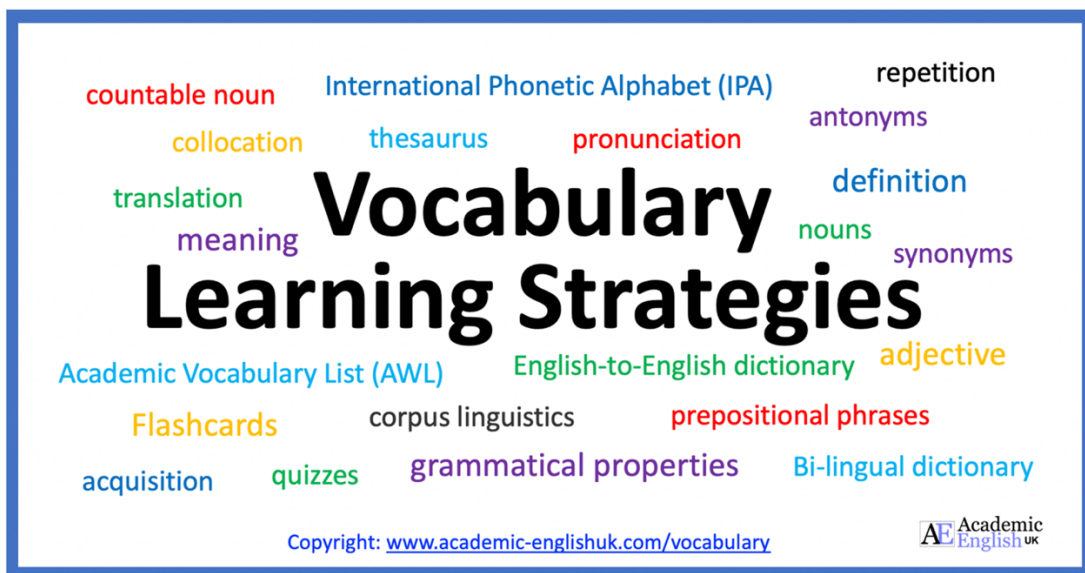




# Vocabulary Learning Strategies



## The Lesson

This lesson is designed to improve students' understanding of vocabulary learning. It introduces students to learning vocabulary theory and Schmitt's Vocabulary Learning Strategies (VLS). The lesson includes a range of tasks from investigating different dictionaries, understanding dictionary terminology, recording vocabulary and using a range of digital quizzes and exercises.

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## Teacher's Notes

**Aim:** To support students in their understanding of learning vocabulary and offering a range of strategies to help develop this.

**Time:** 120 minutes+.

**Delivery:** This lesson can be delivered face-to-face or online. For online delivery, each worksheet could be placed in a class document on OneDrive.

### Lead in

- Speaking / discussion. **Recording Vocabulary Exercise 1.** Students discuss in groups the strategies they use to learn & record vocabulary. Set a time of 10 minutes. Group feedback.
- **EXTRA:** and/or students complete **Exercise 7:** the self-assessment questionnaire on vocabulary learning strategies. Compare in pairs or small groups.

### 1. Vocabulary Theory

- **Reading 1.1.** Students read the text and complete the **Reflection questions 1.2 a.**

### 2. Dictionary Use

- **Exercise 2.1.** Students discuss in small groups their dictionary of choice.
- **Exercise 2.2 & 2.3: Task.** Students investigate some of these dictionaries (perhaps two dictionaries from each category). Ask them to use the word 'analysis' as a search guide and note-down any key or interesting points of each dictionary. Feedback as a class.

### 3. Longman Dictionary

- **Exercise 3.1.** Look at the dictionary image together and invite students to say what they like about the layout of the dictionary. Key points: word family, audio for examples.
- **Exercises 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4.** Students complete the exercises. Feedback as a class (**answers at the end of this lesson book**).

### 4. Vocabulary Development

- **Exercise 4.** Students read through the 10 methods and highlight important points.
- Feedback as a class asking students what they have highlighted and why.

### 5. Examples

- **Exercise 5.** Students look at these examples of vocabulary collection and decide which one(s) they like the best and why? There are copiable versions in the appendix.

### 6. How to improve your vocabulary using the internet

- **Exercise 6 Task.** Students investigate the websites and take notes.
- This activity can be done as a jigsaw exercise. Give each student one website and then they share their investigation in small groups.

