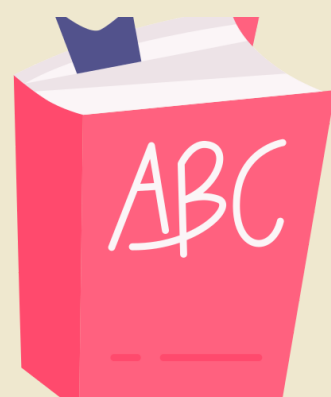


# LEARNING VOCABULARY



Comfortable reading/listening requires 95% recognition of words or 3,000 word families, while unassisted reading/listening needs 98% or 6,000 word families (listening) and 8,000 word families\* (reading). Building up this level of vocabulary takes time and effort. The following factors are key to successful vocabulary learning.

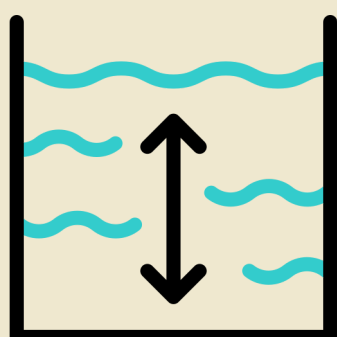
\* 8,000 word families = 34,000 words



## EXPOSURE

The more times you see/hear a word, the more likely you are to remember it. Increase exposure by:

- reading/listening as much as possible, to increase exposure to both familiar and unfamiliar words (**incidental learning**);
- selecting vocabulary to study e.g. using word lists, vocabulary books, or your own vocabulary notebook (**intentional learning**).



## DEPTH OF PROCESSING

The more effort you put in to studying new vocabulary, the more likely it is that you will remember it. This means:

- spending time looking up words in a dictionary;
- listening to teacher explanation;
- NOT relying on translation or glossary of a book.

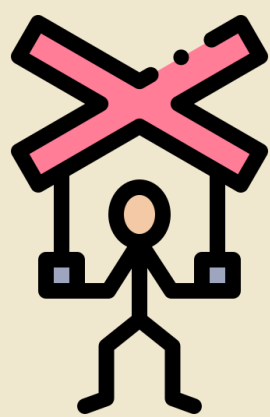


## INVOLVEMENT

The more involved you are with a word, the more likely you are to remember it. Involvement means:

- your need to study the word;
- your search for its meaning;
- your evaluation of the result.

Your involvement will be greater if the need to study the word comes from you (e.g. to understand a reading text) than if it comes from the teacher.



## MANIPULATION

New words are more easily remembered if you use them, for example in speaking or writing or in vocabulary exercises. Mistakes should be seen as learning opportunities.



## ATTENTION

You encounter new words all the time. Pay attention to them when reading or listening and make a note so you can study them later.



## TIME

Learning new vocabulary takes time. The more time you spend, the more you can learn.

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