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The effect of using test-outs and assigned activities on the vocabulary achievements of sixth grade students

Kathy E. Gueltzow

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THE EFFECT OF USING TEST-OUTS AND ASSIGNED
ACTIVITIES ON THE VOCABULARY
ACHIEVEMENTS OF SIXTH
GRADE STUDENTS

by

Kathy E. Gueltzow

A RESEARCH PAPER
SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
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1978

This research paper has been
approved for the Graduate Committee
of Cardinal Stritch College by

Sister Marie Colette
(Adviser)

Date May 1, 1978

DEDICATION

This research paper is dedicated to my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald J. Fischer, who taught me the value of education, perseverance, and a job well-done, and to my husband, Gary, who has endured two months of physical separation so that the completion of this paper was possible.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

With each new concept or activity developed, a way to express that concept or activity is a must with man. Verbal communication is a peculiar distinction of man. It sets him off from all other life forms on earth. This may account for the excitement felt when a child utters his first word. At that point a child has taken a giant step toward socialization. For those words to become verbal communication, meaning must accompany them. Meaning comes from experiences--experiences in which a child is actively involved whether it be intellectually, emotionally, physically or any combination of the three.

This paper will deal with students obtaining meaning primarily through physical/intellectual experiences. The following two questions will be answered.

1. Do students retain words after having had experiences with their meanings?
2. Do the kinds of experience(s) a student has with a word's meaning influence the retention of that meaning?

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RESEARCH

How important is a "good" vocabulary?

An individual's total vocabulary consists of both his quantitative and qualitative general vocabulary as well as his special and technical vocabulary and his working knowledge of common English words used as specific terms. A teacher should realize that words are units of thought without which a child can neither read nor write.¹ It is in the area of "meaning" that reading departs from being a skill oriented activity and becomes an intellectual growth activity.²

Langer conducted a study in which he reached three conclusions concerning vocabulary. First, a study of abstract words that have several meanings resulted in an increase in the mean IQ for fourth and fifth graders at the .01 level of significance. Second, direct instruction in defining abstract words that have several

¹W. H. Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction: ERIC/RCS Report," Reading Teacher 27 (January 1974): 428-30.

²M. O. Holt, "Reading to Learn," Clearing House 43 (January 1969): 267-71.

meanings seemed to be an effective means of developing skill in the association of ideas. Third, abilities gained in using abstract terms apparently permitted pupils to make more effective and more meaningful associations with the general ideas to be manipulated in verbal tests of general ability.¹

Draper and Moeller also conducted a study in which a positive relationship between vocabulary and achievements and IQs was concluded. The study involved giving middle grade students of St. Louis both the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills and the Lorge-Thorndike IQ Test. The tests were followed with a nine month radio vocabulary program. After the program the students were tested again with achievements being above expectations and an increase in IQs.²

Hasluck contributes several factors to having a good vocabulary. She begins with the idea that until a child can read he cannot progress in his education. Reading to Hasluck involves learning to understand exactly what the words mean, and she adds the sentiment that the earlier this happens the better. Hasluck states:

If children are taught the exact meanings of words,

¹J. H. Langer, "Better Abstract Vocabulary: Higher Intelligence Quotient," Elementary School Journal 68 (December 1967): 157-61.

²A. G. Draper and G. H. Moeller, "We Think with Words: St. Louis Vocabulary Developmental Project," Phi Delta Kappan 52 (April 1971): 482-84.

taught to look them up, to define them, when they grow up they will not be easily deceived by words used in the commercial world."¹

She feels that the study of exact meanings and how to apply them will help develop a critical approach which will in turn lead to the objective interpretation of newspapers and television. Hasluck concludes her article with:

I am inclined to state that the modern slackness in the use of words and knowledge of their meaning is in part due to the lack of knowledge of the way to form a sentence properly.²

Pflaum relates the expansion of a meaning vocabulary to four factors: 1) the ability to comprehend is equal to the ability to understand vocabulary; 2) word meaning is an important factor in reading ability; 3) readability level is determined by word difficulty; 4) vocabulary knowledge is strongly related with measures of general knowledge.³

Four other authors made mention of Pflaum's first factor. Harris states that a high correlation exists between meaningful vocabulary and reading comprehension.⁴ Karbal calls vocabulary the main component of reading

¹Alexandra Hasluck, "First Things First: Know Thy Words," The Reading Teacher 25 (December 1971): 233.

²Ibid., p. 235.

³Susanna W. Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary: Strategies for Classroom Instruction," Elementary English 50 (January 1973): 89-93.

⁴Albert J. Harris, "Key Factors in a Successful Reading Program," Elementary English 46 (January 1969): 69-76.

comprehension.¹ Pace and Golinkoff state that, "Though meaning comes from more than the meaning of individual words, the ability to extract meaning from single printed words may be a critical component of reading comprehension."² "Comprehension does not depend on vocabulary itself, but on the ideas the vocabulary represents," states Langer. He therefore concludes that vocabulary and reading comprehension are closely associated.³

Langer and Linville dealt with reading ability as related to vocabulary. Linville found that both syntax and vocabulary are determiners of the difficulty encountered with verbal arithmetic problems, but he felt vocabulary could be more crucial in determining success than syntax.⁴ Langer feels that an increase in a pupil's precision in handling and manipulating words and the concepts that words represent should result in improvement of

¹Harold T. Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," Elementary English 52 (March 1975): 367-69.

²Ann Jaffe Pace and Roberta Michnick Golinkoff, "Relationship Between Word Difficulty and Access of Single-Word Meaning by Skilled and Less Skilled Readers," Journal of Educational Psychology 68 (December 1976): 761.

³J. H. Langer, "Vocabulary and Concepts: Essentials in the Reading-Thinking Process," Elementary School Journal 69 (April 1969): 381-85.

⁴William J. Linville, "Syntax, Vocabulary, and the Verbal Arithmetic Problem," School Science and Mathematics 76 (February 1976): 152-58.

the reading and thinking process.¹

Karbal states that vocabulary improvement is a pivotal factor of test scores.² The study by Langer and the study by Draper and Moeller, both of which have been described earlier, also attest to the positive relationship between vocabulary knowledge and test scores.³ Also related to this idea is the statement made by Dale and Milligan that accurate concept formation and maximum learning take place through the understanding of vocabulary terms.⁴ All of these statements correlate with Pflaum's fourth point concerning the positive relationship between vocabulary knowledge and measures of general knowledge.

In concluding this section the author wishes to quote two more writers. Lake conducted a study which concluded that the exact meanings of many words correlates with success more often than any other measurable factor. This is true in every type of work from the highest position to the lowest position.⁵

¹Langer, "Vocabulary and Concepts: Essentials in the Reading-Thinking Process," pp. 381-85.

²Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," pp. 367-69.

³Draper and Moeller, "St. Louis Vocabulary Development Project," pp. 482-84.

⁴E. L. Dale and J. L. Milligan, "Techniques in Vocabulary Development," Reading Improvement 7 (Spring 1970): 1-5, 13.

⁵M. L. Lake, "First Aid for Vocabularies," Elementary English 44 (November 1967): 783-84.

The importance of vocabulary--words and their meanings-- can best be shown by Dohan's statement, "A stranger learning our words and their meanings would know more about us than he could from reading a thousand books."¹

How useful are context clues?

Askov and Kamm feel that context clues are the main route for students to comprehend strange words.² Usova states that context clues are a major self-help technique. He feels that it is not desirable nor important to look up every word because only a rough meaning of a word is usually necessary for understanding. Usova further emphasizes this point by stating, "A stilted definition is not as important as meaning in context."³ Deighton agrees with Usova by saying, "Meaning comes from experience not a dictionary."⁴ Shankman indicates his feelings about context and vocabulary by reporting that though games are incentive for learning vocabulary, they should not be used until the students have

¹Mary Helen Dohan, "Unlocking Our Word Hoard," American Education 12 (October 1976): 13.

²Eunice Askov and Karlyn Kamm, "Context Clues: Should We Teach Children to Use a Classification System in Reading?," Journal of Educational Research 69 (May 1976): 341-44.

³George M. Usova, "Improving Vocabulary Through Wide Reading and Context," Reading Improvement 14 (Spring 1977): 62.

⁴Lee C. Deighton, Vocabulary Development in the Classroom, (New York: Bureau of Publications Teachers College Columbia University, 1959), V.

met words in a meaningful situation.¹ Rupley completes his article with "...the utility of given words in numerous contexts should be emphasized."²

Three authors gave special emphasis to the use of words in context to develop vocabulary. Draper and Moeller stated that after words were discussed, the reading teacher was to use the words in context as students followed in their own books. Review words were also used in narratives, therefore, they appeared frequently in various narrative contexts including regular textbooks. Classroom teachers were alerted to the need to review the meanings as words were encountered in other contexts.³ Hirsch and Lewinger reported the use of context clues by presenting students with a group of sentences in which a single word was repeated but with a different meaning in each case. The students were required to match the correct meaning with the correct sentence. In another activity of Hirsch's and Lewinger's the students were required to use the word in a sentence accurately which allowed for any misunderstanding to be corrected immediately.⁴ Dodson simply states that the most effective method of learning meanings of words is context

¹Florence V. Shankman, "Games Reinforce Reading Skills," Reading Teacher 22 (December 1968): 262-64.

²Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p.430.

³Draper and Moeller, "St. Louis Vocabulary Developmental Project," pp. 482-84.

⁴Ruth Hirsch and Miriam Lewinger, "Words to Grow On," Teacher 92 (February 1975): 72-77.

coupled with the student using the word.¹

Deighton contends that context always determines meaning but infrequently reveals meaning. He explains further that context cannot be said to reveal meaning unless there is a clear-cut connection between the word and those which illuminate it. Also related to the extent context reveals meaning is the experience of the reader. From this Deighton developed three conditions which affect the effectiveness of context in revealing meaning:

1. Previous experience of the reader
2. Proximity of the enlightening context to the unfamiliar word
3. The clearness of the connection between the context and the word it bears upon²

Deighton also developed four general principles of context operation.

1. Context reveals the meaning of unfamiliar words only infrequently
2. Context generally reveals only one of the meanings of an unfamiliar word
3. Context seldom clarifies the whole of any meaning
4. Vocabulary growth through context revelation is a gradual matter³

According to Askov and Kamm, instruction in context clues using a classification scheme improves student performance and maintenance, therefore, context clues are usually presented by types or categories.⁴ Deighton

¹M. K. Dodson, "Context Approach to Vocabulary Study," Reading Improvement 8 (Fall 1971): 49-51.

²Deighton, Vocabulary Development in the Classroom, p. 2.

³Ibid., pp. 2-3.

⁴Askov and Kamm, "Context Clues," pp. 341-44.

indicates six such categories. The first is definition in which the unknown is equated by a form of the verb "be". Example is the second and is usually indicated by a signal word or phrase like such as, such, especially, for example, and so forth. The third is modifiers which come in the form of phrases, clauses, or even single words. Restatement, which is used more frequently than those above, involves such signal words as: in other words, that is, to put it another way, and so forth and mechanical devices like the parenthesis, dash, or comma is the fourth category. The fifth is inference which requires the reader to see relationships not explicitly stated. Lastly is inference through established connections which involves parallel sentence structure, the repetition of key words, the use of connecting words like however, yet, therefore, similarly, and so forth or restatement through the repetition of thought or by a statement of opposites.¹

Deighton feels that the first four types of context clues are responsible for revealing half of the meanings of unknown words and the last two types reveal the other half of the meanings of unknown words.²

Other authors have also constructed lists of types of context clues. Dodson's list of common context clues

¹Deighton, Vocabulary Development in the Classroom, pp. 6-15.

