power to be precise in reading and writing. They are found frequently in high-level reading materials and are often

heard in lectures, TV news commentaries, and radio or TV dialogues. They are also found in popular magazines and newspapers.

The words are presented as follows:

1. Five major sets of twenty words each
2. One evaluation set of ten words
3. One optional set of twenty words

Preceding each major set you have a pretest on the twenty words in the set. Some of the words you will probably know, but it will be good to review them and perhaps learn in more depth. After you complete the practice exercises for the set you can take a post-test. At that time you will probably find that you have learned all of the words—and that it was easy to do so.

Review exercises are provided throughout. These reviews do not follow a set immediately but are placed one exercise later. For example, the review for Set 1(a) follows Set 1(b). The review for the complete Set 1 follows the complete Set 2. This spaced review is an effective technique for reinforcing your memory of the words.

* A Criterion-Referenced Vocabulary List for Junior College

A frequency count is a sound theoretical rationale for choosing instructional vocabulary words. The 130 study words chosen for this text were derived in this manner. Approximately 14,000 instructional words were counted from the reading and vocabulary materials listed below. The following materials are text sources used at the junior college level:

Royce Adams
George Feinstein
Wilfred Funk and Norman Lewis
Doris Gilbert
John Hurst
Norman Lewis
Lyle Miller
Lyle Miller
Sidney Rauch
Audrey Roth
Lo Slater
Science Research Associates
Science Research Associates
Stanford Taylor
Stanford Taylor

Developing Reading Versatility
Programmed College Vocabulary
30 Days to a More Powerful Vocabulary
Turning Point in Reading
Psychotechnics Reading Kit
Word Power Made Easy
Increasing Reading Efficiency
Developing Reading Efficiency
Mastering Reading Skills
Words People Use
Why, What, How to Read
College Reading Program II
Secondary Reading Lab IVa
Controlled Reader Guide Books
EDL Word Clues, Books G, H, I, J, K, L, M

Any word occurring five or more times in the total number of words was chosen for the criteria set. The outcome of the count was a list of 130 words, most of which can be classified as general vocabulary words, not technical words.

An optional set of twenty words is included for students who work faster or have longer periods of time to work on the course. Another source of extra words is the unfamiliar vocabulary used in the exercises themselves. You are encouraged to collect other words that are important for you to know and use methods presented in this book to learn them.

Provision is made for a two-part evaluation. First, you have the opportunity to create your own exercises to learn the ten words in Set 6. Then you take a final test which contains 75 of the 110 words in the basic text. The optional set is not included in the final test.

When taking the final test, you will see that you have a new stock of valuable vocabulary and some good techniques for increasing it further when you wish to do so.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank all the students and instructors who have used this book in the past and have given me suggestions for improvements, many of which have been incorporated into this second edition. The following reviewers were very helpful: Diane Powell at Pensacola Junior College; Betty Littles at El Camino College; and Rebecca Patterson at Anchorage Community College.

Special thanks go to Liz D'Argy, Diane Cohen, Nancy Higa, Stephanie Indie, Mimi Nakano, Jack Pond, Carol Rubio, Ferenc Sipos, and Louis Ziggonianis of

Leeward Community College, and Helen Sina of Kauai Community College. These reading instructors field-tested the original material.

Thanks to student Myra Roland and her family, who spent many hours creating the crossword puzzle which includes all of the words in the first edition. Thanks also to Susie Anderson, who created the cartoons despite her busy schedule.

Other important contributors were Denis Cordeiro and Elaine Nakayama, typists, and Patricia Leong, who gave excellent editorial advice.

To McGraw-Hill editor Christina Mediate, thank you for encouraging me to create a second edition.

Finally, and most importantly, thanks to my husband for his creative advice, editorial assistance, and encouraging support.

Definitions of words used in the book are from *Webster's New World Dictionary*, second college edition, and *American Heritage Dictionary*, paperback edition.

Synonyms, antonyms, and figurative language are from *Roget's University Thesaurus*.

A careful review of the research on vocabulary instruction formed the basis for the exercises in this text. A detailed bibliography is available from the author on request. I would like, however, to report that the greatest inspiration came from recommendations by Edgar Dale, Joseph O'Rourke, Harold Herber, Michael Pressley, and Joel Levin.

