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Rationale for and Development of the S.E.P. Master Vocabulary List

Evert D. Osburn

Introduction

The new Seigakuin English Program (S.E.P.) was officially inaugurated on April 1, 1996. It is a campus-wide, interdepartmental English program required of all matriculating students in both Seigakuin University and Joshi Seigakuin Jr. College.

The S.E.P. currently in place is designed to raise the proficiency level of its participants, particularly in the skill areas of speaking and listening. All freshmen were given the Secondary Level English Proficiency (SLEP) test for placement purposes at the beginning of the semester and entered into either Program A, Program B, or Program C of the S.E.P. The proficiency goals for each of the three programs are Intermediate High, Intermediate Mid, and Intermediate Low, respectively, as based upon the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency guidelines.

An integral component of the S.E.P. is vocabulary development, since it was recognized in the preliminary stages of curriculum design that many students possess a vocabulary inadequate to meet their needs. Cognizant of this fact, research was begun last summer which culminated in the production of the S. E.P. Master Vocabulary List (MVL), which contains the target vocabulary for S.E.P. students, as summarized below.

S.E.P. Master Vocabulary List

LEVELS WORDS

Level 1:	736
Level 2.1:	559
Level 2.2:	600—Program C
Level 3.1:	600—Program B
<u>Level 3.2:</u>	<u>600—Program A</u>
TOTAL:	3,095

The approximately 3,100 words in the MVL, arranged in levels starting with the highest frequency words first, were carefully chosen so as to provide Seigakuin's students with a fundamental vocabulary foundation which, if mastered, would go far towards enabling them to function at the Intermediate level of proficiency. Of course, vocabulary learning in isolation is insufficient if one's goal is producing functional second language speakers, since it is only one of the contributors to the language learning process. Nevertheless, vocabulary learning, though often neglected in the classroom, is a vital component of language acquisition, especially at the early stages of development, as the reader will ascertain from the following discussion.

Rationale for the MVL

Experts in the field of Teaching English as a Second or Other Language (TESOL) have recently begun to reemphasize the importance of vocabulary learning (and, by implication, teaching), particularly for beginners.

Research has shown that there are five major contributors to language for all learners at every level of ability. These are *vocabulary*, *grammar*, *pronunciation*, *fluency*, and *socio-linguistic* factors. Each of these is involved at every stage of language development, but they do not all contribute equally at each level. The table below delineates the discrepancies.

Relative Contribution Model

	<u>Novice</u>	<u>Intermediate</u>	<u>Advanced</u>	<u>Superior</u>
<i>Vocabulary</i>	44%	37%	27%	23%
<i>Grammar</i>	23%	37%	42%	27%
<i>Pronunciation</i>	23%	14%	9%	15%
<i>Fluency</i>	5%	7%	14%	18%
<i>Socio-linguistic</i>	5%	5%	8%	17%

(Thompson, 1994, p.12)

This data is presented in chart form on the following page.

Clearly, vocabulary learning is vital for any language learner. This is nowhere more certain than at the Novice and Intermediate levels, with vocabulary being by far the single most important contributor at the lower level. Since the SLEP test results at Seigakuin revealed that virtually all first-year students are at one of these two levels, with the vast majority being Novices, making vocabulary acquisition an important component of the S.E.P. seemed justified.

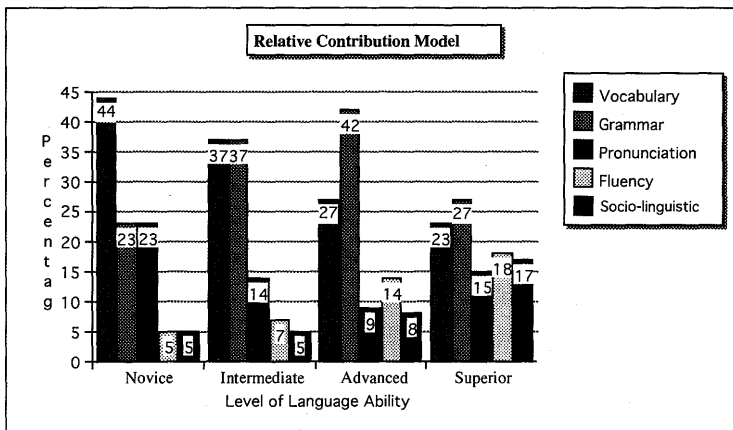
Having anticipated that this would be the case, however, S.E.P. developers were faced with the dilemma of determining *how much* and *which* vocabulary should be taught in the Program. Of course, experience indicates that very much can be done with even a quite limited vocabulary. An example of this is the Scott, Foresman and Co.'s "Dick and Jane" series of reading primers that many young Americans learned to read with from the 1930s up through most of the 1960s. The first pre-primer, *We Look and See*, contained a grand total of only 17 words—"and," "come," "Dick," "down," "funny," "go," "Jane," "jump," "look," "oh," "Puff," "run," "Sally," "see," "Spot," "Tim," and "up." The next three books in the series, *We Work and Play*, *We Come and Go*, and *Fun with Dick and Jane*, did not contain tremendous amounts of vocabulary, but they were sufficient to launch

millions of young Americans (the writer included) on a lifetime of reading pleasure.

The conclusion from experience, then, is that much can be accomplished through the knowledge and use of even a restricted vocabulary. A quick perusal of the 200 highest frequency words in English in Appendix Two may bring one to the conclusion that it is, in fact, quite difficult to make a normal English sentence that does not contain at least some of these words. Therefore, learning these and other high frequency words should be a top priority for students of the English language.

This notwithstanding, language educators are still faced with the problem of determining exactly how many of the highest frequency words should be taught. The establishment of vocabulary goals for programs at institutions of higher learning must be based on more than personal experience.

Language Contributor Percentage at Different Levels



Fortunately, the problem of deciding how much vocabulary to teach at the Novice and Intermediate levels has recently been addressed by Paul Nation, Robert Waring, Liu Na, Paul Meara, and other experts in the field. The general consensus is that

there is great benefit from focusing on high frequency vocabulary at the earlier stages of language learning, particularly the first 2,000-3,000 words. Meara points out that a basic vocabulary of just 2,000 words accounts for up to 80% of what native speakers hear and see on a daily basis. He concludes that "a person with a vocabulary of 2,000 words is going to recognize at least some of the words s/he hears...therefore a vocabulary of 2,000 words goes a considerable way towards a realistic level of competence" (Meara, 1995, p. 9).

