

Learning the AWL Online

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Why Study Vocabulary?

- **Averil Coxhead:**

- “What’s the strongest argument for persuading students to spend at least some time on direct vocabulary learning?”

- **Paul Nation:**

- “The best way to convince learners is to give them a little bit of instruction about how to do it and then make them do it.”

Why Study Vocabulary?

- **Paul Nation**

- “The effectiveness of the results of such learning is the most convincing argument.”

- **Direct study brings “spectacular rates of learning.”**

- **bit.ly/nationinterview**

Overview

- **Introduce a new website for studying vocabulary.**
 - **KeyVocab.com**
 - **Featuring the AWL.**

What is the AWL?

- **The Academic Word List.**
- **Developed by Averil Coxhead for her MA thesis.**
 - **570 Word families.**
 - **Help prepare students for college.**
 - **Selected by principles.**

AWL Principles: Range

- **Where do AWL word families come from?**
 - **Academic Corpus: Arts, Commerce, Law, and Science**
 - **94% of the words occur in 20 or more of the 28 subject areas.**
 - **Useful for all learners in all subject areas.**

28 Subject Areas

94% of the words occur in 20 or more of the 28 subject areas.

Arts	Commerce	Law	Science
Education	Accounting	Constitutional Law	Biology
History	Economics	Criminal Law	Chemistry
Linguistics	Finance	Family Law and Medico-Legal	Computer Science
Philosophy	Industrial Relations	International Law	Geography
Politics	Management	Pure Commercial Law	Geology
Psychology	Marketing	Quasi-Commercial Law	Mathematics
Sociology	Public Policy	Rights and Remedies	Physics

AWL Principles: Frequency

- How frequent are the AWL words?
 - AWL word families occur over 100 times in the 3,500,000 Academic Corpus.
 - We will see these words in academic texts.

AWL Principles: Uniformity

- **How are AWL word families distributed?**
 - **AWL families occur a minimum of 10 times in each area of the Academic Corpus.**
 - **It's useful for all learners.**

AWL Principles: Misc.

- **Assume knowledge of the GSL.**
 - **Narrow range words excluded.**
 - **Proper nouns excluded.**
 - **Latin forms excluded.**

Why Use It?

- The GSL give us 80% coverage.
- The AWL is the fastest way to 90% coverage.
 - “The good news is the 2000 list and the AWL together, a combined list of 2570 words, can bring the coverage of an academic text up to approximately 90%.”
- Tom Cobb, <lextutor.ca/research>

Why Use It?

- **Incidental learning happens, but...**
 - **It's less probable after the top 2000.**
 - **After the top 2000, words appear less.**
 - **This is a key argument for direct vocab study.**

Volume & Incidental Learning

Rob Waring, 2007

Volume of Words Need to Read with Recurrence Rates						Meet 20 Times	Word Count
Rank	Word	1	5	10	20	in a Book	of Books
1	the	17	86	171	343		
50	like	225	1,127	2,253	4,506	1.8 Books	4,500
500	present	4,037	20,183	40,366	80,732	17.9 Books	4,500
1000	blood	8,533	42,665	85,329	170,658	17.1 Books	10,000
1500	intent	14,773	73,864	147,727	295,455	19.7 Books	15,000
2000	stumble	23,103	115,625	231,250	462,500	23.1 Books	20,000
3000	sergeant	47,343	236,713	473,425	946,850	31.6 Books	30,000
5000	satellite	132,143	660,714	1,321,429	2,642,857	33.0 Books	80,000

AWL Online: Problems

- So, studying the AWL is good, but...
- Many sites use it poorly.
 - Words are presented out of context.
 - Context is harder than AWL target words.

Typical Problem

- Not including target words, over 10% of context is off list (GSL) or part of the AWL.
- This is from a top Google ranked AWL site.

he did an of the way children learn language for his master thesis
he was arrested for drunk driving because he had drunk more than the limit of alcohol
the culture of the united states is quite to that of canada
the canadian is largely based on natural resources
environmental pollution seems to be an important in the increase in cancers all over the world
the apartment will be on june first
the young popstar became famous while still in high school after winning a with a major record label
your continued lateness for class to me that you are not really a very serious student
living in berlin during the when the berlin wall was torn down was an unforgettable experience
some into second language learning suggests that oral fluency may increase with moderate amounts of alcohol

KeyVocab.com Solution

- Almost all context words are in the GSL top 1000.
- The rest are in the GSL top 2000.
- Only target words come from the AWL.

mary is a student she always gets good results
farm workers about number one tenth of the population
the actor words were taken out of
the player signed a million dollar
his strong words will further problems
we need to put the correct in our system
if you know a word you can it clearly
martha can great pleasure from listening to music
before dying he will his wealth to his children
the in the state of california is growing fast

Other Details

- We use a WordPress plugin called mTouch Quiz
- The author is G. Michael Guy, Professor of Mathematics at Queensborough Community College.
- gmichaelguy.com/quizplugin
- Our version is customized and allows for bulk uploading of quizzes and reporting.