²Ibid., p. 16.

includes definition, contrast, examples, key words, and summarizing phrases or sentences.¹ Definition, comparison or contrast, synonym, familiar expression or language experience, summary, and reflection of mood or situation are included in Smith's list of context clues.² Askov and Kamm list only three categories of context clues-- cause-effect, direct description, and contrast.³

Though Sturdevant feels negative towards vocabulary lists, he also states that the concept of studying words in context is not always workable either. It is hard to obtain suitable material and often impractical or un-aesthetic to focus on the vocabulary in a work and at the same time maintain the continuity of the thought. He states, "Vocabulary study must be pursued in a systematic way and that the follow-up to the reading is the real catalyst in the process of in-context word power building."⁴

Bruland agrees that the use of context clues is necessary for deriving meaning without using outside time-consuming sources. He also feels though that the context clues are often not there or inaccurate, that the student

¹Dodson, "Context Approach to Vocabulary Study," pp. 49-51.

²Richard J. Smith, "Intermediate Grades Reading Program: Questions Teachers and Principals Ask," Elementary English 49 (March 1972): 364-68.

³Askov and Kamm, "Context Clues," pp.341-44.

⁴J. R. Sturdevant, "Shaw's Don Juan in Hell: A Study in Word Power," English Journal 57 (October 1968): 1002-4.

must know when to use them, and that it's essential the student know how to use the language of a subject to derive meaning for unknown words.¹

What is needed to develop vocabulary?

Vocabulary development is one of the more difficult areas of reading instruction for both the teacher and the pupil. In the concern to improve the quality of reading, vocabulary development has been neglected; in the zeal to teach pronunciation, the teaching of meaning has been neglected.² Karbal states, "Vocabulary development gets high priority but not the emphasis it deserves."³ Rupley and Karbal feel that part of the problem stems from deciding which words to teach and how to present them.⁴

Bruland gives two guidelines to picking vocabulary words. First, the student must be able to associate concepts he already knows with the words he is being asked to learn.⁵ Karbal agrees with Bruland by stating, "Relating new words to the experiences of children is the

¹Richard A. Bruland, "Learnin' Words: Evaluating Vocabulary Development Efforts," Journal of Reading 18 (December 1974): 212-14.

²Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," pp. 428-30.

³Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," p. 368.

⁴Ibid.

Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 430.

⁵Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p.213.

secret of vocabulary development."¹ Bruland's second guideline is that the student must see a need to learn the words he is being asked to learn. In other words, the student will be using or have a need to use the words in other ways and other contexts than he is being taught.² Cohen suggests that great emphasis should be placed on a child's natural interests when seeking words to develop.³ Peterson showed that words which were picked by the subject to learn were learned more rapidly than words selected by the teacher and that in the absence of self-selection, emotional words are learned more rapidly than non-emotional words.⁴ Pflaum states that the most appropriate terms to be analyzed are the key words from subject matter units.⁵ Rupley indicates agreement with Pflaum on this point when he states, "It is important that teachers develop both the general and special vocabulary for reading in content areas."⁶ Johnson points

¹Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," p. 369.

²Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p. 213.

³Dorothy A. Cohen, "Finding and Using Children's Clues to Clarify Meanings," Childhood Education 45 (October 1968): 61-64.

⁴Candida C. Peterson, "Self-Selection of Vocabulary in Reading Instruction," Journal of Educational Research 67 (February 1974): 253-54.

⁵Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary," p. 90.

⁶Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 429.

out the necessity to go beyond the textbook in his statement, "Vocabulary in schoolbooks is narrow and self-perpetuating. . . . Word lists should be language reflective rather than exclusively schoolbook reflective."¹ Dale and Milligan summarize the ideas presented by stating that learning must have a purpose and that purpose must have relevance to the student.²

All basal readers contain lists of vocabulary words which students will encounter in their advancement through the series. The recent changes in basal readers has included the area of vocabulary. For a while there existed the widespread practice of using cobasal readers to enrich and supplement learning. Olson suggests that this practice may do more harm than good because of the great differences which exist in the vocabulary of any two basal readers.³ Rodenborn and Washburn support Olson by reporting that basal readers have abandoned a controlled vocabulary, therefore, there has been a marked increase in the total number of words because not all words are taught directly. This also means that new words are not necessarily repeated. Rodenborn and Washburn conclude

¹Dale D. Johnson, "Word Lists That Make Sense . . . And Those That Don't," Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Reading Association, New Orleans, May, 1974.

²Dale and Milligan, "Techniques in Vocabulary Development," p. 13.

³Arthur V. Olson, "Vocabulary Problems Inherent in Basal Readers," Education 86 (February 1966): 350-51.

that basal series no longer share a commonality of core words, making it difficult for a child to go from one series to another.¹ Rupley feels that the whole concept of a core vocabulary should be rethought due to the rapid change in our language and society.²

There are two faces to the question of using the structural approach in vocabulary development. Dale and Milligan feel that a strong basis for a structural approach can be seen in that 24% of all words in Thorndike's Teachers' Word Book of 20,000 Words have prefixes and fifteen prefixes account for 82% of these. They also reported that fourteen words contained the structural elements found in 14,000 relatively common words. According to Dale and Milligan word analysis or structural approach should:

1. Explore the meanings of common affixes and root words
2. Develop the ability to use words or word elements to determine the meaning of unknown words
3. Provide skills necessary to divide words into meaningful parts
4. Provide word analysis skills which can transfer to all school subjects
5. Arouse a permanent interest in words, derivations, roots, and how words are coined³

¹Leo V. Rodenborn and Earlene Washburn, "Some Implications of the New Basal Readers," Elementary English 51 (September 1974): 885-88.

²Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 428.

³Dale and Milligan, "Techniques in Vocabulary Development," pp. 1-5.

Weintraub agrees with Dale and Milligan's feelings about structural analysis and states that findings support the study of root words as a means of vocabulary growth.¹

Deighton does not speak as highly of structural analysis as Dale and Milligan. He comments on the difficulty of figuring out meaning from the study and knowledge of root words because only literal meaning is given. Most words have larger and more involved meanings than the sum of the parts would lead one to deduce. Word-analysis would give only a single meaning for a word. Deighton does, though, list certain affixes and combining forms with fixed and invariant meanings that would clue a reader into some general ideas concerning the meaning of a word.²

Rupley feels that students learn words individually and in relation to personal conceptual systems, therefore, vocabulary instruction should be viewed as concept building.³ Pflaum expands on this idea. She describes two types of concept acquisition--horizontal and vertical. Horizontal acquisition involves concepts which at first are only understood vaguely--not all attributes are present and some attributes are present which will be abandoned later.

¹S. Weintraub, "Development of Meaning Vocabulary in Reading," Reading Teacher 22 (November 1968): 171-75.

²Deighton, Vocabulary Development in the Classroom, pp. 17-32.

³Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 429.

Vertical acquisition means that the person already has a categorical understanding of a related group of concepts so that a new member of the group is acquired with its full complement of attributes.¹

Pflaum's strategies for the acquisition of new vocabulary items include:

1. A climate which encourages vocabulary extension
2. Attention to meaning as well as pronunciation
3. Natural use of the dictionary
4. Explicit techniques for full use of context clues
5. Affix study
6. Study of word derivation
7. Periodical review
8. Charts and the development of individual student dictionaries²

Harris lists five conditions to stimulate vocabulary growth.

1. Provide real experiences
2. Teacher must provide an abundance of illustrations of curriculum basic concepts
3. Wide reading
4. Teaching efficient use of the dictionary
5. Stimulation of interests in words and their meanings through games and contests³

Karbal states that vocabulary must be introduced in meaningful ways which involve the use of methods which catch students' attention and will help them retain the meanings. He mentions such methods as a picture, drawing, or the actual object when introducing the vocabulary word,

¹Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary," p. 90.

²Ibid., pp. 89-90.

³Harris, "Key Factors in a Successful Reading Program," pp. 69-76.

illustrating action words with stick figures or dramatization.¹

Rupley in commenting on the oral development of vocabulary lists two don'ts and three do's. The don'ts include not correcting grammar or pronunciation and not relying on nonverbal gestures in giving instructions. Establishing a way to relate to children by speaking to them in a natural tone, conversing with children rather than lecturing to them, and stimulating children to think by using divergent questioning are the three do's in developing oral vocabulary.²

Pflaum also developed some strategies for the development of in-depth knowledge of known words. Her general comments on the subject include the caution not to exceed the cognitive level of students. In order for terms to become true members of a student's vocabulary, inductive learning should be applied to extend the understanding of those terms.³ Bruland feels that repeated exposure is needed to acquire multiple meanings and shades of meaning. Meanings are not taught but acquired by association.⁴

¹Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," pp. 367-69.

²Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 430.

³Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary," pp. 90-93.

⁴Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p. 213.

Morris believes that the chief problem concerning the development of vocabulary is to excite students' curiosity and interest in English. One traditional approach has been the tracing of the histories of words, but Morris believes that exercises closer to the students' own range of interest are better.¹

Sturdevant, Usova, and Dale and Milligan condemn the use of vocabulary word lists. Sturdevant states that vocabulary lists are a semiuseless throwback to a darker era of English instruction. He calls them artificial, tedious, ineffective, and based on an unsound principle. He further emphasizes that words studied out of context are not retained.² Usova commented on the practice of giving students a list of words to look up the meanings of on Monday followed by a test on Friday. He states three reasons for this practice's ineffectiveness.

1. No follow-up is involved
2. No pressure exists to utilize newly learned words in everyday speech
3. Teacher selected words may not be readily meaningful³

Dale and Milligan state that giving lists of words to be looked up is both inefficient and ineffective besides

¹W. Morris, "Dictionary as a Tool in Vocabulary Development Programs," English Journal 59 (May 1970): 669-71.

²Sturdevant, "Shaw's Don Juan in Hell," p. 1002.

³Usova, "Improving Vocabulary Through Wide Reading and Context," pp. 62-64.

being boring and tedious.¹

Deighton suggests five procedures as providing a framework for the instruction of vocabulary.

1. English based words
2. Words in combination
3. Synonym
4. Antonyms and contrasting words
5. Derivations²

Five authors mentioned the importance of reading to developing vocabulary. Bruland states that word sense can be richly developed through wide reading.³ Much reading leads to a growing knowledge of words, according to Lake.⁴ Usova claims that wide reading is a great improver of vocabulary.⁵ Rupley feels that students should be carefully introduced to the best stories written today to rekindle in them an interest in words and reading.⁶ As previously mentioned, Harris included wide reading as one of his conditions to stimulate vocabulary development.⁷

¹Dale and Milligan, "Techniques in Vocabulary Development," p. 2.

²Deighton, Vocabulary Development in the Classroom, pp. 33-41.

³Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p. 214.

⁴Lake, "First Aid for Vocabularies," p. 783.

⁵Usova, "Improving Vocabulary Through Wide Reading and Context," p. 62.

⁶Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 430.

⁷Harris, "Key Factors in a Successful Reading Program," pp. 69-76.

Vocabulary Programs

Bruland begins by stating that it is a total school obligation to create the conditions for vocabulary development.¹ Dale and Milligan emphasize the point by stating that vocabulary development is the concern of all teachers because it is crucial to learning. They also feel that teachers should provide practice for term usage in regard not only to their own subject but also to other subjects and contexts.²

The need for a formal program of vocabulary development is emphasized by four authors. Dale and Milligan mention the need for continued systematic attention by all classroom teachers.³ Weintraub reports that reading alone is not as effective in promoting the learning of new words as direct instruction.⁴ A formalized, structured vocabulary development program is highly desirable according to Rupley.⁵ Pflaum feels that an instructional program is important and should contain two aspects-- the new vocabulary terms which is the most obvious and

¹Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p. 212.

²Dale and Milligan, "Techniques in Vocabulary Development," pp. 42-43.

³Ibid.

⁴Weintraub, "Development of Meaning Vocabulary in Reading," p. 171.

⁵Rupley, "Vocabulary Development and Instruction," p. 430.

the extension of meaning which is just as important.¹

Bruland criticizes commercial programs. He feels that they are missing the element of developing words which are a part of the student's immediate language environment. Bruland states that most vocabulary is acquired incidentally not through the use of context clues or direct teaching.²

The vocabulary programs reported by the author are arranged from the one with the most available information to the one with the least available information.

Hirsch and Lewinger

The first program that will be presented was reported by Hirsch and Lewinger.³ The program begins the first day of school and is carried on to the last day of school. Graded vocabulary lists are not used because the particular words selected are not thought to matter as much as the word-consciousness which is being encouraged. Though there is no way of measuring if words are taken with the students from the classroom, the students do develop a zest for words.