The percentage rises to as high as 90% for the highest frequency 3,000 words, which makes knowledge of these words critical for the language learner. In fact, Nation and Waring, in answer to the question, How much vocabulary does a second language learner need? reply, "Clearly the learner needs to know the 3,000 or so high frequency words of the language. These are an immediate high priority and there is little sense in focusing on other vocabulary until these are well learned" (Nation and Waring, 199x, p.4).

Nation has indicated elsewhere that the "magic number" for second language learners is 95%. In either spoken or written English, if a language learner can comprehend all but one out of twenty words, then s/he can function beyond the frustration level (Nation, 1995). This would seem to reinforce the notion that the 3,000 highest frequency words in spoken English are an appropriate target for students of the S.E.P., since mastery of these would set students well on their way towards the 95% level of comprehension.

Since it was determined that, in light of the scholarship done in the area of vocabulary acquisition, the 3,000 highest frequency words in English would be the goal for the vocabulary component of the S.E.P., attention was then turned towards the practical problem of which vocabulary words among the over 54,000 word families in English to focus upon.

Selection and Compilation of Resource Lists

The first and most obvious step towards producing a workable list of the 3,000 highest frequency words in English for the S.E.P. was to consult word frequency lists that had already been done. Perhaps the most commonly referred to such list is *A General Service List of English Words*, by Michael West (1953). Having already input this 2,268 word list into his computer, William Kroehler was kind enough to share it with this writer, along with a list produced by the Japan Association of College English Teachers (JACET). Kroehler had long ago begun the process of compiling prominent word lists, and the writer continued in that vein in the summer of 1995. The overriding goal, of course, was to produce the best list possible for the S.E.P. vocabulary program.

West's General Service List (GSL) is even today widely recognized for its usefulness, but both it and some of the other common lists which have been highly respected suffer from the fact that they are becoming slightly dated. Since language is constantly in flux, what was a frequently occurring word 40 or 50 years ago may not be today, and words which are very common now were not used at all at that time. Three well-known examples of the latter are the words "computer," "data," and "keyboard." Although these words are encountered frequently now, none are in the West list.

Therefore, it was decided to consult other lists which had been compiled more recently. One of these was the Longman Defining Vocabulary (LDV) as it was listed in the *Longman Language Activator* (1993). Using Microsoft Excel 5.0, this list was input, as were the Longman Key Word (LKW) list from the *Activator* and the University Word List (UWL) (Nation, 1990, pp.235-39).

Since many Seigakuin students are interested in the *Eiken* (STEP) English tests, three word lists from study books at the

appropriate levels were also input.

A summary of the lists which were selected for consideration by the writer up to that time, and the word counts of each follows.

Word Lists Compiled

Summer 1995

<u>LISTS</u>	<u>WORDS</u>
GSL (West)	2,268
LDV	2,217
LKW	1,052
UWL	812
STEP Pre-1	1,314
STEP 2	1,116
<u>STEP Pre-2</u>	<u>874</u>
TOTAL:	9,653

A preliminary study of all of the STEP vocabulary revealed that much of it was fairly low in frequency. That, combined with the knowledge that the UWL is primarily for academic reading purposes, led to the conclusion that attention should be focused upon the general purpose vocabulary lists, since a needs analysis of the students at Seigakuin revealed that the vast majority were primarily interested in informal spoken English. This conclusion was reinforced by Nation and Hwang, who state,

A general service vocabulary is essential for all learners.... Learners with a good control of general service vocabulary the West list need to consider their intended use of English. If they intend to use English for a wide range of informal purposes, they need to continue learning high frequency general service vocabulary. (Nation and Hwang, 1995, p.2)

Thus, focus was averted to the West and Longman lists. The LDV and LKW were compared, and it was discovered that only 225 of the 1,052 words in the latter were unique to it; the other 827 were already in the LDV. That being the case, those 225 words were combined with the LDV, bringing the total word count to 2,442.

The combined LDV was then compared with the West GSL. There are 150 words in the GSL which are not in the LDV/LKW, which means that the latter provides 93.4% coverage of the GSL. Naturally, the West list being the shorter of the two, it provides considerably less than 90% coverage of the LDV/LKW.

This being the case, the 150 words in the GSL which were not covered by the LDV/LKW were added to it, making the total 2,594 words. It was then believed that a potential first draft of a master vocabulary list for the S.E.P. was near completion.

However, the writer was then introduced to the *Cambridge English Lexicon* by Roland Hindmarsh (1980). It contains over 4,400 lexical items divided into five levels, based upon their order of frequency. Up to this point, no lists had been located by the writer that had level breakdowns, which were highly desirable for the purposes of making a list for the S.E.P.

In addition to the merits of being contemporary and of having the words divided into levels, the Hindmarsh list (HND) has been meticulously researched. Many of the major frequency lists produced before that time were utilized as main source materials by Hindmarsh, including those by Thorndike and Lorge (1944); West (1953); Wright (1965); Kucera and Francis (1967); Proctor and Frisby (1974); and Hornby (1974).

All five levels of the HND were input. The word total was 4,411, but it was decided that the 1,196 words of Level 5 went beyond the scope of the project. Thus, the 3,215 words of Levels 1-4 were selected to play a major role in the final development of the *S.E.P. Master Vocabulary List*.

It was at that time that it was discovered that this project had been undertaken with fortuitous timing. Apparently, the "Big Three" British publishers of English dictionaries had all been working on new dictionaries based upon word frequency counts done by computer on very large, updated corpora of both written *and* spoken English, British *and* American. Most previous word frequency list studies, including Hindmarsh's, had focused primarily upon written British English.

Though it meant that considerable more time and effort would have to be expended, it was resolved that, in order to produce the most contemporary and accurate word frequency list possible for the S.E.P., the new lists would have to be compiled and synthesized.

The two newly-published dictionaries that were consulted for this purpose were the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (LDOCE) (1995, 3rd ed.), and the *Cambridge International Dictionary of English* (CIDE) (1995). The cutting-edge LDOCE was of particular interest, since it was based upon the latest computer-generated lists of the most frequent words in the British National Corpus (looking separately at the 90 million words of written English and 10 million words of speech), as well as the 30-million word Longman Lancaster Corpus of written British and American English and a separate corpus of spoken American English. The 3,000 most frequent words in both spoken and written English (the lists not being the same) were then divided into three levels based upon their frequency and each word marked accordingly where it occurs in the dictionary. Unfortunately, the words are not listed in the dictionary in one list, so it had to be gone through page by page.

The CIDE was attractive to the writer primarily because its Defining Vocabulary was based upon a larger corpus of spoken American English than was the LDOCE's.

The second round of list compilation for the S.E.P. was thus

comprised of the following:

Primary Resource Lists for the S.E.P.