AWL Solution: KeyVocab.com

- **AWL quizzes online.**
- **Well-written, easy to parse sentences.**
 - **Actors as subjects. Actions in verbs.**
 - **All context comes from the GSL.**

KeyVocab.com

- **19 Short quizzes, 30 words each.**
- **PC and Mobile.**
- **Japanese hints (toggle on/off)**
- **Free!**
 - Some AdSense.
 - Clearly delineated.

Other Content

- **Vocabulary Tips.**
 - **Free PDF of Vocabulary Learning Tips.**
 - **bit.ly/20WordTips**
 - **Short Instructional Videos.**

www.keyvocab.com

Get the key words for the big tests at KeyVocab.com

KEY VOCAB (JAPANESE HINTS)

HOMEINFOKEY VOCAB (JAPANESE HINTS)VOCAB TIPS

Get the key words for the big tests at KeyVocab.com


Learn these words first!

YOU MUST KNOW THESE WORDS
TO GET A GOOD TOEIC SCORE!

It's a good idea to learn the words from the Academic Word List first before you start learning less common academic words. You will need these words for context when you learn less common words. See the video for more information.

Read More...

Click for Vocab Quiz 1A (Japanese Hints)



With Quiz 1A, you will test your knowledge of the first 30 words of the famous Academic Word List. Give it a try! See what you can do. Click the "Start" button to begin.

Read More...

Click for Vocab Quiz 1B (Japanese Hints)

Tip! Review your word
cards till you remember.




With Quiz 1B, you will test your knowledge of 30 words you must know for the TOEIC, TOEFL, or IELTS tests. Give it a try! See what you can do. Click the "Start" button to begin.

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翻訳の注文って、
こんなに簡単なんだ。



今すぐ発注

gengo

3分で英語が聞き取れる？


10万人の生徒のリスニングを最速で
上達させた秘密の方法とは？

聞き取りたい

KeyVocab on Facebook

Keyvocab

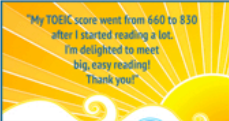
23 people like Keyvocab.



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"My TOEIC score went from 660 to 830
after I started reading a lot.
I'm delighted to meet
big, easy reading!
Thank you!"



Screen Shots

With Quiz 1A, you will test your knowledge of the first 30 words of the famous Academic Word List. Give it a try! See what you can do. **Click the “Start” button to begin.**

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Start



**Tip! Make word cards
for new words!**

Screen Shots

With Quiz 1A, you will test your knowledge of the first 30 words of the famous Academic Word List. Give it a try! See what you can do. **Click the “Start” button to begin.**

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Question 1

Free information is ___ on the Internet.

[Show hint](#)

- A** delicious
- B** available
- C** early
- D** urgent

There are 30 questions to complete.

List



Screen Shots

With Quiz 1A, you will test your knowledge of the first 30 words of the famous Academic Word List. Give it a try! See what you can do. **Click the "Start" button to begin.**

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Question 1

Free information is ___ on the Internet.利用できる

[Hide hint](#)

A delicious

B available

C early

D urgent

There are 30 questions to complete.

List



Screen Shots

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Question 1

Free information is ___ on the Internet.利用できる

[Hide hint](#)

- A** delicious
- ✓** available
- C** early
- D** urgent

GOOD!

You have completed 1/30 questions .
Your score is 100%.

List



Screen Shots

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Question 2

The player signed a million dollar ___. 契約書

[Hide hint](#)

- A** career
- B** team
- X** rule
- D** contract

WOOPS!

You have completed 1/30 questions .
Your score is 50%.



List



Screen Shots

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Return

Shaded items are complete.

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
End				

Return

Screen Shots

Word List. Give it a try! See what you can do. **Click the "Start" button to begin.**

AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)

Question 29

Lori knows about ___ and money matters. 財政管理

[Hide hint](#)



finance



pocket



sleep



economy

WOOPS!

You have completed 26/30 questions .

Your score is 89%.



List



Screen Shots

Congratulations - you have completed *AWL List 1A (Japanese Hints)*. You scored 27 out of 30. Your performance has been rated as **Good work!**


Your answers are highlighted below.

Question 1

Free information is ___ on the Internet.利用できる

[Hide hint](#)

 delicious

 available

 early

 urgent

GOOD!

List



Future

- **Tracking.**
- **Email results to users.**
- **Hints for other languages.**
 - **GSL Checker.**
 - **Yes, No Questions, including false words.**
 - **Mail unknown GSL words.**

Thank You

- Thank you for coming today.
- For a copy of this presentation, please visit:
 - www.ilinguist.net
 - bit.ly/20WordTips
 - editor@beeoasis.com