Patricia Dunn-Rankin

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Study Set 1

Test Answer Sheet

QUESTION	ANSWER
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____
5. _____	5. _____
6. _____	6. _____
7. _____	7. _____
8. _____	8. _____
9. _____	9. _____
10. _____	10. _____
11. _____	11. _____
12. _____	12. _____
13. _____	13. _____
14. _____	14. _____
15. _____	15. _____
16. _____	16. _____
17. _____	17. _____
18. _____	18. _____
19. _____	19. _____
20. _____	20. _____

NAME: _____

Study Set 1

Test Answer Sheet

PRE-TEST

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

Number correct _____

POST-TEST

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

Number correct _____

Pronunciation Instructions

Preceding each set of words will be a pronunciation guide. This guide is written mainly with standard letters rather than with dictionary symbols. The stressed syllable of the word is written in capital letters. For example, the word *monkey* would be written **MONG** *kee* since the first syllable has the most sound when the word is spoken.

Examples:	private	PRY vit
	escort	ES kort
	indeed	in DEED
	technique	tek NEEK

One dictionary symbol called the schwa (schwah) is used in the pronunciation lessons. The sound represented by the schwa is very frequent in our language. In the dictionary a schwa is written ə and may be substituted for any of the vowels. It is pronounced like the first *a* in *alarm*. *Alarm* would be written ə LARM.

Try this:	alarm	ə LARM
	alas	ə LASS
	baton	bə TAHN

The schwa can also replace other vowels.

Examples:	raven	RAY vən
	pilot	PIE lət
	peril	PERR əl
	circus	SIR kəs

Here are some three-syllable words for you to practice:

foundation	foun DAY shən
legible	LEJ ə bl
dolomite	DOE lə might

Following the pronunciation of each new word you will find the word used in a sentence. The purpose of the sentence is to allow you to *hear* the word used properly. Don't be concerned if the meaning is not clear. You will *understand* the sentence after you study the vocabulary and work the exercises.

Practice reading each pronunciation page out loud until you feel comfortable with the sound of the words and sentences.

Pronunciation Guide

1. psychologist	sigh KAHL ə jist
2. credulous	CREJ oo ləs
3. disparage	dis PAIR ij
4. ambiguous	am BIG yoo wəs
5. diversity	de VER sə tee
6. antipathy	an TIP ə thee
7. complacent	com PLAYS nt
8. docile	DAHS L
9. eloquence	EL ə kwəns
10. enigma	ə NIG mə
11. vacillate	VAS ə late
12. diagnosis	die əg NO sis
13. altruistic	AL true is tik
14. anachronism	ə NAK re nizim
15. apathy	AP ə thee

A *psychologist* is a specialist in understanding human behavior.

A clever salesclerk can often fool a *credulous* person.

That remark was meant to *disparage* the opponent in the contest.

The answer to the question was *ambiguous*.

A person with a *diversity* of interests may find it difficult to choose a career.

They displayed obvious *antipathy* toward each other.

He had a *complacent* attitude toward life.

Most people prefer *docile* animals for pets.

The teacher spoke with great *eloquence*.

She was an *enigma* to all who met her.

A successful business executive cannot *vacillate* about her decisions.

The doctor made a tentative *diagnosis* of the patient's illness.

Priests are generally considered to be more *altruistic* than most people.

The powdered wig is a fashion *anachronism* today.

Apathy toward school can cause failure.

16. gregarious

gre GAIR ee as

It is human nature to be *gregarious*.

17. incredible

in CRED ə bl

Going to the moon is an *incredible* feat.

18. prototype

PROT ə type

Before building the rocket, the scientists made a *prototype*.

19. tacit

TASS it

A look of *tacit* understanding passed between them.

29. adroit

ə DROIT

The politician gave an *adroit* answer to the tricky question.

Word Recognition Drills

The following drills are to speed up your visual perception (recognition) of the words in this set. Slash the word on the right that is the same as the numbered (target) word. The first line is done for you. Finish in 1 1/2 minutes or less. When you are finished, record your time and the number of correct lines.