Master Vocabulary List

<u>DICTIONARY</u>	<u>LEVELS</u>	<u>WORDS</u>
HND:	Level 1	610
	Level 2	612
	Level 3	1,003
	<u>Level 4</u>	<u>990</u>
	TOTAL:	3,215
LDOCE: (spoken)	Level 1	884
	Level 2	938
	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>942</u>
	TOTAL:	2,764
CIDE:	<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>1,893</u>
GRAND TOTAL:		7,872

Having determined that the above were the best resource lists available for the S.E.P.'s purposes, it was then decided to proceed with the process of synthesizing the word lists in order to produce a final list that would be both accurate and, at the same time, unique to the Seigakuin English Program.

Synthesis of the Lists

The seven steps listed below were implemented as a means of producing the MVL for the S.E.P. The reader may bear in mind that one of the objectives of this process was to have an end product that consisted of approximately 3,000 of the highest frequency words in English and was divided into accurate yet manageable levels for teaching purposes.

Step One: First, all 7,872 words from the three primary source

lists were combined into one list.

Step Two: Second, all of the words which were duplicated or triplicated were sorted out. Since at least two or, in some cases, all three of the lists agreed that a certain word belonged in a 2,000-3,000-word highest frequency vocabulary list, these words were automatically selected to be included in the Master Vocabulary List. The total number of words synthesized at this point was 2,243.

Step Three: Next, words which were not duplicated in the lists but which had the same roots as those that had been were then sorted out and placed in the MVL. Examples of these kinds of words are "absence/absent" and "absolute/absolutely."

Step Four: After that, all of the items in the top two levels of the LDOCE list (1,822 words) and top three levels of HND (2,225 words) which were not already in the MVL were sorted out and placed in the List. The rationale behind this step was that the writer desired to be certain that none of the highest frequency 2,000 words in English would be missed. Proper nouns, two-word verbs, and vulgarities were excepted.

Step Five: Then, the days of the week and months of the year were added because, even though they are proper nouns, they were assumed to be essential to all learners of English. The total number of words in the MVL had now reached approximately 3,100.

Step Six: After that, the rather tedious task of reassigning level numbers to each word was undertaken. Three levels of words of approximately 1,000 words each was the ideal at this point. This process was not as simple as it at first appeared to be, since the LDOCE and HND levels included different numbers of words, and at times words which occurred in both lists were assigned different rankings. Since the LDOCE focuses on spoken English and was based on more recent scholarship than the HND, precedence was given to the LDOCE in such cases. If the

rankings were two levels apart, the middle ground was chosen.

In some instances at the lower levels the CIDE list served as a "tie-breaker." Even though it is not broken into levels itself, it consists of less than two thousand words, so if the word in question was duplicated in the CIDE, it was automatically placed in Level 1 or Level 2.

Step Seven: Finally, the list resulting from the above was subdivided for the purposes of teaching. Level 1, the words of highest frequency in English, consists of 736 words; Level 2 is made up of 1,159 words; and Level 3 contains 1,200 words. Since it was decided by the Seigakuin English Education Research Committee early on that it would be impractical to attempt to teach all of the S.E.P. students all of the words in the MVL, subdivisions became a necessity.

Since the academic year at Seigakuin consists of roughly 24 weeks in which actual teaching may be done and 25 new words per week seemed to be a reasonable estimate of what could be taught, it was determined to subdivide the higher levels of the MVL into three sub-levels of 600 words each. The 1,295 words at Levels 1 and 2.1 were assumed to be known by most students before their matriculation into Seigakuin.

Three representatives from the Research Committee were assigned the task of analyzing the list and making decisions as to which words belonged in which sub-level, based upon their experience in teaching English as a second language on the Seigakuin Ageo campus.

The result of this effort was that Levels 2.2, 3.1, and 3.2 of the MVL were formed, each level being of progressively less frequent and, therefore, more difficult vocabulary in many (although not all) cases. Level 2.2 vocabulary was then assigned to students in Program C, whose proficiency goal is Intermediate Low; Level 3.1 to Program B students, with a goal of an Intermediate Mid level of proficiency; and Level 3.2 to Program

A language learners, whose proficiency goal is Intermediate High. (See Appendix One.)

Comparisons with the Master Vocabulary List

The writer is well aware that it is quite easy to become so personally involved in a project that objectivity is lost at some point. Since the *raison d'être* for the Master Vocabulary List is to provide Seigakuin students with an accurate and objective list of highest frequency words for, it had been deemed necessary to consider updating and comparing the MVL with other lists as a means of double-checking the work that was done.

One list that the MVL had to be compared with because of the status of its publisher, if for no other reason, was that of the Defining Vocabulary in the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (OALD) (1995, 5th ed.), which became available soon after the MVL had been compiled. The large 3,465-word OALD Defining Vocabulary was input and the two lists compared. It was discovered that there are 942 words in the OALD list which are not in the MVL, meaning that approximately one-third of each list was incompatible with the other.

This was cause for alarm until a list of all of the non-MVL words was printed out and studied. It was found that many of the words were of high difficulty (e.g., "atmospheric," "consciousness," "edible," "implement," "medieval," "primitive," "reluctance," "sympathetic," "tolerate," "visible") and were considered to be beyond the scope of the Seigakuin English Program's stated goals for first-year students. Therefore, although the OALD is undoubtedly a fine dictionary for learners at the advanced level, it was determined that its Defining Vocabulary list did not have much to contribute to the MVL.

The writer is indebted to Brent Culligan, an instructor in the Seigakuin English Program, for the comparison he made between the MVL and a combination of Michael West's General

Service List and the University Word List (GSL/UWL).

The result of the Culligan study was that approximately 500 words in the MVL do not occur in the GSL/UWL lists. Perhaps somewhat surprisingly, words at the 1,000-word highest frequency level in the MVL which cannot be found in the GSL/UWL lists are days of the week, months of the year, ordinal and cardinal numbers, and words like "blackboard," "bye," "dad," "downtown," "hi," "housewife," "jet," "okay/OK," "phone," "television," and "video." Even at the 3,000-word level of the MVL, there are a number of fairly common words which one does not find in the GSL/UWL. Examples of these are words such as "basement," "bored," "divorce," "emergency," "exit," "fee," "flight," "grade," "paragraph," "passport," "sightseeing," and "vacation" (Culligan, 1996, pp. 4-23).