The first day of school is spent in using strategies which will make the children word-conscious. Large charts

¹Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary," p. 90.

²Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p.214.

³Hirsch and Lewinger, "Words to Grow On," pp. 72-77.

are filled with student supplied words. The first three categories involve "people" words (adjectives), words describing how people move (verbs), and words that can be used instead of the word "said". The charts are later duplicated and given to each child to keep in his notebook as a handy thesaurus.

The program centers around an activity called the "Daily Warm-Up". Each morning an activity like the one which follows is placed on the board.

Everyone agreed that the witch in the story was malevolent.

1. Guess the meaning of the underlined word
2. Find the appropriate dictionary meaning
3. Write the phonetic respelling and practice pronouncing the word
4. What part of speech is it?
5. Use the word in an original sentence
6. Would you rather have a malevolent or benevolent teacher? How would a benevolent teacher behave?

The first thing the student is to do concerning the warm-up word is to record it on a 3x5 card for his personal file. Teachers make a display in the classroom of all warm-up words. The six activities listed below the warm-up sentence are done in complete sentences in the students' notebooks. A "We Care" is stamped on the top of the page of those who begin their work as soon as they enter the room. As soon as everyone is finished, immediate feedback is given in the form of a discussion of the six activities. After the discussion each child is to write the correct meaning of the word and a sentence containing the word on the back of the index card containing the word.

Warm-ups are used by the teacher to emphasize the skills and concepts that are going to be taught or reviewed on any given day. It is suggested that context clues be stressed first. The teacher should vary the format of the sample warm-up sentence--definition, use of examples, contrast, details or hints. Approximately four new words are learned each week.

The six activities following the warm-up sentence are discussed extensively following the completion of those activities by all students. During the discussion of activity one, "guess the meaning," the students must justify their answers. This leads to a marked improvement in the skill and logic the students applied. Students used both context clues and structural analysis. At this point a chart is constructed and labeled "The Prefix 'Mal' Means Bad". Words which were discovered by the students throughout the year and fit the pattern were added to the chart. Students placed other words with the same prefix in their own dictionaries. Activity two, "find appropriate dictionary definition," requires the teaching and review of important skills such as alphabetizing, use of guide words, ability to select from multiple meanings and so forth. Three levels of dictionaries are available--intermediate, high school, and college. Activity three, "copy phonetic spelling and practice pronunciation," is enjoyed by the students because it's similiar to cracking a code. Frequent attention is paid to the pronunciation

key located in the front of each dictionary and with daily practice the students became quite proficient. Activity four, "part of speech," involves teaching the parts of speech using linguistic methods. The form of a word is frequently a clue to its part of speech. Large charts are constructed with titles such as "Words that end with the suffix 'ity' are nouns." The students throughout the year add appropriate words to the chart. Another clue to this activity is the location of the word in the sentence and the facts that a noun can be made into a plural and a verb changes tense. Students are always directed to look at the way a word is used in the sentence before deciding on its part of speech and then verify their decision with the dictionary. Activity five, "use the word in an original sentence," requires the student to use the word accurately and allows for any misunderstanding to be corrected immediately. Activity six, "a question is posed to the student involving the word," makes the word a part of the student's experiences, requires critical thinking and organization to write a coherent answer. Activity six is open-ended.

Besides the six follow-up activities to the warm-up sentence, there are other activities/accomplishments which stem from the follow-up activities. Word etymology develops naturally from the research students do on the etymology of their own names. Dictionary-making is introduced with the warm-up sentence, "If you were lexico-

graphers, how would you decide which words to include in your dictionary?" At this time dialects and slang are discussed. Students work together to compile a slang dictionary. Each student picks his favorite slang words and defines them in appropriate dictionary style. Each student must also work out the phonetic respelling for each slang word and decide on its part of speech. The cards containing the preceding information are collected from the students, definitions are checked, and lastly the information is recopied. The complete dictionary is duplicated and distributed to the students. From this, other specialized dictionaries--baseball, football, ballet--are undertaken by the students. The "Dictionary Game" is also played. Students are asked to create a definition which sounds like a real definition for an unfamiliar word. The students must also give the pronunciation, part of speech, and examples of how to use the word according to their definition. This information is collected, read, and students vote for the correct definition. "Concentration" is also played and helps the students do well on the weekly vocabulary quiz. A bulletin board titled, "Words in Action" is also constructed. The bulletin board contains word spotter citations. Students scan newspapers and novels, and listen closely to television newscasters, friends, and family members to catch the use of a warm-up word. Citation slips are used to record the source of and context in which the warm-up word was used.

These slips are then placed on the bulletin board. A variety of writing assignments are given concerning the "Words in Action" bulletin board because new words must be used or they'll be forgotten. To remind students of the importance of using new words the "Words in Action" bulletin board contains the quote, "Use a word at least five times and it's yours."

St. Louis Vocabulary Development Program

Draper and Moeller reported on a vocabulary program developed for the middle-grade students of St. Louis.¹ Middle-grade students are used because vocabulary gains are of special importance in the fourth grade as content books are being used which contain vocabulary words that have little or no connection with the vocabulary being taught in the reader. To begin, the students were given the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills and the Lorge-Thorndike IQ Test. The program was then instituted from September through May. At the end of the program the students were retested. Achievement was found to be above expectations and IQs were higher. The premise of the St. Louis Vocabulary Development Program is that success in school is determined largely by verbal ability. The program is designed to show that measurable improvements in the learning of large numbers of city children can be made as a result of intensive, systematic vocabulary instruction.

¹Draper and Moeller, "We Think with Words," pp. 482-84.

Other attempts had been made to improve vocabulary but had fallen under their own weight of tediousness and ineffectiveness.

The vocabulary program centers around a radio program which is presented three times a week. Words came from Thorndike and Lorge's Teachers Word Book of 30,000 Words which is based on the frequency of use in English prose. The words used are those most likely to give middle-grade students difficulty from each group of 1,000 words in the list, starting with the most frequent. Chosen words are arranged in alphabetical order and placed in groups of twenty. The pretest is of the multiple choice variety. The radio lessons along with teacher input are then presented. Periodically retests consisting of the same words as were given in the pretest, but in a scrambled order are given. A mastery test consisting of a sample of 100 words from each nine lessons is given.

Before each radio lesson a pretest consisting of the words that are going to be presented in the radio lesson is given to the students. The lesson begins with the radio teacher dictating the words and their pronunciations while the classroom teacher writes the words on the board and the students copy them into their notebooks. An explanation of each word's meaning and illustrations of each word's uses follows. Attention is called to unexpected spellings. Dictionary spellings and symbols are also discussed. Along with the discussion

of each word's synonyms, antonyms and homonyms, the noun, verb, adjective and/or adverb forms of each word are also given. Upon completion of the preceding matters, the radio teacher uses the test words in context as students follow along in their own books. Previous test words are also used in narratives; therefore, the words appear frequently in various narrative contexts including regular textbooks. Classroom teachers are alerted to the need to review the meanings of presented words as they are encountered in other contexts.

None of the individual elements of the St. Louis Vocabulary Development Program is new. The distinction between it and other vocabulary programs is the combination of the elements and the massive, systematic long-term barrage of new words for many students. The precise reason for the gains on the tests given at the end of the vocabulary program are not known. The stimulation of the environment by the program may help make the middle class students more verbal, or it may be that the students in the program hear many big words and hear them frequently, or it may be that words become a part of the atmosphere for the students--a part of their daily coming and going. Though the program will not apply to all circumstances, it does show gains.

Donlan

Donlan wrote about a vocabulary program which avoids the traditional abstract methods and teaches words by sense

experience.¹ First the student has a sense experience which he discusses and describes in his own words. Words are introduced orally first and then in writing. Next, the student applies the word to other situations; in other words, the student generalizes the meaning by expanding the experience from the real to the vicarious. Lastly, the student applies the word in his own speech and writing.

A lesson in Donlan's program might go as follows. This particular lesson involves the sense of sight and in particular colors with strange names. Spectrum, vermilion, chartreuse, turquoise, mauve, and collage are the words introduced in this lesson. Activity one involves examining a spectrum and answering four questions about it. Activity two involves examining four colored sheets which correspond to the colors which are going to be presented. Placing the colored sheets in the proper place on the spectrum is activity three. Pronouncing each word is activity four and activity five involves describing each color with the spectrum as a guide. Activity six involves looking for examples of each color and creating a collage using only one color. Drawing a spectrum on a separate sheet of paper and filling in the names of all ten colors is activity seven. As an extension activity, the student is to locate a new place on the spectrum, describe the new color created, give the new color a strange-

¹Dan Donlan, "Teaching Words Through Sense Impressions," Language Arts 52 (November 1975): 1090-93.

sounding name, and find an example of his color.

Criscuolo

Criscuolo explains a vocabulary program involving a tape-recorder and a worksheet which is correlated with the tape.¹ Each word is explained fully and the students are instructed to underline the special word in each sentence. Five words are introduced each day. At the end of each set of five words, the students listen to original stories on tape which again use the words in context. A list of words is compiled from the basal reader. The words are listed with three possible meanings next to each word and students are instructed to circle the correct meaning. The most frequently missed words are chosen for further enrichment. A sheet is prepared listing each word separately and using each word in a separate sentence. The original stories are written so that at the most exciting part the narrator asks, "What do you think happened next?" Students are then instructed to write an original ending to the story using as many of the new words as possible.

Aaronson

The idea of using an attractive book as a frame-

¹N. P. Criscuolo, "Enriching the Basal Reading Program," Catholic School Journal 67 (Summer 1967): 51-52.

work for a vocabulary program is presented by Aaronson.¹ The vocabulary building book must be chosen carefully. It must be significant to the age group and written simply and directly with a minimum of involved syntax and metaphors. So the student will not be defeated by a profusion of words on a page, the print must be large enough. Sources other than novels can be used such as short stories, newspapers, or magazines. Words that are chosen to be studied are grouped according to the skills which are to be emphasized--structure, context, etymology, use of dictionary, or word pronunciation skills. These words are placed on word cards which Aaronson considers to be an efficient study habit. The new words are incorporated in follow-up writing experiences. This particular program is time-consuming and involves much preparation, but as Aaronson points out, "A popular novel can be a 'status symbol' to help a student feel he really belongs."²

Kahle

Kahle reports about a vocabulary program in which the students are responsible for finding the words for class study.³ There are six criteria a word must meet

¹S. Aaronson, "Novel Approach to Vocabulary Instruction," Journal of Reading 14 (April 1971): 476-79.

²Ibid., p. 478.

³David J. Kahle, "Student-Centered Vocabulary," English Journal 61 (February 1972): 286-88.

in order to be considered for class study.

1. The rest of the class is probably not familiar with the word
2. The word is unfamiliar to the student finding the word
3. The word is one which will probably be used in the near future
4. The student found the word in a source outside school
5. The word cannot be too technical or scientific
6. The word must be in English

A form is given to the student on which he must supply the following information--word, meaning in own words, sentence, synonym, antonym, and source--about the word he submits for study. To give the students more experience with the words, they write paragraphs using the words correctly, construct posters about the words, and lead the review of previous words. Kahle completes his report with the comment that one presentation of a word does not necessarily jell the meaning in the minds of the students.

Dodson

The program Dodson presents centers around the idea that the most effective method of learning meanings of words is context clues coupled with the student using the word.¹ Each student is given a passage with ten unknown words. The student is asked to read the passage twice. First, the student reads the passage just to get the gist of the selection. During the second reading,

¹Dodson, "Context Approach to Vocabulary Study," pp. 49-51.

the student pays particular attention to the underlined words. Students are to try to figure out the meanings of the underlined words before checking with the dictionary. Students demonstrate their understanding of the words by using each in a sentence in which the meaning of the word is clear. During the writing laboratory the students study each other's sentences and make corrections and the teacher walks around the class giving aid whenever necessary.