1. psychologist	philanthropy	philosophy	psychologist	potential	prototype
2. credulous	credulous	complacent	credential	cursory	credence
3. disparage	diagnosis	disparage	diffident	diversity	dogmatic
4. ambiguous	affiliate	anesthesia	animosity	ambiguous	antithesis
5. diversity	diagnosis	diversity	dogmatic	diffident	disparage
6. antipathy	antithesis	animosity	antipathy	ambiguous	anesthesia
7. vacillate	vicarious	vacillate	verbose	vivid	vociferous
8. diagnosis	docile	diversity	dogmatic	diffident	diagnosis
9. adroit	ambiguous	affiliate	archives	adroit	anomaly
10. gregarious	gratuitous	gullible	gregarious	gullible	gratuitous
11. enigma	enervate	engross	exploit	evoke	enigma
12. complacent	complacent	carnivorous	conclusion	confidence	credence
13. anachronism	anesthesia	affiliate	adroit	anachronism	animosity
14. incredible	inadvertent	incredible	ingenuous	imminent	implacable
15. tacit	taciturn	tradition	tacit	theocracy	tranquil
16. apathy	apathy	adroit	affiliate	animosity	assiduous
17. prototype	polygamy	philosophy	pinnacle	prototype	prudent
18. docile	dubious	dogmatic	diffident	diagnosis	docile
19. eloquence	enigma	eloquence	engross	exploit	esoteric
20. altruistic	altruistic	anesthesia	anachronism	antithesis	animosity

Time: _____ seconds

_____ lines correct

Mark the *two* matching words in each line. The first line is done for you. When you are finished, record your time and the number of correct lines.

1. philanthropy	philosophy	potential	prototype	psychologist	psychologist
2. credulous	credulous	complacent	credential	cursor	credence
3. diagnosis	diffident	disparage	disparage	diversity	dogmatic
4. affiliate	ambiguous	anesthesia	ambiguous	animosity	antithesis
5. diversity	diagnosis	dogmatic	disparage	diversity	diffident
6. antithesis	animosity	anesthesia	antipathy	ambiguous	antipathy
7. vacillate	vicarious	verbose	vivid	vociferous	vacillate
8. diagnosis	dogmatic	diagnosis	docile	diffident	diversity
9. archives	ambiguous	affiliate	adroit	anomaly	adroit
10. gregarious	gregarious	gullible	gratuitous	gracious	grievous
11. enervate	engross	exploit	enigma	evoke	enigma
12. complacent	carnivorous	conclusion	complacent	credence	confidence
13. anachronism	anesthesia	affiliate	anachronism	adroit	animosity
14. inadvertent	incredible	ingenuous	imminent	implacable	incredible
15. tacit	taciturn	tradition	theocracy	tranquil	tacit
16. apathy	adroit	anomaly	assiduous	apathy	animosity
17. prototype	polygamy	pinnacle	prototype	philosophy	prudent
18. dubious	dogmatic	docile	diffident	diagnosis	docile
19. eloquence	esoteric	eloquence	engross	exploit	enigma
20. antithesis	altruistic	anesthesia	anachronism	animosity	altruistic

Time: _____ seconds

_____ lines correct

Can you find the same words now when they are spaced as they are in reading material? Work quickly and take no more than 45 seconds. (The target word is listed first.)

1. psychologist philanthropy philosophy potential psychologist prototype
2. credulous complacent credential credulous cursory credence
3. disparage diagnosis diffident diversity disparage dogmatic
4. ambiguous affiliate anesthesia animosity antithesis ambiguous
5. diversity diversity diagnosis dogmatic diffident disparage
6. antipathy antithesis animosity antipathy ambiguous anesthesia
7. vacillate vicarious verbose vivid vociferous vacillate
8. diagnosis docile diversity dogmatic diagnosis diffident
9. adroit ambiguous adroit affiliate archives anomaly
10. gregarious gregarious gratuitous gullible gullible gratuitous
11. enigma enervate engross exploit evoke enigma
12. complacent carnivorous conclusion complacent confidence credence
13. anachronism anesthesia anachronism affiliate adroit animosity
14. incredible inadvertent ingenuous imminent incredible implacable
15. tacit taciturn tacit tradition theocracy tranquil
16. apathy adroit affiliate animosity assiduous apathy
17. prototype prototype polygamy philosophy pinnacle prudent
18. docile dubious dogmatic diffident docile diagnosis
19. eloquence enigma engross eloquence exploit esoteric
20. altruistic altruistic anesthesia anachronism antithesis animosity

Time: _____ seconds

_____ lines correct