Of course, the primary reasons for the difference in coverage between the MVL and GSL/UWL are that 1) the GSL, as mentioned earlier, is somewhat dated; 2) neither the GSL nor the UWL were based upon corpora which included significant amounts of spoken English; and 3) highly academic vocabulary such as what is necessarily included in the UWL (examples from each of the eleven levels of the UWL, from Level 1 to Level 11: "hypothesis," "perspective," "superficial," "contaminate," "preliminary," "heredity," "spectrum," "fallacy," "condense," "tolerate," "accumulate") was not focused upon when the MVL was synthesized, although over 300 words do correspond with those in the UWL. In fact, it is because of the 836-word University Word List that the percentage of coverage in the comparison made is not much higher; most of the GSL alone is actually contained in the MVL.

Since the focus of the S.E.P. Master Word List is on the highest frequency *spoken* vocabulary, and the S.E.P. itself is currently for first-year students only and concentrates on informal spoken English, it is with some confidence that, after con-

sidering the comparisons above, one may conclude that the List is indeed both accurate and appropriate for the purposes for which it was intended.

Conclusion

This has been a brief synopsis of how the *S.E.P. Master Vocabulary List* was constructed. The writer has confidence that the MVL is a good device with which to start the vocabulary component of the Seigakuin English Program. However, it is certainly realized that it is not a finished product; rather, it is a working document. Refinements can still undoubtedly be made.

For instance, if a second-year S.E.P. is put into place with an academic track, then addition of the 530 words from the University Word List should be considered for inclusion in the MVL. Should this be done, it is suggested that the 942 words in the 3,465-word Defining Vocabulary of the new *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* which are not found in the MVL also be considered for synthesis with the UWL, since these words also have an academic bent.

Other suggestions for the MVL are to calculate the number of word families represented within it; to do studies which would determine the coverage of the MVL in a variety of settings; to include in the List the highest frequency part of speech for each word; to construct a data base of the highest frequency definitions for all of the words in the MVL; to produce a list of common affixes; to produce an appendix of common two- and three-word verbs for the List; and to produce an appendix of the 300 highest frequency English idioms.

While these refinements and improvements remain to be done, the writer nevertheless believes that the *S.E.P. Master Vocabulary List* as it now exists can be a useful tool for those for whom it was ultimately designed to benefit: the highly-valued students of the Seigakuin English Program.

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Appendix 1:
SEP Master Vocabulary List
(40 words per column)

Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
a	April	boat	cheap	dear	enjoy
ability	area	body	cheese	debate	especially
able	arm	book	child/children	December	even
about	around	born	choose	decide	evening
accept	as	both	church	definitely	event
across	ask (for)	bottle	city	describe	eventually
act	assume	bottom	class	die	every
address	at	box	clean	difference	everybody
afraid	attention	boy	clear	different	everyone
after	August	branch	clearly	difficult	everything
afternoon	autumn	bread	clock	dinner	exactly
again	away	bring	close	dish	example
against	baby	brother	coffee	do	explain
age	back	brown	cold	dog	eye
ago	bad	budget	college	door	face
agree	bag	build	color	down	fact
agreement	ball	building	come	downtown	fall
air	banana	busn	company	draw	family
all	bar	busy	completely	drink	far
all right	basically	but	computer	drive	father
almost	be	buy	concerned	driver	favor
already	beautiful	bye/bye-bye	condition	drop	favorite
also	because (of)	call	continue	during	February
although	become	can/cannot	conversation	each other	feed
always	bed	cap	corner	early	few
among	bedroom	car	cos ('cause)	earring	field
amount	before	card	cost	easily	fifteen
an	begin	careful	could	easy	fifty
and	beginning	carry	count	eat	fight
angry	behind	case	country	effort	fill
animal	best	cat	cover	egg	find
another	better	catch	cup	eight	finish
answer	between	cause	cut	eighteen	first
any	bicycle	cent	dad	eighty	fish
anybody	big	center	daddy	eleven	fit
anyone	bit	certain	dark	else	five
anything	black	certainly	data	end	floor
anywhere	blackboard	chair	date	energy	follow
appear	blue	chance	daughter	engine	food
apple	board	change	day		foot/feet

SEP Master Vocabulary List

Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
football	happy	interested	long	morning	occur
for	hard	interesting	look	most	October
forget	have	into	lose	mother	of
fork	he	is	lot	move	off
form	head	it	love	much	offer
forty	health	its	low	music	office
forward(s)	hear	itself	lunch	must	officer
four	heart	January	machine	my	often
fourteen	heavy	jet	main	myself	oh
free	hello	job	make	name	okay/OK
Friday	help	July	man/men	nature	old
friend	her	June	many	near	on
from	here	just	March	nearly	once
front	hi	keep	market	necessarily	one
full	high	kill	marry	necessary	only
funny	him	kind	material	need	open
game	himself	king	matter	never	or
garden	his	kitchen	May	new	other
get	hit	knock	may/might	news	others
gift	hold	know	maybe	next	ought
girl	hole	land	me	nice	our
give	home	large	mean	night	ours
glass	honest	last	meet	nine	ourselves
glove	hope	late	meeting	nineteen	out
go	hopefully	later	member	ninety	outside
good	horse	lead (verd)	message	no	over
good bye	hot	learn	middle	no one	page
good night	hotel	least	midnight	nobody	panel
grandma	hour	left	mile	none	paper
grandpa	house	leg	mind	normally	parent
green	housewife	less	mine	north (N)	park
ground	how	let	minute	nose	part
group	huge	letter	modern	not/-n't	particularly
grow	husband	light	mom/mommy	note	party
guy	I	like	moment	nothing	past
hair	idea	likely	Monday	November	pen
half	if	line	money	now	people
hand	important	listen	month	number	per
hang	in	little	moon	o'clock	person
happen	instead (of)	live	more	obviously	phone

SEP Master Vocabulary List

Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1	Level 1
pick	remain	sick	street	thirty	wait
picture	remember	side	strong	this	waiter
piece	rest	simply	student	those	waitress
place	restaurant	since	such	three	walk
play	result	sing	summer	through	wall
please	return	sister	Sunday	Thursday	want
plenty	rice	sit	supermarket	ticket	wash
point	rid	six	supper	time	watch
police	right	sixteen	sure	tired	water
poor	ring	sixty	surely	to	way
possible	road	skirt	swim	today	we
possibly	roll	sleep	table	together	wear
pound	room	small	take	tomorrow	weather
previous	round	snake	talk	tonight	Wednesday
price	run	snow	tall	too	week
probably	same	so	tea	top	weekend
problem	sand	some	teach	toward(s)	well
project	Saturday	somebody	teacher	town	what
proper	save	someone	teacup	train	when
properly	say	something	telephone	tree	where
pull	school	sometimes	television(TV)	trouble	whether
push	second	somewhere	tell	true	which
put	see	son	ten	try	while
quarter	seem	soon	tennis	Tuesday	white
question	sell	sorry	than	turn	who/whom
quick	send	sound	thank	twelve	whole
quickly	September	south(S)	thank you/thanks	twenty	why
quite	serious	space	that	two	wide
rabbit	set	speak	the	type	wife
radio	seven	special	their	under	will
rather	seventeen	specific	them	understand	win
reach	seventy	spend	themselves	unless	window
read	several	spoon	then	until	with
ready	shall	stand	there	up	without
really	she	station	these	us	woman/women
reason	shop	stay	they	use	word
receive	short	still	thing	usually	work
recently	should	stop	think	very	working
record	show	store	third	video	world
red	shut	story	thirteen	village	worse