Crist

Crist's vocabulary program involves a great deal of student input.¹ Crist feels that the key to the success of the program is that the words studied are those which deal with facets of students' lives which they feel are relevant. The pattern for the class involves first a half-hour rapping session about the topic chosen from those which students listed as most relevant to them. During the rapping session the instructor introduces naturally into the conversation fifteen to twenty words. As each word is introduced it is put on the board. Following the half-hour rapping session students pair off and carry on a conversation for a half-hour during which each student is to use each word at least once. Lastly a half-hour is spent doing a brief writing exercise using

¹Barabara I. Crist, "One Capsule a Week--A Painless Remedy for Vocabulary Ills," Journal of Reading 19 (November 1975): 147-49.

as many of the new words as possible. The most satisfying part of the program is the interest in words themselves which is developed.

Stanford

Stanford acknowledges that the source of difficulty with word analysis lies not only in the difference between the literal meaning and the current use of words, but also in the fact that most prefixes and root words have many different meanings.¹ For this reason there is a need to provide students with careful explanations of how words are used. Stanford also feels that an important part of a vocabulary program is a built-in continuous review so that students will not forget words previously presented. Each lesson is one page and has two words which do not begin with the same letter. Sometimes paired words are those which are sometimes confused with each other, for example, eminent and imminent. An explanation--pronunciation, origin, meaning, sample sentence, synonyms, antonyms, and related forms--of each word is given on the page. The first written exercise on the page involves a multiple choice exercise which involves the identification of synonyms for each word. The second written exercise on the page is a fill in the blank which involves the recall of the proper vocabulary words both past and present. Stanford completes his article with the comment,

¹G. Stanford, "Word Study That Works," English Journal 60 (January 1971): 111-15.

"A successful vocabulary program must provide continuous practice and review."¹

St. Mary's Learning Center

The last program to be reviewed was developed at St. Mary's Learning Center which is an alternative high school in Chicago.² The premise is that students learn and retain words better if they see and hear them in a strongly dramatic context. The purpose of the program is to increase vocabulary and reading skills. Television is used as literature in the program. Students watch a network television show which has special words and phrases superimposed on it. After viewing the episode, students do a worksheet with questions about the words and concepts presented in the episode.

Summary

It is generally acknowledged that a planned vocabulary program is necessary for vocabulary development. Ten vocabulary programs were reported in the preceding pages. Hirsch and Lewinger's program centers around the "Daily Warm-Up" which involves a sentence with a particular word that students must complete six activities about. The St. Louis Vocabulary Development Program involves a radio program along with pretests and retests.

¹Stanford, "Word Study That Works," p. 115.

²"Courtesy of Network TV," Nation's Schools and Colleges 1 (December 1974): 24.

Donlan recommends a vocabulary program which emphasizes learning words through sense experiences. Criscuolo's program uses a tape-recorder and worksheets to develop words taken from a basal reader. Aaronson suggests the use of a novel as a basis for a vocabulary program. Kahle's program has students bringing in words for study which meet a six point criteria. Dodson couples context clues with the use of the words by the students. Crist's program involves rap sessions on subjects which the students feel are relevant to them. During the session the teacher naturally introduces words into the conversation. Stanford uses a worksheet which concentrates on two words at a time and incorporates constant review. Television shows with superimposed words or phrases are used in the vocabulary program at the St. Mary Learning Center in Chicago.

Vocabulary Activities

Games

Shankman wrote an article containing general comments about educational games.¹ Games are an incentive to learn vocabulary but should not be used until the pupil has met the words in a meaningful situation. Games are not a bag of tricks but a means to an end. Students will be motivated to play a game again if they are stopped

¹Shankman, "Games Reinforce Reading Skills," pp. 262-64.

from playing the game while they desire to go on. A game must meet the unique needs and interests of the individual or group using it. Teachers should encourage the creative efforts of the children to help them develop original games, puzzles, and riddles.

Shankman listed seven characteristics of the games best-liked.

1. Directions are clear
2. Can be played with a minimum of supervision
3. Is fun to play
4. Gives the student a sense of satisfaction
5. Students are stimulated to learn.
6. Students receive personal recognition which helps them to build a better self-image
7. Young children experience immediate success while developing a respect for serious effort

Shankman also listed six characteristics essential for games used in the classroom.

1. Must have a real learning value that reinforces or teaches a reading skill
2. The mechanics of the game should not take much learning time and should not overshadow the skill it is supposed to reinforce
3. The fun should center around the reading skill rather than the game itself
4. Should have a specific purpose that is meaningful to the child and reinforces or enriches a classroom goal
5. Children should be able to act as leaders in most of the games or they should be self-checking
6. Should be adaptable to the needs, abilities and interests of the children involved

Shankman lists three limitations of games. One limitation is the possibility that a game is just busy work or a play activity. The difficulty of evaluating the effectiveness or value of a game is the second limitation. The third limitation of games is the practice of words in isolation.

Slobian and Haffner caution that games should be used only after a teacher knows his students and knows the games well enough to know which skills are needed, being taught, or reinforced.¹ Bruland feels that the most effective games are those which can be adapted to the vocabulary of different content areas.²

Learning Stations

Chance reports about the use of learning stations.³ Learning stations as presented by Chance can be used with any time schedule, create friendly competition, and allow practice in using vocabulary skills. Chance recommends that before starting the learning stations students should be assigned to teams of four which they will not find out until completing all activities so no antagonism will be displayed towards others. An equal number of students should work at each station for ten to fifteen minutes.

Chance recommends the use of eight stations. The first four stations--Scrabble, Spill and Spell, Word Cubes, and Logic Problems-- can be purchased. The fifth station is crossword puzzles which are teacher-constructed. The station is provided with crossword puzzle dictionaries.

¹June J. Slobian and Hubert Haffner, "Using Games for Reading Improvement," Reading Improvement 8 (Fall 1971): 52-54.

²Bruland, "Learnin' Words," p. 214.

³Larry L. Chance, "Using a Learning Stations Approach to Vocabulary Practice," Journal of Reading 18 (December 1974): 244-46.

Students work in pairs at this station. "Concentration," which is also teacher-constructed, is the sixth station. The seventh station is a word search which is teacher-constructed and can only be used if a specific vocabulary is to be worked on. Station eight is titled categories. one card for each letter of the alphabet is provided. Students think of categories--cars, occupations, movie titles, books-- and then place each category on a card. Each student receives a piece of paper labeled "Categories" containing five rows of five boxes. Students randomly select five alphabet cards which are placed across the paper and five category cards which are placed down the paper. Students must fill in the empty boxes with a word which fits both the category and letter of the box.

One Word A Day

Rogers feels that the success of vocabulary development depends on the learner wanting words with which to express and understand ideas.¹ The learner must contribute curiosity, initiative, and goals. Vocabulary development is a life-long project. The two objectives of Rogers' suggested activity are for the student to begin to learn words aggressively from all his environments and to alert a student to one word a day. One word a day is a reasonable goal according to Rogers. The teacher

¹C. D. Rogers, "What One Word?," Reading Improvement 8 (Winter 1971-72): 71-72.

would begin the day by asking the question, "What one word . . .

1. describes your best friend?
2. how you feel right now?
3. is the hardest for you to remember?
4. sounds the funniest to you?
5. is used the most?
6. has many meanings?
7. is a substitute for the underscored words?
8. have you learned since you awoke?
9. did you find in the newspaper last night that is unfamiliar to you?

Categorizing

Vaughan and Mountain, Pflaum, Murry, and Mattleman all suggest vocabulary activities which involve categorizing. Vaughan and Mountain describe an activity called, "Vocabulary Scavenger Hunt."¹ First, the students individually read a list of words and place each word under the appropriate provided heading. Next the students compare their lists with their other team members. Discussion of the placement of each word ensues and a list which best reflects the team's thinking is written. Next the team must decide who will bring an example of each word, either the actual item or a drawing of it. The team receives two points for each actual item brought in and one point for each drawing. Dealing with the actual object aids retention. Shy children will actively participate in discussion. This activity involves both individual and team work.

¹Sally Vaughan and Lee Mountain, "Vocabulary Scavenger Hunt," Teacher 94 (May 1977): 75-77.

Pflaum suggests several vocabulary activities.¹

1. Begin with a well-known concept and have the student list essential attributes
2. Present related words for analysis
3. Students are presented with categorical terms and a list of mixed words to unmix
4. Students are given a list of words which they must first group and then give a category title to
5. Students are presented with groups of four words--some of which share a relationship--and must name that relationship
6. Students are presented with a descriptive term and then a list of accompanying terms which might apply to it. The student must pick the correct term for the description

Murry describes a lesson involving color chips and charts for paints from a hardware store.² A student must first write general headings and classify the chips. Next, the student must name each chip to distinguish it from another. Color dictionaries are prepared with color samples being illustrated. A possible project is to research the intriguing names used by paint suppliers.

Mattleman describes seven vocabulary activities.³ Substitution involves substituting other words for verbs in sentences without changing the meaning of the sentence. Students are confronted with an event and asked to elaborate on it through answering a series of questions in the expansion activity. An object lesson involves finding

¹Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary," pp. 89-93.

²E. Murry, "Treasures for Language," Instructor 82 (February 1973): 57-58.

³M. S. Mattleman, "Building Reading Vocabulary: A Treat Not a Treatment," Reading Teacher 27 (October 1973): 51-53.

an esoteric object which is not easily named. The object is passed around the room and each student is to tell something about it. Contributions are classified and each student is to write a haiku. The fourth activity is called topical word. Students are helped to synthesize ideas using a single theme and then create verse with their own expressions. For example, ask for words associated with a season and then develop a cinquain. In the next activity a picture is used as a stimulus for contributing, categorizing, and extending language. In the sixth activity, students create their own riddles which they read to the class. Mattleman's seventh activity involves the teacher picking a group of people or objects. A discussion follows in which the class decides what makes the group a group.

Morphemes

Morphemes are the topic of Burmeister's activities.¹ A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in language. Morphemes can either be free or bound. A free morpheme is uninflected words such as elephant, cat, or dog. A bound morpheme has meaning but cannot stand alone such as unkind, going, geo + graphy, or worldly.

"Morpheme Baseball" is one of Burmeister's activities. Bound morphemes are placed in a container and a baseball diamond is drawn on the board. The class is divided into

¹Lou E. Burmeister, "Vocabulary Development in Content Areas Through the Use of Morphemes," Journal of Reading 19 (March 1976): 481-87.

two teams. The batter draws a card. To get to first base the batter must define the morpheme. To get to second base the batter must give a word in a content area which uses the morpheme. To get to third base the batter must define the word or use it in a sentence. To get to home base the batter must give another word using the morpheme.

Burmeister's "Morpheme Tree" is a bulletin board display. The trunk of the tree has a morpheme with its meaning. Each of the branches and leaves is composed of two or more morphemes one of which is the same as the morpheme on the trunk.

Burmeister's third morpheme activity is "Morpheme Concentration." Pairs of cards are constructed so that when they are put together they form words used in the classroom. The cards are numbered on the back and arranged in their numerical order. The first player calls out two numbers and tries to make one word using the morphemes shown. If the player can make a word, he must define the word or use it in a sentence to obtain the cards for points. A variation to this game is to encourage students to make up their own words by combining the exposed morphemes and defining them. For example, mono and sophy are combined to make monosophy which is defined as "the wisdom of one person".

The last of Burmeister's activities is a type of morpheme bingo called "Morpheme Words". The teacher prepares blank bingo cards. On the board morphemes which

can be combined with other morphemes to make up a word are listed. It is best for the teacher to use families of words. Students write the common or family morphemes on several slips of paper. The student then writes twenty-four of the other morphemes in random order on his card. Next, the teacher gives a sentence which contains the definition of one of the original words; for example, "Many people believe in one God--one God." At this point students who have thesism on their cards cover it with their mono slip. For a student to win he must be able to call back the words and give their meanings.

Landry suggested another morpheme activity.¹ A prefix, root, or suffix is introduced. It is placed in the center of a flower diagram. Petals of the flower are filled with words that contain the root or affix in the center of the flower.

