

## Vocabulary Learning Strategies

### 1. Popular Dictionaries

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                           | Thesaurus Dictionary                | Collocation Dictionary               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Cambridge dictionary</a> | <a href="#">Thesaurus.com</a>       | <a href="#">Ozdic.com</a>            |
| <a href="#">Oxford dictionary</a>    | <a href="#">Cambridge Thesaurus</a> | <a href="#">Free Collocation.com</a> |
| <a href="#">Macmillan Dictionary</a> | <a href="#">Collins Thesaurus</a>   | <a href="#">Macmillan Dictionary</a> |

### 2. Recording Vocabulary

#### Where?

Where will you record your vocabulary? There are many places this can be done. A traditional method would be a physical paper notebook, or a more modern practice would be using digital flashcards ([Quizlet](#)) or note-taking Apps ([Notability](#) / [GoodNotes](#)).

#### How?

How will you record your vocabulary? There are a range of methods but research suggests that 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. if you are studying medicine, focus on improving your medical vocabulary. Don't waste time learning random words

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

Writing a definition instead of a translation gives you the advantage of being able to think 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 word is a noun, a verb, or an adjective. You can also add the other word forms too.

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

You can note pronunciation in phonemic script using analysis as an example / ə' næ l. ə .sɪ s/ or phonetic respelling /uh-nal-uh-sis/ or even just syllables and stress /oOoo/.

#### v. [Translation](#)

Many students write direct translations into their own language as this can aid memory.

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

Always include an example sentence as this will help you understand the word in context.

#### vii. [Collocation](#)

Noting down collocations will benefit the understanding of how words connect together and enable better fluency in communication.

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

Collecting synonyms and antonyms will help develop your vocabulary understanding of the word and provide a variety of similar words that can be used in place of the word.

#### ix. [Images](#)

Images are far more memorable than words, so adding images to vocabulary will enhance the memory of that word. This is sometimes referred to as the picture superiority effect.

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

A mnemonic is a form of word or phrasal association that helps to remember word's 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 of a rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue indigo and violet.

### 3. 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.<br>(examination) |

#### Example 2

| Word             | Meaning   | Pronunciation           | Translation |
|------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------|
| Analysis         | Process of studying something in detail.<br>(examination) | /ə'neɪ.l.ə.sɪs/<br>oOoo | 分析          |
| Example sentence | Chemical analysis revealed a high content of copper.      |                         |             |

#### Example 3

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

### 4. 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

| i) Flash Card Sets                 | ii) Word-of-the day                  | iii) Quizzes                | iv) Other                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <a href="#">Quizlet Study Sets</a> | <a href="#">Wordnik</a>              | <a href="#">Freerice</a>    | <a href="#">Lingro</a>   |
| <a href="#">Study Stack</a>        | <a href="#">Vocabulary.com Learn</a> | <a href="#">EnglishClub</a> | <a href="#">Knowword</a> |

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/8umAsWo6xOk>

This is a free resource but please leave all logos and web addresses on the document. Thank you