SEP Master Vocabulary List

Level 1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1
worst	above	aunt	block	challenge	cream
would	abroad	average	blood	check(chèque)	crowd
write	accident	awake	blow	chicken	cry
wrong	ache	award	boil	chip	culture
yard	action	awful	bomb	chocolate	curtain
year	active	background	bone	choice	dance
yellow	activity	backwards	bonus	cinema	dancer
yes	actor	badly	booklet	circle	danger
yesterday	actress	baggage	bookstore/-shop	classroom	dangerous
yet	actual	balance	boot	clever	dead
you	actually	balloon	borrow	climb	death
young	add	band	bowl	closely	deep
your	adult	bank	bra	cloth	delicious
yours	adventure	bargain	break	clothes	desk
yourself	advice	basic	breakfast	cloud	dictionary
zero	afterwards	basket	bridge	cloudy	difficulty
	agency	bath	bright	club	direction
	ahead(of)	bathe	bucket	coat	dirty
	airline	bathroom	bullet	code	doctor
	airmail	beard	burn	coffee pot	dollar
	airport	beat	bush	coin	double
	alarm	beauty	business	collect	downstairs
	alcohol	beer	butter	collection	dozen
	alive	beginner	button	comb	drawing
	allow	being	by	comfortable	dream
	alone	believe	cabinet	comment	dress
	along	bell	cage	concern	drug
	announce	belong	cake	concert	dry
	anyway	below	calcium	connect	dust
	apartment	belt	camera	control	dusty
	arrange	bench	captain	cook	ear
	arrival	beneath	care	cool	earth
	arrive	beside	career	copy	east(E)
	art	bike	carefully	correct	eighth
	artist	bill	careless	cotton	either
	asleep	bird	cash	countryside	eleventh
	atom	birth	castle	couple	empty
	atomic	birthday	cement	course	enough
	attack	bite	central	cousin	enter
	attend	blanket	century	cow	equal

SEP Master Vocabulary List

Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1
equally	glasses	jewelry	meat	perhaps	real
ever	goal	joke	meter	pet	regular
everywhere	gold	juice	milk	photo	rent
exam	golf	jump	mistake	photograph	repeat
except	good morning	key	mix	picnic	report
exciting	goods	kick	monkey	pig	rich
exercise	grandfather	kilo	mountain	pink	ride
expensive	grandmother	kilogram	mouse/mice	pizza	rise
extra	grass	kilometer	mouth	plan	river
famous	gray	kindness	movie	plane	rock
fan	great	knife	neck	plant	roof
farm	guest	lady	neither	plastic	rose
farmer	guide	lake	newspaper	plate	rough
fast	haircut	language	ninth	player	rule
fat	hall	laugh	noon	plus	runner
feel	hammer	leave	nor	pocket	rush
feeling	handbag	lesson	normal	police officer	sad
fifth	happiness	level	notebook	pool	safe
film	hat	library	nowhere	popular	sailor
final	heat	life	nut	post	sale
finally	heater	lift	oil	pot	salt
fine	herself	lion	oneself	potato	sandwich
finger	highway	list	orange	powder	scene
fire	hill	liter	order	power	screen
flag	holiday	living room	own	powerful	sea
flower	homework	local	owner	practice	seaside
fly	hospital	lover	pack	president	season
forest	human	luck	paint	pressure	seat
fourth	hundred	lucky	pair	pretty	section
freedom	hungry	lunchtime	pan	private	seller
fresh	hurry	magazine	pardon	program	sense
friendly	ice	magic	part-time	promise	sentence
fruit	ice cream	mailcarrier	pass	pupil	service
fun	imagine	manager	pay	queen	seventh
garage	inch	map	payment	quiet	sex
garbage	ink	mark	peace	race	shape
gas	inside	marriage	pencil	rail	sheep
gas(oline)/petrol	interest	married	percent	railway	shell
gate	island	master	perfect	rain	shine
glad	jacket	match	perfectly	raise	ship

SEP Master Vocabulary List

Level 2.1	Level 2.1	Level 2.1	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C
shirt	step	throw	absolute	attract	character
shock	stick	tight	accommodation	attractive	charge
shoe	stone	toilet	accordingto	audience	chat
shopping	storm	tooth/teeth	account	available	chemistry
shorts	straight	touch	achieve	avenue	chest
shoulder	strange	toy	additional	avoid	chuck
shower	stranger	travel	admit	aware	cigar
shy	stream	traveler	advantage	awkward	cigarette
simple	study	trip	advise	bare	circumstance
single	sugar	truck	affair	bark	claim
sir	suggestion	twelfth	affect	battle	clap
sixth	sun	twentieth	afford	bear	cliff
size	sunny	twice	aim	behavior	column
skin	sunrise	typist	aircraft	bet	comfort
sky	sunset	uncle	allowance	beyond	commit
slow	sunshine	university	aloud	billion	commitment
slowly	super	unusual	altogether	bin	common
smell	support	upstairs	amuse	blame	companion
smile	supporter	usual	apart(from)	bleed	competition
smoke	surprised	visit	application	blind	competitive
smoking	sweater	visitor	apply	boring	complain
smooth	sweet	voice	appoint	bother	complaint
soap	swimming	warm	appointment	bound	complete
soft	system	welcome	appreciate	brain	complicated
song	tank	west(W)	approval	brave	component
soup	taste	western	approve	brick	confidence
speaker	tax	wet	argue	brief	confirm
speech	teaching	wheel	argument	briefly	conflict
speed	team	whose	army	broad	consider
spell	tent	wind(noun)	arrangement	bunch	considerable
sport	tenth	wine	article	bungalow	consideration
spring	terrible	wing	ashamed	burst	consumer
square	test	winter	assess	bury	contain
stage	text	wish	asset	calculate	content
stair	theater	wonder	assignment	calculation	cope
stamp	thick	wonderful	assure	cancer	corridor
star	thief	wood	astonish	capable	cottage
start	thin	worried	attempt	cart	cough
steam	though	writing	attitude	category	council
steel	thought		attorney	cape	court