Product Names

Agee feels that product names can be used to make students aware of some of the basic word making techniques.² Some examples of this technique are Clamato = clam + (tom)ato, Cranapple = cran(berry) + apple, or

¹J. Landry, "Say It With Flowers: Vocabulary Enrichment," Instructor 83 (October 1973): 162.

²H. Agee, "Zonking in the Classroom or Language Lessons from the Marketplace: Neologisms," Elementary English 49 (May 1972): 780-82.

Onyums = on(ion) + yum(my) + s. Students might also be asked to explain why a product would be given a particular name. Take the product "Screaming Yellow Zonkers". The student might be asked such questions as "Why use the word screaming?" or "What is a zonker?". Graff also suggests the use of product names as a vocabulary activity.¹ He suggests researching common words--dove(dishsoap), crest(toothpaste), raid(bugkiller)-- which are used as product names as far as the true meaning of the word and why a particular product would want to use that particular word.

From Cliches to Palindromes

Karbal and Graff suggest the study of cliches and idioms, respectively. In the study of cliches Karbal suggests having students select alternatives to overused words and expressions.² Graff reminds the teacher that idioms must be taken beyond their literal meaning. A possible activity is to illustrate the idiom as though they should be taken literally.³

Lake mentions six possible vocabulary activities.⁴ Lake begins with the creation of puns using homonyms

¹V. A. Graff, "Plenty of Words," Elementary School Journal 68 (October 1967): 9-12.

²Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," p. 368.

³Graff, "Plenty of Words," p. 10.

⁴Lake, "First Aid for Vocabulary," pp. 783-84.

followed by rhyme games such as, "What is a wet hobo?"-- a damp tramp. Another activity is having students create Tom Swifties which take advantage of the -ly ending of adverbs. "'I'll never pat another lion,' said Tom off-handedly," is an example of a Tom Swiftie. Word tricks such things as CREAM to represent vanishing cream. Challenges such as, "Can you make another word from chesty?" are another activity. The last activity Lake suggests is having students find palindromes or mirror words such as radar or level.

Description and Direction

Murry suggests two other vocabulary activities.¹ One is called, "Bag of Junk" and the other is called, "Getting More from Maps". "Bag of Junk" can be used for a couple of different activities. One activity is to describe the objects in the bag either seen or unseen. A second activity is for each child to pick a piece of junk from the bag and to incorporate that piece of junk in an oral class story. "Getting More from Maps" is best begun with local maps. Activities may be the answer to such questions as, "How do you get from the city library to the courthouse?" or "How did the _____ River get its name?".

Tic-Tac-Toe

Mallett describes a vocabulary activity which gives

¹Murry, "Treasures for Language," p. 58.

a new twist to the game of Tic-Tac-Toe.¹ The teacher places a large Tic-Tac-Toe board on the blackboard. Next two sets of vocabulary cards are constructed--one round and one square. These cards are placed on the chalk tray with the word side hidden. The class is divided into two teams. Alternately one person from each team picks a card. That person must pronounce the word on the card and use it in a sentence in order to win the card for his team.

Bingo

Karbal suggests three alternatives to the game of "Bingo" as a vocabulary activity.² One way is to have the players match a synonym on their cards with the word given by the caller. Another way is to have the players find the word or words on their cards which match the object being held by the caller. A third method is to have the caller read a definition and the players find the correct word on their cards.

Multiple Meanings

Pflaum describes two activities for use with words that have multiple meanings.³ One activity is to have students write a sentence for each meaning which shows

¹Jerry J. Mallett, "Add Spice to Vocabulary Study," Language Arts 52 (September 1975): 844.

²Karbal, "Keying in on Vocabulary," pp. 367-69.

³Pflaum, "Expansion of Meaning Vocabulary," p. 92.

the contrast between the meanings. The second activity is to present a word with many meanings in various contexts. The students must describe the meaning of the word as it is used in each context in their own words.

Summary

Shankman gives guidelines concerning educational games including the characteristics of the best-liked games, characteristics essential for games used in the classroom, and the limitations of games. Chance describes eight learning stations and their use. Rogers describes an activity which brings about a concentration on one word. Vaughan and Mountain, Pflaum, Murry, and Mattleman suggest vocabulary activities that involve categorizing. Burmeister describes four activities which stress morphemes. Product names, cliches, idioms, haiku, homonyms, palindromes, descriptions, and directions are some of the other reported activities.

CHAPTER III

PROCEDURE

Pilot Test

A pilot test was undertaken. The pilot test was constructed by numbering the vocabulary words on the vocabulary ditto sheets in the order they appeared on the sheets. The ditto sheets were arranged according to the way the stories appear in the textbook. Every eighth word was chosen until a total of ten words was obtained. These words were listed down the right hand side of the paper with their meanings, obtained from the glossary of the textbook, arranged randomly down the left hand side. Three extra definitions were included to avoid proper matching by the process of elimination. Twenty-seven sixth grade students took the pilot test with the results ranging from three words which no students missed to one word which nineteen students missed.¹ It was concluded that the test did differentiate between students.

Test-Outs

The study, which ran from November 1, 1977 to March 30, 1978, involved the vocabulary in units three and four

¹The format of the pilot test and the frequency of errors on the pilot test is shown in appendix A.

of the Macmillian series, level fourteen, Into New Worlds 1970 edition.¹

A vocabulary test was constructed for each unit separately. The words in each unit were numbered in the order they appeared on the vocabulary ditto sheets. Every third word was chosen and arranged alphabetically. Thirty words were needed from each unit; therefore, in unit four after arranging the chosen words in alphabetical order, every fifth word was eliminated to obtain thirty words.

The "test-out" for each unit consisted of three parts with ten words each. As in the pilot test, the words were arranged on the right hand side of the paper and their meanings (first definition from the glossary of the textbook) were randomly arranged down the left hand side with three extra definitions included.² The vocabulary words were modified so as to appear on the test-out as each appeared in the glossary, which was not necessarily as they appeared on the vocabulary sheets. For example, the word courteously appeared on the vocabulary sheet; courteous was in the glossary and therefore used on the test-out.

Before a student began a unit, he would spend three consecutive days taking each of the three parts of that

¹Albert J. Harris, Into New Worlds, Macmillian Reading Program, Level 14. (New York: Macmillian Co., 1970), pp. 164-347.

²The format for the test-outs for units three and four are shown in appendixes B and C, respectively.

particular unit's vocabulary test-out. Each test session lasted approximately fifteen minutes. This was intended to eliminate the element of fatigue.

Assigned Vocabulary Activities

The results of each student's vocabulary test-out determined the amount and type of vocabulary work each student did for that particular unit. No matter what the student's score though, each student was required to construct a vocabulary booklet. Each word missed on the test-out was placed in the vocabulary booklet. Printed sheets were made available from which the students would cut the appropriate definition to paste in his vocabulary booklet. Each word was then used in a meaningful sentence.

Any student obtaining 100 percent on the test-out was excused from all vocabulary activities. Those students (group A) who obtained a score of 90 percent through 99 percent (one, two, or three errors) were required to choose one of the following two activities. Activity one involved placing each missed word in a vertical position, picking a category from a box, and thinking of a word for each letter of the missed word which fit the picked category.¹ Activity two involved illustrating each missed word with pictures from magazines, newspapers,

¹An example of activity A¹ is shown in appendix D.

and similar materials.¹

Those students (group B) who obtained a score of 80 percent through 89 percent (four, five, or six errors) were required to choose one of the following two activities. Activity one involved the construction of a word search in which all words missed were included. The definition of each hidden word was listed below to act as a clue to which words were being searched for.² Activity two involved keeping the correct order of the letters of each missed word and placing extra letters randomly between them to hide the actual word. The definition of each hidden word was listed next to each group of letters to act as a clue to the hidden word.³

Those students who obtained a score of 79 percent or less (seven or more errors) were placed in group C and required to do all the vocabulary ditto sheets. The sheets were modified by crossing out the choices given within each sentence.⁴ Each word missed on the vocabulary sheets was placed in the vocabulary booklet along with its definition and use in a meaningful sentence.

Post-Test

After all students completed units three and four,

¹An example of activity A² is shown in appendix E.

²An example of activity B¹ is shown in appendix F.

³An example of activity B² is shown in appendix G.

⁴An example of activity C is shown in appendix H.

a post-test was given. The post-test consisted of all the words missed on the test-outs and/or the ditto sheets by nine or more students. The words were placed in groups of eleven for parts one and two and in a group of twelve for part three. The same format used on the pilot test and test-outs was used for the post-test.¹

¹The format for the post-test is shown in appendix I.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

Frequency of Errors on Unit Three Test-Out

The frequency of errors for the unit three test-out words ranged from zero students missing "incredible," to "enmesh" and "sluggish" each being missed by fifteen students.¹ Of the twenty-eight students involved in the test-out, six scored in the A activity category, six scored in the B activity category, and sixteen scored in the C activity category--vocabulary sheets.

Frequency of Errors on Unit Three Vocabulary Sheets

Six unit three test-out words were missed on the vocabulary sheets by students who had gotten them correct on the test-out. The words missed and the number of students who missed them were adequate--four, capsule--one, despite--one, isolate--two, muffle--one, and trade wind--seven.

A total of forty-five different words were missed by the sixteen students required to do the vocabulary sheets which present a total of eighty-four words. Of

¹The frequency of errors on the unit three test-out is listed in table 1.

the forty-five words missed on the vocabulary sheets, thirty words were each missed by one student, ten words were each missed by two students, one word was missed by three students, two words were each missed by four students, one word was missed by five students, and one word was missed by seven students.¹

Frequency of Errors on Unit Three
Test-Out and Vocabulary Sheets

Eight words were missed by students on both the test-out and the vocabulary sheets. Of the eight words, five--amateur, classify, cooper, enmesh, and necessity--were each missed by one student. "Adequate" was missed by six students and "isolate" was missed by seven students. "Enmesh" was missed on the test-out by one student who also missed the word twice on the vocabulary sheets. "Isolate" was missed by two students on the test-out and each of these students also missed "isolate" twice on the vocabulary sheets.²

Multiple Errors on Unit Three Vocabulary Sheets

"Adequate" was missed twice on the vocabulary sheets by one student who had not missed it on the test-out.

¹The frequency of errors on the unit three vocabulary sheets is listed in table 2.

²The frequency of errors on the unit three test-out and vocabulary sheets is listed in table 3.

Frequency of Errors on Unit Four Test-Out

The frequency of errors for the unit four test-out words ranged from zero students missing "knapsack" and "margarine" to twenty-two students missing "shaddock".¹ Of the twenty-eight students involved in the test-out, four scored in the A activity category, one scored in the B activity category, and twenty-three scored in the C activity category--vocabulary sheets.

Frequency of Errors on Unit Four
Vocabulary Sheets

Eleven unit four test-out words were missed on the vocabulary sheets by students who had not missed them on the test-out. The words missed and the number of students who missed them are alternate--three, armistice--one, commit--one, conning tower--one, denounce--six, economic--one, exception--one, fundamental--one, margarine--one, salvation--two, and sentiment--five.

A total of seventy-four different words were missed by the twenty-three students required to do the vocabulary sheets which present a total of 116 words. Of the words missed on the vocabulary sheets, thirty-three words were each missed by one student, seventeen words were each missed by two students, eleven words were each missed by three students, two words were each missed by four

¹The frequency of errors on the unit four test-out is listed in table 4.

students, three words were each missed by five students, three words were each missed by six students, one word was missed by seven students, two words were each missed by eleven students, one word was missed by thirteen students, and one word was missed by sixteen students.¹

Frequency of Errors on Unit Four
Test-Out and Vocabulary Sheets

Eleven words were missed by students on both the test-out and the vocabulary sheets. Of the eleven words, four--primitive, remedy, salvation, and yaws--were each missed by one student and four--armistice, fundamental, grudge, and offensive--were each missed by two students. "Monomania" was missed by three students. "Denounce" was missed by seven students and "sentiment" was missed by eight students.²

Multiple Errors on Unit Four Vocabulary Sheets

"Denounce" was missed twice on the vocabulary sheets by one person who had not missed it on the test-out.