### 7. Self-assessment questionnaire

- Students complete the following questionnaire below. This can be used to consolidate their learning or could be done at the beginning of the lesson to activate schemata. Compare in pairs.

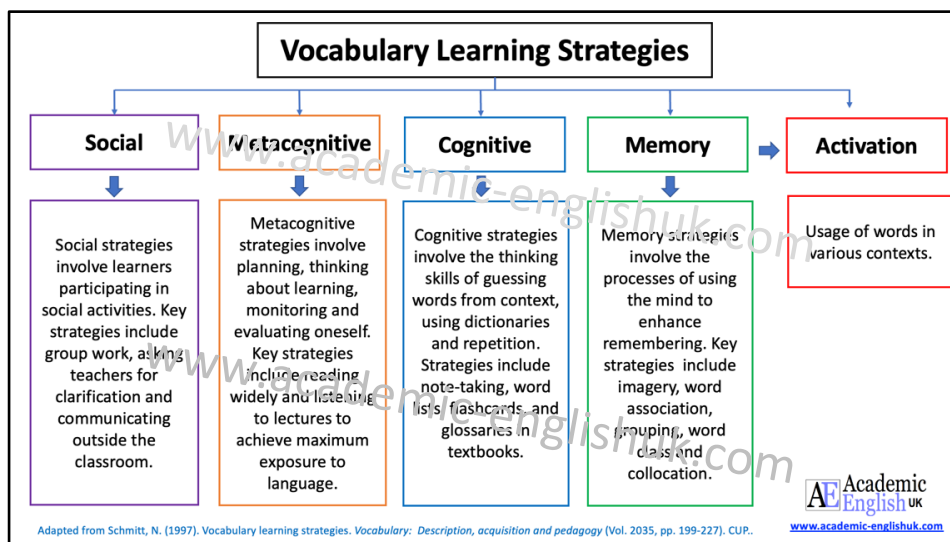
## Recording Vocabulary

### 1. How do you learn and record vocabulary?

Discuss in small groups how you learn vocabulary. Describe your processes and the tools you use.

#### 1.1 The theory of learning vocabulary

Learning vocabulary is a repetitive process and takes time. It has [redacted] you can learn in a day is actually 'zero'. This is because the brain doesn't retain anything you learn in a day as [redacted] thoughts a day (Tseng & Poppenk, 2020) so to remember a word you learned last Wednesday but [redacted] fact, most scholars agree that you need to review a word again and again many times before a word becomes [redacted] process to [redacted] learned as well as to produce and use these words in sentences to communicate through speaking and writing (Lightfoot, 2010). Nation (2001) states that mastering a new word certainly [redacted], spelling, derivations) and knowing its dictionary meaning. Knowledge of its specific grammatical [redacted] the word appropriately in certain contexts, and its functions (frequency and appropriateness), are all a [redacted] process. According to Schmitt (1997), Vocabulary Learning Strategies (VLS) play a crucial role in [redacted] to helping learners develop independent language competence and self-development. There are four key strategies:



#### References

- Lightfoot, D. (2010). [redacted] change. *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Cognitive Science*. 1(5): 677–684. [doi:10.1002/wcs.39](https://doi.org/10.1002/wcs.39).
- [redacted] (2001). *Learning Vocabulary in Another Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Schmitt, N. (1997). Vocabulary learning strategies. In N. Schmitt & M. McCarthy (Eds.), [redacted] (pp. 199-227). Cambridge: Cambridge University.
- Tseng, J., & Poppenk, J. (2020) [redacted] noise of trait neuroticism. *Nat Commun* 11, 3480. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-17255-9>

#### 1.2 Reflection questions

a) What are the key points you have learnt from the text and VLS table?

**2. Dictionary use**

A good place to start is with an **Advanced Learners' Dictionary**.

Folse (2004) states 'research shows [redacted] than those who rely on guessing from context and that learners who use an English-to-English dictionary actually remember [redacted]'.

Folse, K. S. (2004). [redacted]: What recent research says. TESL Reporter, 37(2), 1-13.

2.1. What dictionary do you usually use? Why?

2.2. Task: Investigate some of these dictionaries below in the table. Use the word 'analysis' and note-down any key or interesting points of each dictionary.