SEP Master Vocabulary List

2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C
create	distance	expectation	gosh	iron	measure
crime	divide	experience	government	join	medical
critic	dot	extremely	gradual	journey	medicine
critical	doubt	factory	gradually	judge	memory
criticism	draft	fail	granddad	justify	mend
cross	drown	fair	grant	knee	mention
cupboard	drunk	fairly	grocer(y)	knowledge	mess
current	due	familiar	guarantee	law	metal
currently	duty	fasten	guess	lay	method
custom	dwelling	fault	guilty	lazy	million
customer	earn	feature	gun	lead (noun)	minister
damage	edge	fetch	happening	leaf	mirror
darling	education	figure	hardly	leather	misfortune
database	educational	file	hate	length	miss
deal (with)	effect	firm	height	lie	mixed
debt	effective	firstly	helpful	lip	model
decent	effectively	fix	hide	liquid	mostly
decision	efficient	flat	highly	listener	movement
deck	elderly	folk	history	literally	muscle
defense	elect	following	honestly	literature	narrow
delay	electric	fond	horrible	living	nasty
delighted	electricity	fool	household	load	national
deliver	element	formal	however	loaf	natural
delivery	employ	former	hurt	locally	naturally
demand	employee	forth	ignore	lock	neat
deny	employer	freeway	ill	lost	needle
depend (on)	employment	fridge	illness	loud	negative
description	encourage	frightened	immediate	lovely	neighbor
deserve	enemy	fuel	immediately	lump	nephew
despite	enormous	fully	importance	mad	niece
destroy	entirely	furniture	impossible	mainly	no way
detail	entitle	further	improve	manage	noise
detective	entrance	gain	include	march	not only/but also
direct	entry	gardener	increase	marvelous	notice
directly	equip	gather	influence	mass	nowadays
disagree	equipment	general	inform	massive	observe
disappear	excellent	generally	information	math(ematics)	obtain
disaster	exclude	glance	invite	meal	obvious
discover	exit	God	involve	meaning	occasion
disgusting	expect	goodness	involved	meanwhile	odd

SEP Master Vocabulary List

2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C	2.2/Prog. C
onto	prefer	reasonable	science	spread	trademark
operation	prepare	reasonably	score	state	traffic
opinion	prepared	recent	scream	statement	traffic light/signal
opportunity	present	recession	screw	sticky	treat
opposite	presentation	reckon	self	strength	tremendous
opposition	press	recognize	separate	strongly	trend
ordinary	pretend	reduce	seriously	stuff	trousers
organization	prevent	refer(to)	servant	stupid	trust
organize	print	refuse	serve	subject	trustee
originally	priority	region	settle	submit	truth
otherwise	prison	reject	sexual	success	underneath
owe	prize	related	shade	successful	undo
packet	process	relation	shadow	sudden	unemployed
pain	produce	relationship	shame	suddenly	unemployment
painful	product	relatively	sheet	suffer	unfortunately
parcel	production	release	shelter	suggest	union
particular	profit	religion	shoot	suit	unlikely
partly	progress	religious	shout	suitable	used to
passenger	pronounce	remind	sight	suppose	useful
path	proof	remove	silence	surface	valuable
patient	property	reply	similar	surgery	variety
penny	propose	request	sincere	surround	various
permission	protect	require	sink	survive	vary
personal	protection	requirement	situate	swear	vehicle
personally	proud	respect	situation	sword	victim
physical	prove	respond	sleeve	tail	view
pile	provide	response	slide	tear	violence
pint	providing(that)	responsibility	slight	technology	wake
pipe	public	responsible	slightly	temperature	washing(noun)
plain	publicity	restriction	social	temporary	waste
pleased	purely	retain	society	tend	weapon
pleasure	purpose	retire	soldier	term	weight
polite	qualification	retirement	solve	terribly	weird
politics	quality	ridiculous	somewhat	theme	whatever
population	quarrel	risk	sort	theory	whatsoever
port	quote	roughly	spade	therefore	whereas
positive	range	row	spare	tool	willing
postcard	rank	ruler	specifically	total	within
pour	rate	safety	spoil	totally	worth
precisely	realize	satisfy	spot	track	youth

SEP Master Vocabulary List

3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B
absence	bend	cleaner	delicate	false!	grandparent
absent	biscuit	closed	department	fashion	grandson
acceptable	bitter	clothing	desert	fashionable	greatly
achievement	blade	coast	design	fear	greatness
ad	blank	collar	diamond	female	greet
addition	boiling	combination	differ	fence	greeting
admire	booking	combine	director	firstclass	growth
admission	bookshelf	commerce	dirt	fishing	guard
advance	bored	commercial	disc	flavor	hairbrush
advertise	boss	communicate	discuss	flight	hairdresser
advertisement	bounce	communication	discussion	fog	hairdryer
advisor	breath	concerning	dishonest	fold	hairstyle
agent	breathe	conclude	dishwasher	foolish	handkerchief
aid	broadcast	conclusion	dislike	footpath	handle
anger	broken	concrete	doorstep	footstep	handshake
announcement	brush	connection	doorway	force	handwriting
anyhow	bubble	construction	dressmaking	foreign	headache
apologize	builder	contact	drum	foreigner	healthy
apology	businessman	contents	dumb	forever	hearing
appearance	buyer	convenience	economic	forgive	heating
approach	cabin	convenient	economy	fox	heaven
ashtray	calculator	cooking	educate	freeze	hell
assist	calm	corn	elephant	friendship	helper
assistance	camp	correction	emergency	fry	hero
assistant	cancel	counter	emotion	full-time	hers
atmosphere	candle	courage	emotional	fur	hire
automatic	cardboard	crash	enjoyable	furthest	hobby
automatically	carpet	crazy	entertain	future	holder
awfully	ceiling	curl	entertainment	gentle	homemade
baby-sitter	celebrate	curly	entire	gentleman	hook
bake	celebration	curve	envelope	gently	hopeful
baker	centimeter	cushion	essential	glue	hopeless
ball-point	ceremony	cycle	essentially	goat	host/hostess
base	chain	dancing	examination	grade	housekeeper
baseball	channel	darkness	examine	gram	housekeeping
basement	chapter	daylight	excite	grammar	housework
basketball	charm	daytime	excitement	grammatical	humor
beach	chiefadj	decorate	exit	grand	humorous
bean	childhood	decoration	explanation	grandchild	hunger
belief	chin	deeply	express	granddaughter	hunt