Frequency of Errors on Post-Test

The frequency of errors for the post-test covering units three and four ranged from zero students missing "avalanche", "caballero", "crystal", "fundamental",

¹The frequency of errors on the unit four vocabulary sheets is listed in table 5.

²The frequency of errors on the unit four test-out and vocabulary sheets is listed in table 6.

"racial", "salvation", and "viperfish" to thirteen students missing "auxiliary". Other errors included four words--denounce, remedy, shaddock, and yaws--each being missed by one student; ten words--adequate, armistice, commit, conspiracy, encrusted, grudge, isolate, parcel, recede, and vital--each being missed by two students; two words--amateur and stately--each being missed by four students; two words--monomania and sluggish--each being missed by five students; three words--ballast, purge, and trade wind--each being missed by six students; three words--billow, offensive, and sentiment--each being missed by seven students; one word--resolution--being missed by eight students; and one word--enmesh--being missed by nine students.¹

Test-Out and Post-test: Words and
Error Frequency

Table 8 shows words which were missed on both the test-out and the post-test. The table also shows the number of students who missed a particular word on the test-out and the number of those same students who did not miss the word on the post-test. By subtracting those two numbers, the number of students who did not learn a particular word during the study is known. The percentage of students who did not learn a word which they did not

¹The frequency of errors on the post-test is listed in table 7.

know previously ranged from 6.25 percent to 36.36 percent. In actual numbers this means a range one to seven students did not know a particular word at the end of the study while at the time of the test-out the range was from nine to twenty-one. All the students involved with table 8 did activity C.

Test-Out, Vocabulary Sheet, and Post-Test:
Words and Error Frequency

Table 9 indicates words which were missed by individual students on the test-out, on the vocabulary sheet, and on the post-test by some of the same students. Listed is the number of students who missed a particular word on both the test-out and vocabulary sheets plus the number of those same students who knew the word on the post-test. When those two numbers are subtracted, the number of students who did not learn the word during the study is obtained. The percentage of students who did not learn a particular word ranged from 11.11 percent to 50.00 percent. In actual numbers this means a range of one to two students did not know a particular word at the end of the study while at the time of the test-out the range was from two to nine students.

Vocabulary Sheet and Post-Test:
Words and Error Frequency

Table 10 indicates words which were missed by individual students on the vocabulary sheets but not on the test-outs and then missed by some of the same students

on the post-test. Listed is the number of students who missed a particular word on the vocabulary sheets and the number of those same students who knew the word on the post-test. When those two numbers are subtracted, the number of students who did not learn the word during the study is obtained. The percentage of students who did not learn a particular word ranged from 14.28 percent to 45.45 percent. In actual numbers this means a range of one to five students did not know a particular word at the end of the study while at the time of the test-out the range was from four to twelve students.

Post-Test Only: Words and Error Frequency

Table 11 lists words which were missed by particular students on only the post-test. The table also tells which activity the students were involved with during the study. All the words except "commit" included students who had been involved with activity C. Of the twenty words listed, thirteen--armistice, ballast, encrusted, grudge, monomania, offensive, parcel, recede, shaddock, sluggish, stately, vital, and yaws--involve only students who did activity C. Ten of the twenty words listed--armistice, ballast, commit, grudge, recede, shaddock, sluggish, stately, vital, and yaws--were each missed by one student. Three of the twenty words listed--encrusted, monomania, and parcel--were each missed by two students. Three words--purge, sentiment, and trade wind--were each missed by four students. "Offensive"

was the only word of the twenty words listed which was missed by five students. Two words--enmesh and resolution--were each missed by six students. "Auxiliary" was the only word which was missed by eight students.

Percent Correct on Test-Outs and Post-Test

Table 12 lists the percentage correct each student obtained on the two test-outs and the post-test. The complete data for all twenty-eight students are given. Unit three test-out yielded the following percentages: one student at 36.36 percent; one student at 46.66 percent; six students from 50.00 percent to 56.66 percent; two students at 63.33 percent; six students from 70.00 percent to 76.66 percent; six students from 80.00 percent to 86.66 percent; six students from 93.33 percent to 96.66 percent. Unit four test-out yielded the following percentages: three students from 40.00 percent to 43.33 percent; five students from 50.00 percent to 56.66 percent; eleven students from 60.00 percent to 66.66 percent; four students from 70.00 percent to 76.66 percent; one student at 86.66 percent; four students from 90.00 percent to 93.33 percent. The post-test yielded the following percentages: one student at 47.05 percent; one student at 64.70 percent; three students from 73.52 percent to 76.47 percent; seven students from 82.35 percent to 88.23 percent; eleven students from 91.17 percent to 97.05 percent; five students at 100 percent.

Twenty-five students improved their percentage score between unit three test-out and the post-test. The range of improvement was from .39 percent to 41.17 percent. Twenty-six students improved their percentage score between unit four test-out and the post-test. The range of improvement was from .78 percent to 60.00 percent. Of the five students with scores below 80.00 percent on the post-test, one student made a percentage gain of more than twenty-five points from the post-test score to the test-out scores; one student made a percentage gain of more than twenty points from the post-test score to the test-out scores; one student made percentage gains of 3.14 percent and 13.14 percent on units three and four test-outs, respectively, when comparing the test-out scores to the post-test score; one student gained 10.39 percent on the post-test score over the unit three test-out score but lost 2.95 percent on the post-test score compared to the unit four test-out score; one student gained 1.37 percent on the post-test score over unit three test-out score but lost 1.96 percent on the post-test score compared to the unit four test-out score.

Comparison of Test-Out, Vocabulary Sheets,
Post-Test, and Activity

Table 13 lists the students individually and indicates for each student the number of words missed on the test-outs and/or vocabulary sheets and the number of the same words missed on the post-test. Also included is the

number of words not previously missed on either the test-outs or vocabulary sheets but missed on the post-test.

Sixteen students did not miss any unit three test-out words on the post-test. The range of unit three test-out/post-test words missed by these students was one to six at the time of the test-out. Twelve students missed some of the same words on the post-test as they had missed on the unit three test-out. All twelve students were assigned activity C, vocabulary sheets. Five students missed one word on the post-test which they had previously missed on the unit three test-out. The range of unit three test-out/post-test words missed by these students was five to eleven at the time of the test-out. Four students missed two words on the post-test which they had previously missed on unit three test-out. The range of unit three test-out/post-test words missed by these students was six to twelve at the time of the test-out. One student missed three words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the unit three test-out. The student had originally missed seven unit three test-out/post-test words. One student missed four words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the unit three test-out. The student had originally missed seven unit three test-out/post-test words. One student missed seven words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the unit three test-out. The student had originally missed eleven unit three test-out/post-test words.

Twenty-one students did not miss any unit four test-out words on the post-test. The range of unit four test-out/post-test words missed by these students was two to thirteen at the time of the test-out. Seven students missed some of the same words on the post-test as they had missed on the unit four test-out. All seven students were assigned activity C, vocabulary sheets. Two students missed one word on the post-test which they had previously missed on the unit four test-out. The original number of unit four test-out/post-test words missed by each student was seven. Three students missed two words on the post-test which they had previously missed on the unit four test-out. The range of unit four test-out/post-test words missed by these students was four to nine at the time of the test-out. One student missed three words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the unit four test-out. The student had originally missed ten unit four test-out/post-test words. One student missed five words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the unit four test-out. The student had originally missed twelve unit four test-out/post-test words.

Of the sixteen students who were assigned activity C, vocabulary sheets, for unit three, eight did not miss any words in doing the unit three vocabulary sheets that were included in the post-test. Eight of the students missed one or more words which were included on the post-test in doing the unit three vocabulary sheets. One student who had missed one unit three vocabulary sheet/post-test

word in doing the vocabulary sheets missed that same word on the post-test. The remaining seven students did not miss on the post-test any of the unit three vocabulary sheet/post-test words they had missed in doing the vocabulary sheets.

Of the twenty-three students who were assigned activity C, vocabulary sheets, for unit four, three did not miss any words in doing the unit four vocabulary sheets that were included in the post-test. Twenty students missed one or more words which were included on the post-test in doing the vocabulary sheets. Four of the twenty students missed one or more words on the post-test which they had also missed on the vocabulary sheet. Two students missed one word on the post-test which they had previously missed on the vocabulary sheets. The original number of vocabulary sheet/post-test words missed by the students was four and five. One student missed two words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the vocabulary sheets. The student had originally missed five vocabulary sheet/post-test words. One student missed three words on the post-test which he had previously missed on the vocabulary sheets. The student had originally missed four vocabulary sheet/post-test words. The remaining seventeen students did not miss on the post-test any of the vocabulary sheet/post-test words they had missed in doing the vocabulary sheets.

Of the sixteen students who were assigned activity

C, vocabulary sheets, for unit three, four of the students did not miss any words on both the unit three test-out and vocabulary sheets which were included in the post-test. Twelve of the students missed the same post-test words on the unit three vocabulary sheets as they had on the unit three test-out. At the time of the post-test ten of the students did not miss any unit three test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test words. Two of the twelve students each missed one unit three test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test word in taking the post-test. One student had originally missed one unit three test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test word in doing the vocabulary sheets and the other student had missed three words.

Of the twenty-three students who were assigned activity C, vocabulary sheets, for unit four, eight of the students did not miss any words on both the unit four test-out and vocabulary sheets which were included in the post-test. Fifteen of the students missed the same post-test words on the unit four vocabulary sheets as they had on the unit four test-out. At the time of the post-test eleven of the students did not miss any unit four test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test words. Four of the fifteen students also missed some of the same words on the post-test. Two students missed one unit four test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test word on the post-test. The original number of unit four test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test words missed by each student was two. One student missed

two unit four test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test words on the post-test. The student had originally missed three test-out/vocabulary sheet/post-test words in doing the vocabulary sheets.

Table 13 also shows the number of words which were missed by individuals on the post-test but not missed by those same students on either of the test-outs or either of the vocabulary sheet sets. Of the fifteen students who did activity C for both unit three and unit four, three did not miss any words not previously missed; seven students missed one word not previously missed; one student missed two words not previously missed; three students missed four words not previously missed. The post-test included three words from unit four--auxiliary, crystal, and resolution--which were not part of either test-out. Of the fifteen students who did activity C, vocabulary sheets, for both units, nine students did not miss any of the fore-mentioned words, one student missed one of the fore-mentioned words and five students missed two of the fore-mentioned words. Of the four students who did activity B² for unit three and activity C for unit four, one did not miss any new words on the post-test; one missed one new word which was from unit four; one missed one new word from both unit three and unit four; one missed three new words from unit three and one new word from unit four. Of the four students who did activity A¹ for unit three and activity C for unit four, one student

did not miss any new words on the post-test; one student missed one new word from unit three; one student missed two new words from unit three and one new word from unit four; one student missed one of the fore-mentioned vocabulary words. Two students did activity B² for unit three and activity A¹ for unit four. One of the students missed one new word from each unit on the post-test and the other student missed one of the fore-mentioned vocabulary words on the post-test. One student did activity A² for unit three and activity B¹ for unit four. The student missed two new words from unit three, one word from unit four, and one of the fore-mentioned vocabulary words on the post-test. One student did activity C for unit three and activity A¹ for unit four. The student missed two new words from unit four on the post-test. One student did activity A² for unit three and activity A¹ for unit four. The student did not miss any new words in taking the post-test.

Conclusions

Tables 12 and 13 lead to two conclusions. The first conclusion is that overall the students obtained a mastery level, and the second conclusion is that those students who had good test scores to begin with maintained those good scores throughout the study. The overall mastery level obtained by students indicates that the assigned activities were appropriate and beneficial. Another conclusion is that the modified vocabulary sheets fostered

the use of the glossary as observed by the author. The author also concluded that not all the words studied are necessarily words of common usage based on the fact that eight of the thirty-four words on the post-test--billow, caballero, enmesh, monomania, shaddock, trade wind, viperfish, and yaws--were not included in the Word Frequency Book by Carol, Davis, and Richman.¹ The final conclusion is that some of the definitions given by the glossary are misleading or vague; therefore, making it difficult for students to make a proper match on the tests. For example, the word "grudge" is defined as "to envy someone because of something he has".

