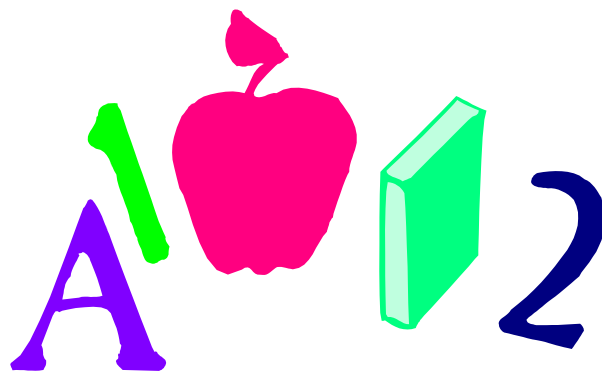


# Instant Words

These are the most common words in English, ranked in frequency order. The first 25 make up about a third of all printed material. The first hundred make up about half of all written material, and the first three hundred make up about 65 percent of all written material. These words are also called "sight words" because fluent reading depends on the ability to recognize them instantly, on sight. Make sure your students know the first hundred words before teaching the second hundred. Teach only a few at a time to keep the students' success rate high. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just reading down the column.

The first hundred words should be mastered by the end of first grade. The second hundred and third hundred words should be mastered by the end of second grade. After mastering the first three hundred words, students should continue to practice reading them until they are able to read all 1,000 words fluently.



## The First Hundred Instant Words

Column 1 Words 1-25	Column 2 Words 26-50	Column 3 Words 51-75	Column 4 Words 76-100
the	or	will	number
of	one	up	no
and	had	other	way
a	by	about	could
to	words	out	people
in	but	many	my
is	not	then	than
you	what	them	first
that	all	these	water
it	were	so	been
he	we	some	called
was	when	her	who
for	your	would	oil
on	can	make	sit
are	said	like	now
as	there	him	find
with	use	into	long
his	an	time	down
they	each	has	day
I	which	look	did
at	she	two	get
be	do	more	come
this	how	write	made
have	their	go	may
from	if	see	part

## The Second Hundred Words

Column 5 Words 101-125	Column 6 Words 126-150	Column 7 Words 151-175	Column 8 Words 176-200
over	say	set	try
new	great	put	kind
sound	where	end	hand
take	help	does	picture
only	through	another	again
little	much	well	change
work	before	large	off
know	line	must	play
place	right	big	spell
years	too	even	air
live	means	such	away
me	old	because	animals
back	any	turned	house
give	same	here	point
most	tell	why	page
very	boy	asked	letters
after	following	went	mother
things	came	men	answer
our	want	read	found
just	show	need	study
name	also	land	still
good	around	different	learn
sentence	form	home	should
man	three	us	American*
think	small	move	world

\*Proper Noun

## The Third Hundred Words

Column 5  
Words 101-125

Column 6  
Words 126-150

Column 7  
Words 151-175

Column 8  
Words 176-200

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high	saw	important	miss
every	left	until	idea
near	don't	children	enough
add	few	side	eat
food	while	feet	face
between	along	car	watch
own	might	miles	far
below	close	night	indians
country	something	walked	really
plants	seemed	white	almost
last	next	sea	let
school	hard	began	above
father	open	grow	girl
keep	example	took	sometimes
trees	beginning	river	mountains
never	life	four	cut
started	always	carry	young
city	those	state	talk
earth	both	once	soon
eyes	paper	book	list
light	together	hear	song
thought	got	stop	being
head	group	without	leave
under	often	second	family
story	run	later	it's

## The Fourth Hundred Words

Column 13  
Words 301-325

Column 14  
Words 326-350

Column 15  
Words 351-375

Column 16  
Words 376-300

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body	order	listen	farm
music	red	wind	pulled
color	door	rock	draw
stand	sure	space	voice
sun	become	covered	seen
questions	top	fast	cold
fish	ship	several	cried
area	across	hold	plan
mark	today	himself	notice
dog	during	toward	south
horse	short	five	sing
birds	better	step	war
problem	best	morning	ground
complete	however	passed	fall
room	low	vowel	king
knew	hours	true	town
since	black	hundred	I'll
ever	products	against	unit
piece	happened	pattern	figure
told	whole	numeral	certain
usually	measure	table	field
didn't	remember	north	travel
friends	early	slowly	wood
easy	waves	money	fire
heard	reached	map	upon