SEP Master Vocabulary List

3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B
image	loose	northeast	pillow	rescue	selection
imagination	loss	northern	pilot	research	self-prefix
including	lower	northward	pin	reservation	selfish
inconvenience	luckily	northwest	playground	reserve	sensitive
incorrect	luggage	nurse	pleasant	reward	separately
individual	machinery	nylon	poem	rhythm	series
informal	mail	oak	poet	ribbon	setting
initial	maker	official	poetry	rider	sew
instant	male	oneanother	polish	ripe	sexually
instruct	management	onion	pond	rob	shake
instruction	manner	opening	position	role	shallow
international	medium	organ	possibility	rope	share
interview	melt	ounce	poster	route	sharp
introduce	membership	outdoor/s	preparation	royal	shave
introduction	menu	outer	pride	rubber	shelf
invitation	merry	oven	prince	sail	shocked
jazz	middle aged	overcoat	princess	salary	shocking
jealous	mild	overnight	printer	salesman	shot
jewel	milky	ownership	pump	sandy	sightseeing
jumper	millimeter	package	pure	saucer	sign
keyboard	misunderstand	painter	purple	sausage	signal
kindhearted	mixture	painting	purse	savings	signature
kiss	monthly	pajamas	quietly	saying	silent
ladder	mood	paragraph	racing	scale	silk
lamp	motor	parking	rainy	scare	silver
laughter	museum	partner	rapid	scared	singer
lawyer	musical	passport	rapidly	scenery	skill
leader	musician	pastime	rare	scientific	skilled
leadership	mustache	pattern	razor	scientist	skillful
learning	mysterious	pause	react	scissors	sleepy
lecture	mystery	peaceful	reaction	scout	slip
left-handed	nail	perform	reader	scratch	slope
lend	nation	performance	receipt	search	snowstorm
librarian	nationality	period	register	secondary	snowy
lie	nest	personality	regularly	secret	sock
lighting	net	photographer	relative	secretary	sour
limit	nicely	photography	relax	seed	southern
lively	nightfall	phrase	repair	seldom	specialist
loan	noisy	piano	replace	select	specialize
lonely	nonsense	pill	reporter		spelling

SEP Master Vocabulary List

3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.1/Prog. B	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A
spill	till	vacation	abuse	border	considerably
spirit	timetable	valley	access	bore	consistof
springtime	tiny	van	accountant	boundary	consistent
staff	tire	vegetable	accurate	breed	constant
staircase	title	violent	accuse	butcher	constantly
standard	tobacco	volume	acid	capital	continent
steal	ton	wagon	activist	carriage	continuous
stir	toothbrush	waken	adjust	chairman	contract
stocking	toothpaste	war	adopt	characteristic	contribute
stomach	tough	warmth	allocate	charity	contribution
stony	tour	washing machine	alternative	chase	convince
stormy	tourist	wave	ambulance	cheat	councilor
storytelling	towel	wavy	ancient	chemical	county
straw	tower	weak	angle	chemist	coward
stress	tractor	wedding	annoy	circular	crack
stretch	trade	weekday	annual	citizen	creation
strict	tradition	weekly	anxiety	civil	creative
strike	traditional	well-known	anxious	civilization	creature
string	training	well-made	appeal	clause	credit
stroke	triangle	wheat	appropriate	coal	crew
struggle	trick	whenever	approximate	command	criminal
style	tricky	wherever	approximately	commission	crisis
suitcase	tube	whichever	arch	committee	criticize
sunlight	tune	whisper	architecture	community	crop
superior	twist	whoever	armed	comparative	crossroads
surprise	typewriter	width	artificial	compare	crown
surprising	ugly	wild	assessment	comparison	cruel
swing	umbrella	windy	associate	compete	cruelty
switch	unable	winner	assumption	complex	cultivate
tape	underground	wipe	attach	complicate	cure
task	understanding	wire	authority	concentrate	curiosity
theirs	unfair	wooden	basis	concentration	curious
thinker	unhappy	wool	bearable	conduct	dare
thirst	uniform	worker	beforehand	conference	declaration
thoughtful	unkind	workshop	behave	confident	declare
throat	unknown	worldwide	benefit	confuse	deed
thumb	unlucky	worry	bind	confused	defend
thunder	unnecessary	worrying	birth control	confusing	definite
thunderstorm	upon	writer	bloody	confusion	definition
tie	upper	yearly	boiler	conscious	degree

SEP Master Vocabulary List

3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A
delight	eager	explosion	function	increased	lightning
demanding	ease	expression	fund	independent	link
dense	efficiency	extend	fundamental	index	literary
dependent	election	extension	funeral	indirect	locate
depress	electrical	extent	furnish	industrial	location
depression	electronic	extraordinary	gay	industry	loyal
depth	elementary	extreme	generous	inhabitant	luxury
desire	elsewhere	failure	genuine	injure	maintain
determination	emphasis	fame	govern	injury	maintenance
determined	emphasize	favorable	grace	inner	major
develop	encouraging	feather	grain	insect	majority
development	engineer	fee	grateful	insist	manufacture
dig	enthusiasm	feedback	habit	instrument	manufacturer
dine	enthusiastic	fierce	halve	insult	margin
disadvantage	environment	figurative	handout	insurance	marketing
disagreement	environmental	filling	handy	intelligence	mat
disappearance	escape	finance	harbor	intelligent	mate
disappoint	establish	financial	harm	intend	maximum
disappointment	establishment	financially	harvest	intention	means
discipline	estimate	fixed	headline	interpret	meantime
discovery	evidence	flame	heal	interrupt	measurement
disease	evil	flash	hedge	interruption	mental
disgust	exact	float	hollow	invent	mentally
dissatisfied	exception	flood	holy	invention	merchant
dissolve	exchange	flour	honor	irregular	mere
distant	exclaim	flow	honorable	joint	merely
distinction	exclamation	forbid	horizon	judgment	migration
distinguish	excuse	fortnight	horizontal	justice	military
district	existence	fortunate	hurrah	kneel	minimum
disturb	existing	fortunately	hut	labor	minor
ditch	expand	fortune	ideal	lack	miserable
dive	expected	fountain	ideally	landing	misery
division	expense	frame	immoral	landlord	missing
divorce	experienced	frank	impatient	largely	modest
domestic	experiment	frankly	impress	lately	moral
doubtful	expert	frequent	impression	layer	moreover
drag	explode	frequently	improvement	leak	multiply
drain	exploit	fright	incident	lean	murder
drawer	explore	frighten	incidentally	legal	naked
dull	explorer	fulfill	income	lid	navy