¹John B. Carroll, Peter Davis, and Barry Richman, Word Frequency Book, (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1971).

TABLES

TABLE 1
 FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON UNIT THREE TEST-OUT

Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
adequate	13	encrusted	10
amateur	11	enmesh	15
aqualung	7	gust	1
avalanche	2	incredible	0
ballast	17	isolate	12
billow	21	muffle	4
caballero	13	necessity	4
capsule	4	parcel	9
clash	5	plastic	2
classify	3	porpoise	5
cooper	6	recede	9
coral	4	secrecy	2
delicacy	7	sluggish	15
despite	4	trade wind	4
discharge	4	viperfish	13

TABLE 2

FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON UNIT THREE
VOCABULARY SHEETS

Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
abound	5	isolate	2
adequate	4	maneuver	1
apparatus	1	marine	1
authorize	1	monsoon	1
becalm	2	muffle	1
block and tackle	1	neutral	2
capsule	1	plexiglass	1
consume	2	proportion	4
cruiser	1	sentry	1
decompression chamber	1	sextant	1
deliberate	1	shoal	1
derelict	1	sonar	2
despite	1	specimen	1
diet	1	stern	1
element	1	superstition	1
expanse	3	temporary	1
factor	2	torment	1
foremast	2	torpedo	1
fortify	2	trade wind	7
handicap	1	tranquil	1
hulk	2	transparent	1
hydrophone	2	trench	1
		tributary	1

TABLE 3

FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON UNIT THREE
TEST-OUT AND VOCABULARY SHEETS

Words	Frequency
adequate	6
amateur	1
classify	1
cooper	1
enmesh	1
isolate	7
necessity	1
trade wind	2

TABLE 4

FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON UNIT FOUR TEST-OUT

Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
alternate	1	monomania	21
armistice	20	offensive	9
artillery	3	parallel	3
assume	1	plateau	6
commit	16	primitive	8
conning tower	1	purge	13
conspiracy	17	racial	14
denounce	13	reduce	3
economic	5	remedy	9
exception	3	salvation	8
fundamental	16	sentiment	12
grudge	11	shaddock	22
knapsack	0	stately	19
margarine	0	vital	10
maroon	8	yaws	18

TABLE 5
 FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON UNIT FOUR
 VOCABULARY SHEETS

Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
afflict	1	infernal	1
allegiance	1	initial	2
alternate	3	insight	1
armistice	1	insurrection	2
assume	1	liberation	1
attainment	3	lunatic	1
auxiliary	11	magazine	3
avalanche	13	malaria	1
blockade	2	mania	3
camellia	2	margarine	1
catastrophic	2	martyr	1
cicada	2	massacre	1
commit	1	missile	2
concentration camp	1	motives	1
conning tower	1	negotiate	2
consequences	6	occupation	2
continual	1	perish	1
crystal	16	pike	1
dastardly	3	precaution	4
dedicate	2	previous	3
delegate	2	prophecy	1
denounce	6	qualify	1
despair	1	resolution	11
domestic	5	saboteur	1
economic	1	salvation	2
embody	1	sanitation	2
exception	1	sentiment	5
famine	3	slaughter	3
fanatical	6	submit	1
fortitude	1	succession	3
fundamental	1	taro	1
gallows	3	tatami	1
gaunt	1	turbulent	1
hostile	2	turmoil	4
hysteria	5	unidentifiable	2
infamy	3	unprovoked	2
infection	7	welfare	2

TABLE 6

FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON UNIT FOUR
TEST-OUT AND VOCABULARY SHEETS

Words	Frequency
armistice	2
denounce	7
fundamental	2
grudge	2
monomania	3
offensive	2
primitive	1
remedy	1
salvation	1
sentiment	8
yaws	1

TABLE 7
 FREQUENCY OF ERRORS ON POST-TEST

Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
adequate	2	monomania	5
amateur	4	offensive	7
armistice	2	parcel	2
auxiliary	13	purge	6
avalanche	0	racial	0
ballast	6	recede	2
billow	7	remedy	1
caballero	0	resolution	8
commit	2	salvation	0
conspiracy	2	sentiment	7
crystal	0	shaddock	1
denounce	1	sluggish	5
encrusted	2	stately	4
enmesh	9	trade wind	6
fundamental	0	viperfish	0
grudge	2	vital	2
isolate	2	yaws	1

TABLE 8

TEST-OUT AND POST-TEST: WORDS AND
ERROR FREQUENCY

Words missed on test-out and post-test	1	2	3	4
adequate	13	12	7.69	1 C
amateur	11	7	36.36	4 C
ballast	17	12	29.41	5 C
billow	21	14	33.33	7 C
commit	16	15	6.25	1 C
conspiracy	17	15	11.76	2 C
encrusted	10	9	10.00	1 C
enmesh	15	13	13.33	2 C
grudge	11	10	9.09	1 C
isolate	12	11	8.33	1 C
monomania	21	18	14.28	3 C
offensive	9	8	11.11	1 C
purge	13	11	15.38	2 C
recede	9	8	11.11	1 C
remedy	9	8	11.11	1 C
sluggish	15	12	20.00	3 C
stately	19	16	15.78	3 C
vital	10	9	10.00	1 C

¹Number of students who missed the word on the test-out.

²Number of students who did not miss the word on the post-test.

³Percent of students who did not learn the word.

⁴Number of students who did not learn the word and the activity done by those students.

TABLE 9

TEST-OUT, VOCABULARY SHEET, AND POST-TEST:
WORDS AND ERROR FREQUENCY

Words missed on test-out, vocab- ulary sheet and post-test	1	2	3	4
adequate	6	5	16.66	1 C
armistice	2	1	50.00	1 C
denounce	7	6	14.28	1 C
isolate	9	8	11.11	1 C
offensive	2	1	50.00	1 C
sentiment	8	6	25.00	2 C
trade wind	2	1	50.00	1 C

TABLE 10

VOCABULARY SHEET AND POST-TEST:
WORDS AND ERROR FREQUENCY

Words missed on vocabulary sheet and post-test	5	2	3	4
auxiliary	11	6	45.45	5 C
resolution	12	10	16.66	2 C
sentiment	4	3	25.00	1 C
trade wind	7	6	14.28	1 C

¹Number of students who missed the word on the test-out, vocabulary sheet and post-test.

²Number of students who did not miss the word on the post-test.

³Percent of students who did not learn the word.

⁴Number of students who did not learn the word and the activity done by those students.

⁵Number of students who missed the word on the vocabulary sheet and post-test.

TABLE 11
 POST-TEST ONLY: WORDS AND ERROR FREQUENCY

Words missed only on the post-test	Number of students who missed the word and assigned activity			Total
armistice	1 C			1
auxiliary	7 C		1 A ¹	8
ballast	1 C			1
commit			1 A ¹	1
encrusted	2 C			2
enmesh	5 C	1 B ¹		6
grudge	1 C			1
monomania	2 C			2
offensive	5 C			5
parcel	2 C			2
purge	3 C		1 A ¹	4
recede	1 C			1
resolution	5 C	1 B ¹		6
sentiment	2 C	1 B ¹	1 A ¹	4
shaddock	1 C			1
sluggish	1 C			1
stately	1 C			1
trade wind	2 C	1 B ¹	1 A ¹	4
vital	1 C			1
yaws	1 C			1

TABLE 12

PERCENT CORRECT ON TEST-OUTS AND POST-TEST

Student	Unit three test-out	Unit four test-out	Post-test
Carla	63.33	50.00	94.11
Pat B.	83.33	63.33	88.23
Lori	80.00	66.66	100.00
Sheila	70.00	90.00	91.17
Kelly	86.66	93.33	97.05
Jon	93.33	76.66	88.23
Chris G.	93.33	66.66	94.11
Jeff H.	73.33	63.33	100.00
Julie	53.33	53.33	73.52
Vern	56.66	60.00	82.35
Jim	56.66	50.00	82.35
Pat K.	50.00	60.00	91.17
Chris K.	93.33	76.66	100.00
Sue	46.66	43.33	73.52
Jeannine	86.66	63.33	97.05
Meghan	93.33	86.66	88.23
Jeff M.	56.66	43.33	88.23
Eileen	76.66	63.33	97.05
Linda	53.33	56.66	82.35
David	73.33	63.33	76.47
Steve P.	96.66	90.00	100.00
John	36.66	50.00	47.05
Lester	70.00	70.00	91.17
Bill	63.33	66.66	64.70
Dale	83.33	70.00	94.11
Andy	96.66	60.00	97.05
Debbie	86.66	93.33	94.11
Steve Z.	73.33	40.00	100.00

TABLE 13

COMPARISON OF TEST-OUT, VOCABULARY SHEETS,
POST-TEST, AND ASSIGNED ACTIVITY

Student	Unit Three				Unit Four				Unit Three			Unit Four			New Words	
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	E	F	G	H	I
Carla	6	2	2	C ₂	10	4	3	C	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Pat B.	3	X	X	B ₂	10	3	0	C	0	X	X	0	0	X	4	0
Lori	6	X	X	B ₂	8	4	2	C	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	0
Sheila	6	2	1	C ₂	2	X	X	A ¹	1	0	0	0	X	X	2	0
Kelly	4	X	X	B ₂	2	X	X	A ¹	0	X	X	0	X	X	0	1
Jon	2	X	X	A ¹	6	5	1	C	0	X	X	0	1	0	3	0
Chris G.	2	X	X	A ¹	9	5	0	C	0	X	X	0	0	X	1	0
Jeff H.	5	0	1	C	9	3	2	C	0	X	0	0	0	0	0	0
Julie	7	1	2	C	10	4	0	C	1	0	0	3	3	X	2	0
Vern	9	0	3	C	10	2	2	C	2	X	0	2	0	0	1	1
Jim	7	0	1	C	10	0	2	C	3	X	1	1	X	0	1	0
Pat K.	12	0	0	C	10	4	0	C	2	X	X	0	1	X	0	0
Chris K.	2	X	X	A ¹	7	5	0	C	0	X	X	0	0	X	0	0
Sue	8	1	2	C	9	5	3	C	2	0	0	2	2	2	1	0
Jeannine	4	X	X	B ₂	7	2	2	C	0	X	X	0	0	0	1	0
Meghan	2	X	X	A ¹	3	X	X	B ¹	0	X	X	0	X	X	3	1
Jeff M.	11	0	0	C	11	2	1	C	1	X	X	0	0	0	1	2
Eileen	5	3	0	C	9	2	1	C	0	0	X	0	0	0	1	0

TABLE 13--Continued

Student	Unit Three				Unit Four				Unit Three			Unit Four			New Words	
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	E	F	G	H	I
Linda	6	0	3	C	10	2	2	C	2	X	1	0	0	1	0	2
David	4	2	1	C	7	1	0	C	0	0	0	2	0	X	4	2
Steve P.	1	X	X	A ²	3	X	X	A ¹	0	X	X	0	X	X	0	0
John	11	0	1	C	12	0	0	C	7	X	0	5	X	X	4	2
Lester	5	1	1	C	5	4	4	C	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Bill	7	0	0	C	5	0	2	C	4	X	X	1	X	1	4	2
Dale	5	X	X	B ²	9	5	0	C	0	X	X	0	0	X	2	0
Andy	1	X	X	A ¹	9	2	2	C	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	1
Debbie	2	X	X	B ²	2	0	0	A ¹	0	X	X	0	X	X	2	0
Steve Z.	3	1	1	C	13	2	1	C	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

^ANumber of words missed on the test-out which were included on the post-test.

^BNumber of words missed on the vocabulary sheets which were included on the post-test.

^CNumber of words missed on both the test-out and the vocabulary sheets which were included on the post-test.

^DAssigned activity.

^ENumber of previously missed test-out words missed on the post-test.

^FNumber of previously missed vocabulary sheet words missed on the post-test.

TABLE 13--Continued

^GNumber of words previously missed on both the test-out and vocabulary sheets and then on the post-test.