Dictionary	Interesting points
<a href="#">Cambridge dictionary</a>	
<a href="#">Oxford dictionary</a>	
[redacted]	
<a href="#">Merriam-webster</a>	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
Thesaurus Dictionary	
<a href="#">Thesaurus.com</a>	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
Collocation Dictionary	
<a href="#">Ozdic.com</a>	
<a href="#">Free Collocation.com</a>	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	
[redacted]	

2.3. Which dictionary(ies) do think you will use to record and learn vocabulary? Why?

### 3. Longman Dictionary

3.1 Look at this dictionary definition from the Longman Dictionary. What do you like about the layout of the dictionary?

The screenshot shows the Longman Dictionary entry for 'analysis'. It includes the word family (noun, analysis; adjective, analyst; verb, analytical; analyze), the source (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English), related topics (Psychology, psychiatry, Nurses, doctors, etc), and the word's pronunciation and syllables. The main definition is: 'a careful examination of something in order to understand it better'. It also lists collocations like 'detailed analysis', 'Further analysis of the data is needed', 'do/carry out/conduct an analysis', and 'statistical analysis'. A second definition is: 'the way in which someone describes a situation or problem, and says what causes it to happen'.

### 3.2 Key symbols

What do you think these symbols mean?

i.	a·nal·y·sis	
ii.	/ə' nælɪsɪs/	
iii.		
iv.	S3	
v.		
vi.	AWL	
vii.		
viii.		
xi.		

3.3 Go to the dictionary page ([here](#)), find the collocation section and

[link address: <https://www.ldoceonline.com/dictionary/analysis> ]

COLLOCATIONS ADJECTIVES/NOUN + ANALYSIS		
COLLOCATIONS VERBS		

3.4 On the same page ([here](#)), scroll down. What do you think **Examples from the Corpus** means?

E.g. • A  can be derived using lifetable analysis.  
 • Bringing these out in the open and subjecting them .  
 What is a corpus?

#### 4. Vocabulary Development

Read through these methods and highlight the important points.

##### Where?

Where will you record your vocabulary? There are many places [redacted] would [redacted] would be using digital flashcards ([Quizlet](#)) or note-taking Apps ([Notability](#) / [GoodNotes](#)).

##### How?

How will you record your vocabulary? [redacted] cognitive strategies of exploring a word in detail will aid memory acquisition faster. Try to include:

##### i. [Importance](#)

Firstly, and most importantly. Only focus on words that are relevant to you. Words must be meaningful to you and have a specific context. E.g. [redacted] vocabulary. Don't waste time learning random words

**Once you identify important vocabulary to learn, then start to use a range of VLS to aid memory. These can be making notes of:**

##### ii. [Meaning](#)

Writing a definition instead of [redacted] about the word in English instead of simply relating it to the equivalent in your own language.

##### iii. [Part of speech / word class](#)

It is important to note if the [redacted] word forms too.

##### iv. [Pronunciation](#)

You can note [redacted] / ə'neɪ. ə .sɪs/ or phonetic respelling /uh-nal-uh-sis/ or even just syllables and stress /oOoo/.

##### v. [redacted]

Many students [redacted] as this can aid memory.

##### vi. [Example sentence](#)

Always include [redacted] the word in context.

##### vii. [redacted]

Noting down collocations will [redacted] better fluency in communication.

##### viii. [Synonyms and antonyms](#)

Collecting synonyms and [redacted] and provide a variety of similar words that can be used in place of the word.

##### ix. [redacted]

Images are far [redacted] memory of that word. This is sometimes referred to as the picture superiority effect.

##### x. [Mnemonics](#)

A mnemonic is a [redacted] definitions and uses. An example would be 'Richard of York gave battle in vain' or 'ROYGBIV'. This phrase aids the memory of the sequence of colours [redacted]

**5. Examples**

Look at these examples of recording vocabulary. Which one(s) do you like the best? Why?

**Example 1**

Word	Translation	Meaning
Analysis	分析	Process of studying something in detail. (examination)

**Example 2**

Word	Meaning	Pronunciation	Translation
Analysis	Process of studying something in detail. (examination)	/ə'ni:əl.ə.sɪs/ oOoo	分析
<b>Example sentence</b>	Chemical analysis revealed a high content of copper.		

