

Appendix A	Vocabulary
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Questions to consider before reading this appendix:

1. What is the role of vocabulary in teaching or learning speaking?
2. What is the connection between learners' needs and vocabulary?
3. What is a cognate? What is a false cognate?
4. What are phrasal verbs? Can you give examples?
5. If you have studied a foreign language, can you think of words that were confusing to you as a non-native speaker? For example, if you studied Spanish, you may be confused by *ser* and *estar*. If you studied French, you may be confused by *savoir* and *connaitre*. If you studied Japanese, you may be confused by *desu*, *arimasu*, and *imasu*.
6. When you were studying a foreign language, what techniques or strategies did you find helpful in trying to learn or retain vocabulary?

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Activity 1. Learners' Language Needs and Vocabulary

Think of a specific group of students. State their purpose in learning English. Now think of a task that would be good for this group. Finally, what vocabulary would students need to complete this task. Remember to consider both vocabulary in the task and for the task.

Activity 2. Cognates: Friend or Foe?

What is a cognate? What is a false cognate? Choose one foreign language that many of your current or future students speak. Interview a speaker of that language and/or do an Internet search to come up with a list of at least fifty cognates and ten false cognates.

Activity 3. Phrasal Verbs

Because phrasal verbs are so common in English, it is important for you to understand what phrasal verbs are. Make a list of at least fifty phrasal verbs. Which five of these do you think are especially difficult for students to understand?

Activity 4. Idioms

Because idioms are so common in language, it is important for you to understand what idioms are. Make a list of at least fifty idioms. Which ten of these do you think are especially difficult for students to understand?

Activity 5. Collocations

Define collocation. Make a list of ten target words and list their common collocations. (You may consult a collocations dictionary for assistance.)

Activity 6. Frequent Vocabulary

You should teach frequently used vocabulary before less frequently used vocabulary. Answer these questions based on your own intuition. Then consult the General Service List on the Internet to verify your answers.

- a. Color Words: What are the three most commonly used color words (e.g., brown, blue, red)?
- b. Animal Names: What are the three most commonly used animal names?
- c. Days of the Week: What are the three most commonly used days of the week?
- d. Transportation: What are the three most commonly used transportation modes (e.g., car, taxi, bicycle)?