

## To The Student

*Vocabulary Mastery 1* will help you learn the vocabulary words that you will need to know in order to do well in your academic studies. These words come from the Academic Word List (Coxhead 2000). This list contains 570 words that are most commonly used in academic reading. These words may be different from the words you hear and use in your everyday life, but by learning these words along with a basic 2,000-word vocabulary, you will be able to understand more than 85 percent of your academic reading assignments. Here are some suggestions for using this text. Your teacher may have others.

1. Start by finding out how much vocabulary you already know by doing the Vocabulary Preview exercises in each unit.
2. Go over the list of words in the Word Study section of the unit, and cross out the words that you already know.
3. Use your dictionary to find the meanings of words you do not know. Write these in a vocabulary notebook or make vocabulary cards. (See How to Make Vocabulary Cards on page xv for some ideas.) By the time you finish this textbook, you will have your own academic learner dictionary or set of academic vocabulary cards.
4. Read the introduction and readings in the unit. Check your dictionary for words that are not listed on your vocabulary list that you need to know to understand the reading.
5. As you read, check to see whether you understand what you are reading. Ask yourself: Did I understand what I just read? Which sentence or word is giving me a problem? Why? What or who can help me understand this? Can I ask a classmate or my teacher to help me?
6. Answer the Comprehension Check questions, which will show you how well you have understood the introduction and readings. The questions here are answered with True or False. If you have trouble answering these questions you may want to reread the introduction and readings.
7. Once you feel like you understand the introduction and readings, do the activities in the Word Study section.
8. When you have finished all of the activities in the Word Study section, check your answers in the online Answer Key.

9. Reread the introduction and readings to find out if they have become easier to understand.
10. Use outside materials such as books, magazine articles, videos, and films to help you learn more about the topic in each unit. Your local library and the Internet are good places to find outside material. For example, the film *Apollo 13* might be a fun and interesting way to learn more about NASA and the Apollo Project.

Completing this textbook will help you to learn the words you need for academic success. Good luck in your studies!