^HNumber of test-out words not previously missed on the test-outs but missed on the post-test.

^INumber of vocabulary sheet words not previously missed in doing the vocabulary sheets but missed on the post-test.

^XDoes not apply.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

PILOT TEST

Name _____
 Score _____

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| A. a book, article, etc. that is typed or handwritten | ___ 1. witless--1 |
| B. support or interest | ___ 2. bazaar--3 |
| C. persons sent out by a church to spread its religion in a foreign country | ___ 3. courteously--2 |
| D. foolish; stupid | ___ 4. behalf--7 |
| E. polite and kind | ___ 5. malady--19 |
| F. always acting or thinking in the same way | ___ 6. galleys--6 |
| G. a sickness or disease | ___ 7. nephew--0 |
| H. fully developed or grown | ___ 8. manuscript--0 |
| I. in Oriental countries a market or street with many shops | ___ 9. new-fangled--12 |
| J. a large, low ship of long ago, having both sails and many oars | ___ 10. missionaries--0 |
| K. the son of one's brother or sister | |
| L. egg-shaped | |
| M. strange; unusual, but not worthwhile | |

Note: The original pilot test was handwritten. The numbers after each word indicates the frequency of errors made on that word.

APPENDIX B

UNIT THREE TEST-OUT

Part One: Test-Out
 Unit Three
Into New Worlds

Definitions

- A. a Spanish gentleman
- B. a person who does something for enjoyment rather than for money
- C. enough or good enough for what is needed
- D. a large ocean wave
- E. a closed compartment designed to hold and protect men and instruments in space or underwater travel
- F. to keep thinking in a worried or troubled way
- G. to arrange by putting into classes or groups according to some system
- H. heavy material, such as metal or sand, carried in a ship or balloon to keep it steady
- I. at or toward the back part of a ship
- J. an underwater breathing device
- K. anything that comes down on one suddenly and in large numbers or amounts, especially a slide of material down a mountain
- L. a loud, harsh noise
- M. a sudden, very heavy rain

Words

- ___ 1. adequate
- ___ 2. amateur
- ___ 3. aqualung
- ___ 4. avalanche
- ___ 5. ballast
- ___ 6. billow
- ___ 7. caballero
- ___ 8. capsule
- ___ 9. clash
- ___ 10. classify

Note: The original test-out was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX B--ContinuedPart Two: Test-Out
Unit Three
Into New Worlds

Definitions

- A. to set apart from others
- B. to tangle up, as if in a net
- C. hard or impossible to believe
- D. covered with a layer of something
- E. easy to see or understand
- F. a strong and sudden rush of air
- G. a person who makes or repairs barrels and casks
- H. to use up
- I. a stony substance made up of the skeletons of many tiny sea animals
- J. to dismiss from a job
- K. regardless of
- L. to work out
- M. choice food

Words

- ___ 1. cooper
- ___ 2. coral
- ___ 3. delicacy
- ___ 4. despite
- ___ 5. discharge
- ___ 6. encrusted
- ___ 7. enmesh
- ___ 8. gust
- ___ 9. incredible
- ___ 10. isolate

Note: The original test-out was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX B--ContinuedPart Three: Test-Out
Unit Three
Into New Worlds

Definitions

Words

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| A. a wind that blows without stopping from the northeast or southeast toward the equator | ___ 1. muffle |
| B. slow or slow-moving | ___ 2. necessity |
| C. to go or move backward | ___ 3. parcel |
| D. a seasonal wind of the Indian Ocean and southern Asia | ___ 4. plastic |
| E. that which is needed or cannot be done without | ___ 5. porpoise |
| F. a water animal that is like a whale | ___ 6. recede |
| G. to annoy or make angry | ___ 7. secrecy |
| H. the condition of being secret | ___ 8. sluggish |
| I. to wrap or cover closely so as to keep warm, hide, protect | ___ 9. trade wind |
| J. a substance, made from various chemicals, that can be molded and hardened into many useful products | ___ 10. viperfish |
| K. a fresh-water fish used for food | |
| L. a small wrapped package | |
| M. a snake-like fish | |

Note: The original test-out was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX C

UNIT FOUR TEST-OUT

Part One: Test-Out
 Unit Four
Into New Worlds

Definitions

- A. a low tower atop a submarine, used as a place for observation
- B. coming by turns; first one and then the other
- C. having to do with the managing of money in a home, business, or government
- D. to throw away or get rid of something that is no longer wanted
- E. to suppose something to be a fact
- F. to speak out against in a strong way
- G. an excepting, or leaving out
- H. to escape or get away from by being quick or clever
- I. an agreement to stop fighting
- J. to do or perform something bad or wrong
- K. polite and kind
- L. large guns, too heavy to carry
- M. a secret plan by two or more people to do something bad or unlawful

Words

- ___ 1. alternate
- ___ 2. armistice
- ___ 3. artillery
- ___ 4. assume
- ___ 5. commit
- ___ 6. conning tower
- ___ 7. conspiracy
- ___ 8. denounce
- ___ 9. economic
- ___ 10. exception

Note: The original test-out was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX C--Continued

Part Two: Test-Out
 Unit Four
Into New Worlds

Definitions	Words
A. a spread like butter, made of vegetable oils and skim milk	___ 1. fundamental
B. good quality; worth	___ 2. grudge
C. forming a basis or foundation	___ 3. knapsack
D. too great an interest in, or enthusiasm for, something	___ 4. margarine
E. a broad stretch of high, level land	___ 5. maroon
F. a meeting to talk over or settle something	___ 6. monomania
G. attacking or used for attacking	___ 7. offensive
H. a bag worn on the back, as by hikers, for carrying supplies	___ 8. parallel
I. to mix up or put in disorder	___ 9. plateau
J. like that of earliest times; crude; simple	___ 10. primitive
K. moving out in the same direction and always the same distance apart so as never to meet	
L. to put someone ashore in a lonely place and leave him	
M. to envy someone because of something he has	

Note: The original test-out was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX C--ContinuedPart Three: Test-Out
Unit Four
Into New Worlds

Definitions

Words

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| A. a serious skin disease of the tropics, caused by a germ | ___ 1. purge |
| B. of or having to do with any of the major groups into which mankind is divided | ___ 2. racial |
| C. a saving or being saved or being saved from danger or evil | ___ 3. reduce |
| D. grand and dignified | ___ 4. remedy |
| E. loose, not tight; relaxed | ___ 5. salvation |
| F. to make clean or pure by getting rid of things that are dirty or wrong | ___ 6. sentiment |
| G. an introduction to a book | ___ 7. shaddock |
| H. very important | ___ 8. stately |
| I. to make smaller, less, or few | ___ 9. vital |
| J. an undertaking; an amount of work | ___ 10. yaws |
| K. a large pear-shaped fruit | |
| L. a medicine or treatment that cures, heals, or relieves | |
| M. a feeling about something | |

Note: The original test-out was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX D

ACTIVITY A¹

Category: Animals

Swan	Goat
Horse	Rat
Ape	Unau
Dog	Duck
Donkey	Goose
Owl	Eel
Cow	
Kangaroo	

APPENDIX E

ACTIVITY A²

An illustration of a viperfish



APPENDIX F

ACTIVITY B¹

Word Search

GRACIAL
DEFAJEM
SDKCINL
TUBHORQ
ACOMMIT
REMEDYP

Definitions:

1. to make smaller, less, or few
(reduce)
2. of or having to do with any of the major
groups into which mankind is divided

(racial)
3. a medicine or treatment that cures, heals,
or relieves
(remedy)
4. to do or perform something bad or wrong

(commit)

APPENDIX G

ACTIVITY B²

Word Camouflage

1. ABCILELFOW: a large ocean wave
(billow)
2. CDELABSEH: a loud, harsh noise
(clash)
3. GHIUSRTE: a strong and sudden rush of
air
(gust)
4. OPRSECUEDFE: to go or move backward

(recede)

APPENDIX H

ACTIVITY C

Modified Vocabulary Sheet

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. magazines
(mag' ə-zēnz') | 2. armistice
(ár'mə-stis) | 3. slogan
(slō'gən) |
| 4. hostilities
(hos-til' ə-tez) | 5. blockade
(blo-kād') | |

1. When both sides agreed to halt the fighting, an XXXXXXXXXXXX was signed.
2. To prevent supplies from getting through, a XXXXXXXXXXXX of the port was set up.
3. Mark suggested a phrase that would capture everyone's attention, and the committee decided to use it as a XXXXXXXXXXXX.
4. Although the Korean war was officially ended on July 27, 1953, with the signing of the XXXXXXXXXXXX, the actual fighting did not stop until twelve hours later.
5. In a warship, explosives are stored in the XXXXXXXXXXXX.
6. The two countries were at war; we hoped there would soon be an end to the XXXXXXXXXXXX.
7. Nothing could get in or out of the city once the XXXXXXXXXXXX was set up.
8. "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen!" was a XXXXXXXXXXXX made popular by former President Truman.

APPENDIX I

UNITS THREE AND FOUR POST-TEST

Part One: Post-Test
 Units Three and Four
Into New Worlds

Definitions

Words

- | | | |
|--|-----|----------------|
| A. a person who does something for enjoyment rather than for money | ___ | 1. adequate |
| B. a large ocean wave | ___ | 2. amateur |
| C. a clear transparent quartz that looks like glass | ___ | 3. armistice |
| D. enough or good enough for what is needed | ___ | 4. auxiliary |
| E. to stun or bewilder, as by a shock or blow | ___ | 5. avalanche |
| F. that helps or aids | ___ | 6. ballast |
| G. a Spanish gentleman | ___ | 7. billow |
| H. an agreement to stop fighting | ___ | 8. caballero |
| I. a song or poem that tells a story in short verse | ___ | 9. commit |
| J. heavy material, such as metal or sand, carried in a ship or balloon to keep it steady | ___ | 10. conspiracy |
| K. a secret plan by two or more people to do something bad or unlawful | ___ | 11. crystal |
| L. anything that comes down on one suddenly and in large numbers or amounts | | |
| M. to do or perform something bad or wrong | | |

Note: The original post-test was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX I--ContinuedPart Two: Post-Test
Units Three and Four
Into New Worlds

Definitions	Words
A. forming a basis or foundation	___ 1. denounce
B. to speak out against in a strong way	___ 2. encrusted
C. of or having to do with any of the major groups into which mankind is divided	___ 3. enmesh
D. too great an interest in, or enthusiasm for, something	___ 4. fundamental
E. to envy someone because of something he has	___ 5. grudge
F. to mark clearly the outline or limits	___ 6. isolate
G. to make clean or pure by getting rid of things that are dirty or wrong	___ 7. monomania
H. to tangle up as if in a net	___ 8. offensive
I. covered with a layer of something	___ 9. parcel
J. to set apart from others	___ 10. purge
K. attacking or used for attacking	___ 11. racial
L. a small wrapped package	
M. to become less harsh or stubborn	

Note: The original post-test was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

APPENDIX I--ContinuedPart Three: Post-Test
Units Three and Four
Into New Worlds

Definitions

Words

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| A. a serious skin disease of the tropics caused by a germ | ___ 1. recede |
| B. a large pear-shaped fruit | ___ 2. remedy |
| C. to examine or investigate carefully | ___ 3. resolution |
| D. to go or move backward | ___ 4. salvation |
| E. a wind that blows without stopping from the northeast or southeast toward the equator | ___ 5. sentiment |
| F. a saving or being saved from danger or evil | ___ 6. shaddock |
| G. a seasonal wind of the Indian Ocean and southern Asia | ___ 7. sluggish |
| H. a formal statement by a group giving its opinion, decision, etc. | ___ 8. stately |
| I. very important | ___ 9. trade wind |
| J. grand and dignified | ___ 10. viperfish |
| K. a medicine or treatment that cures, heals or relieves | ___ 11. vital |
| L. a snake-like fish | ___ 12. yaws |
| M. a feeling about something | |
| N. slow or slow-moving | |

Note: The original post-test was double spaced throughout and typed on a primer typewriter.

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