SEP Master Vocabulary List

3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A	3.2/Prog. A
necessity	physically	provision	roar	straightforward	translation
needless	pity	publish	rub	strain	transparent
neglect	plentiful	punctual	rubbish	structure	transport
negotiate	plot	punish	ruin	submission	transportation
negotiation	plow	punishment	satisfaction	substance	trap
nerve	plural	purchase	satisfactory	substantial	treatment
nervous	poison	pursue	satisfied	subtract	trial
nevertheless	poisonous	qualified	saw	succeed	typical
noble	pole	qualify	scatter	suck	unfortunate
nod	political	quantity	secondhand	sufficient	unit
noticeable	politician	raw	seeing	sum	unite
nuisance	possess	realistic	sensible	superlative	universal
oar	possession	reality	settlement	supply	universe
obedient	postage	recommend	severe	surname	unpleasant
obey	postpone	recommendation	shed	surroundings	untidy
object	practical	recover	silly	survey	unwilling
objection	praise	reduction	singular	suspect	upset
objective	pray	redundancy	slap	suspicious	urgent
oblige	prayer	reference	soil	swallow	value
occasional	precious	reflect	solid	sweep	vast
occasionally	pregnant	regard	solution	sympathize	vote
operate	presence	regarding	somehow	sympathy	vowel
oppose	preserve	regional	sore	tame	voyage
organism	presumably	registration	source	tap	wage/s
organized	presume	regret	sow(verd)	technical	wander
origin	previously	regulation	spin	technically	warm
original	priest	relate(to)	spite	technique	warning
overall	primary	relief	splendid	tempt	waterproof
overcome	principle	relieve	split	tendency	wealth
oxygen	prisoner	remark	stall	tense	wealthy
palace	probable	removal	stare	tension	weigh
pale	procession	represent	starve	thread	whereby
parallel	profession	representation	statistic	threat	whilst
passage	professional	representative	steady	threaten	whip
pastry	professor	reproduce	steep	throughout	wisdom
patience	pronunciation	resident	stem	tidy	wise
permanent	proportion	resistance	stiff	tin	witness
permit	proposal	resource	sting	toe	worthwhile
personnel	prospect	restrict	stitch	tongue	wrap
persuade	provided (that)	revolution	stock	translate	wrist

Appendix 2:
The Two Hundred Most Frequent Words in English
(in order of highest frequency)

1	the	41	if	81	any	121	make	161	things
2	of	42	would	82	even	122	those	162	why
3	and	43	their	83	because	123	come	163	while
4	to	44	said	84	out	124	say	164	both
5	a	45	what	85	these	125	got	165	really
6	in	46	been	86	down	126	being	166	Mr.
7	that	47	my	87	back	127	going	167	few
8	it	48	when	88	think	128	work	168	look
9	I	49	no	89	way	129	right	169	didn't
10	was	50	him	90	first	130	long	170	without
11	is	51	out	91	most	131	off	171	against
12	he	52	up	92	much	132	here	172	thing
13	for	53	about	93	get	133	again	173	once
14	you	54	more	94	how	134	take	174	house
15	with	55	me	95	see	135	day	175	quite
16	as	56	them	96	did	136	old	176	left
17	on	57	who	97	don't	137	yes	177	every
18	had	58	do	98	after	138	might	178	place
19	be	59	can	99	it's	139	world	179	under
20	his	60	has	100	man	140	life	180	small
21	at	61	will	101	where	141	between	181	find
22	but	62	like	102	go	142	thought	182	used
23	not	63	into	103	new	143	came	183	looked
24	they	64	some	104	too	144	another	184	far
25	have	65	then	105	may	145	something	185	rather
26	this	66	could	106	made	146	went	186	fact
27	are	67	now	107	before	147	put	187	that's
28	by	68	time	108	should	148	away	188	nothing
29	or	69	only	109	little	149	same	189	himself
30	she	70	than	110	us	150	course	190	women
31	from	71	other	111	many	151	great	191	around
32	her	72	very	112	good	152	men	192	enough
33	we	73	your	113	through	153	always	193	told
34	all	74	its	114	such	154	I'm	194	since
35	were	75	people	115	must	155	want	195	part
36	one	76	know	116	own	156	children	196	end
37	which	77	over	117	still	157	though	197	home
38	there	78	two	118	also	158	each	198	does
39	an	79	just	119	never	159	last	199	use
40	so	80	well	120	years	160	three	200	year

**The Two Hundred Most Frequent Words in English
(in alphabetical order)**

5	a	158	each	76	know	77	over	142	thought
53	about	196	end	159	last	116	own	160	three
98	after	192	enough	176	left	195	part	113	through
133	again	82	even	140	life	75	people	68	time
171	against	177	every	62	like	178	place	4	to
34	all	186	fact	109	little	147	put	193	told
118	also	184	far	130	long	175	quite	104	too
153	always	167	few	168	look	185	rather	78	two
39	an	181	find	183	looked	165	really	179	under
3	and	90	first	106	made	129	right	52	up
144	another	13	for	121	make	44	said	110	us
81	any	31	from	100	man	149	same	199	use
27	are	93	get	111	many	124	say	182	used
191	around	102	go	105	may	95	see	72	very
16	as	127	going	55	me	30	she	155	want
21	at	112	good	152	men	108	should	10	was
148	away	125	got	138	might	194	since	89	way
87	back	151	great	54	more	180	small	33	we
19	be	18	had	91	most	40	so	80	well
83	because	60	has	166	Mr.	64	some	146	went
46	been	25	have	92	much	145	something	35	were
107	before	12	he	115	must	117	still	45	what
126	being	32	her	47	my	114	such	48	when
141	between	132	here	119	never	134	take	101	where
164	both	50	him	103	new	70	than	37	which
22	but	189	himself	49	no	7	that	163	while
28	by	20	his	23	not	189	that's	57	who
143	came	197	home	188	nothing	1	the	162	why
59	can	174	house	67	now	43	their	61	will
156	children	94	how	2	of	56	them	15	with
123	come	9	I	131	off	65	then	170	without
66	could	41	if	136	old	38	there	190	women
150	course	6	in	17	on	85	these	128	work
135	day	63	into	173	once	24	they	139	world
95	did	11	is	36	one	172	thing	42	would
169	didn't	8	it	69	only	161	things	200	year
58	do	74	its	29	or	88	think	120	years
198	does	99	it's	71	other	26	this	137	yes
97	don't	154	I'm	51	out	122	those	14	you
86	down	79	just	84	out	157	though	73	your

(Taylor, 1992, pp. 107-08)