**Example 3**

Word	Word forms	Definition	Synonyms
Analysis	analysis (Noun) analyse (Verb) analytical (Adj) analytically (Adv)	Chemical analysis revealed a high content of copper.	Examination / brief look

**Example 4**

Word	Noun, verb, adjective	Pronunciation	Synonym / antonym	Translation
Analysis	noun	/ə'ni:əl.ə.sɪs/ oOoo	Examination / brief look	分析
<b>Word forms</b>	analyst (Noun); analysis (Noun), analyse (Verb), analytical (Adj), analytically (Adv)			
<b>Meaning</b>	This process as a method of studying the nature of something or of determining its essential features and their relations			
<b>Examples</b>	Chemical analysis revealed a high content of copper.			
<b>Other forms</b>	<b>verbs:</b> indicate sth, show sth <b>Adjectives:</b> careful, close, comprehensive, detailed, in-depth, systematic, thorough, brief, objective, subjective, comparative, critical, qualitative, quantitative.			

**Example 5 (Quizlet)**

Term 1/2

Analysis

< >

Definition 2/2

A detailed examination of the elements or structure of something. /ə'ni:əl.ə.sɪs/

< >

## 6. How to improve your vocabulary using the internet

Here are a whole range of internet sites you can use to improve your vocabulary. Investigate each site and take notes on what each site does. Also, decide if it is something you will use.

### i) Flash Card Study Sets

[Quizlet Study Sets](#)

[Redacted]

[Cram](#)

Notes:

### ii) Word-of-the day

[Wordnik](#)

[Redacted]

Notes:

### iii) The Academic Word Lists

[Redacted]

[Academic Word List](#)

[Redacted]

Notes:

### iv) Academic Word List Quiz

[English Vocabulary Exercises](#)

[Redacted]

Notes:

### v) Quizzes

A selection of vocabulary quizzes to test and aid memorisation

[Freerice](#)

[Redacted]

Notes:

### vi) Other interesting vocabulary sites. What can you do with these?

[Lingro](#)

[Redacted]

[Lexipedia](#)

[Redacted]

Notes:



## Self-Assessment Questionnaire

7. Complete the following self-assessment questionnaire on vocabulary learning strategies below. Rate your level of activity. Use *always, often, sometimes, rarely and never*.

Vocabulary Learning Strategies How often do you ...	How often do you do this?				
	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Look up a word in an English-to-English dictionary? [Redacted]					
Collect vocabulary in a physical or digital book? [Redacted]					
Check pronunciation of a word (written or audio)? [Redacted]					
Write examples of a new word? [Redacted]					
Analyse affixes and roots to guess the meanings of words? (e.g. replay – re means do it again) [Redacted]					
Check collocations of a new word? [Redacted]					
Learn the word through verbal repetition? [Redacted]					
Try to use the new word at once after learning? [Redacted]					
Practise using new words in writing? [Redacted] [Redacted]					
Use flashcards like Quizlet or Cram?					
<b>Self-reflection</b>					
What do [Redacted]					
I need to:					
Action plan:					
Copyright: <a href="http://www.academic-englishuk.com">www.academic-englishuk.com</a>					

## Appendix 1: Templates for recording vocabulary.

### Sample 1

Word	Translation	Meaning

### Sample 2

**ALL TEMPLATES INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...**

### 3. Longman Dictionary ANSWERS

3.1 look at this dictionary definition from the Longman Dictionary. What do you like about the layout of the dictionary?

The screenshot shows the Longman Dictionary entry for 'analysis'. It includes the word family (noun, analysis, analyst, adjective, analytical, verb, analyze), the source (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English), related topics (Psychology, psychiatry, Nurses, doctors, etc), and the word's pronunciation and syllable structure (a·nal·y·sis). The main definition is: 'a careful examination of something in order to understand it better'. Examples include 'a detailed analysis of the week's news' and 'Further analysis of the data is needed.' The secondary definition is: 'the way in which someone describes a situation or problem, and says what causes it to happen'. Examples include 'They were doing some type of statistical analysis.' and 'Do you agree with Marx's analysis of the failure of free-market capitalism?'.

### 3.2 Key symbols

What do you think these symbols mean?

i.	a·nal·y·sis	4 syllables.
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**ALL ANSWERS INCLUDED IN PAID VERSION...**