## The Fifth Hundred Words

Column 17  
Words 401-425

Column 18  
Words 426-450

Column 19  
Words 451-475

Column 20  
Words 476-500

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done	decided	plane	filled
English	contain	system	heat
road	course	behind	full
halt	surface	ran	hot
ten	produce	round	check
fly	building	boat	object
gave	ocean	game	am
box	class	force	rule
finally	note	brought	among
wait	nothing	understand	noun
correct	rest	warm	power
oh	carefully	common	cannot
quickly	scientists	bring	able
person	inside	explain	six
became	wheels	dry	size
shown	stay	though	dark
minutes	green	language	ball
strong	known	shape	material
verb	island	deep	special
stars	week	thousands	heavy
front	less	yes	fine
feel	machine	clear	pair
fact	base	equation	circle
inches	ago	yet	include
street	stood	government	built

## The Sixth Hundred Words

Column 21  
Words 501-525

Column 22  
Words 526-550

Column 23  
Words 551-575

Column 24  
Words 576-600

can't  
matter  
square  
syllables  
perhaps  
bill  
felt  
suddenly  
test  
direction  
center  
farmers  
ready  
anything  
divided  
general  
energy  
subject  
Europe  
moon  
region  
return  
believe  
dance  
members

picked  
simple  
cells  
paint  
mind  
love  
cause  
rain  
exercise  
eggs  
train  
blue  
wish  
drop  
developed  
window  
difference  
distance  
heart  
sit  
sum  
summer  
wall  
forest  
probably

legs  
sat  
main  
winter  
wide  
written  
length  
reason  
kept  
interest  
arms  
brother  
race  
present  
beautiful  
store  
job  
edge  
past  
sign  
record  
finished  
discovered  
wild  
happy

beside  
gone  
sky  
glass  
million  
west  
lay  
weather  
root  
instruments  
meet  
third  
months  
paragraph  
raised  
represent  
soft  
whether  
clothes  
flowers  
shall  
teacher  
held  
describe  
drive

## The Seventh Hundred Words

Column 25  
Words 601-625

cross  
speak  
solve  
appear  
metal  
son  
either  
ice  
sleep  
village  
factors  
result  
jumped  
snow  
ride  
care  
floor  
hill  
pushed  
baby  
buy  
century  
outside  
everything  
tall

Column 26  
Words 626-650

already  
instead  
phrase  
soil  
bed  
copy  
free  
hope  
spring  
case  
laughed  
nation  
quite  
type  
themselves  
temperature  
bright  
lead  
everyone  
method  
section  
lake  
consonant  
within  
dictionary

Column 27  
Words 651-675

hair  
age  
amount  
scale  
pounds  
although  
per  
broken  
moment  
tiny  
possible  
gold  
milk  
quiet  
natural  
lot  
stone  
act  
build  
middle  
speed  
count  
cat  
someone  
sail

Column 28  
Words 676-700

rolled  
bear  
wonder  
smiled  
angle  
fraction  
Africa  
killed  
melody  
bottom  
trip  
hole  
poor  
let's  
fight  
surprise  
French  
died  
beat  
exactly  
remain  
dress  
iron  
couldn't  
fingers



## The Eighth Hundred Words

Column 29  
Words 701-725

Column 30  
Words 726-750

Column 31  
Words 751-775

Column 32  
Words 776-800

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row	president	yourself	caught
least	brown	control	fell
catch	trouble	practice	team
climbed	cool	report	God
wrote	cloud	straight	captain
shouted	lost	rise	direct
continued	sent	statement	ring
itself	symbols	stick	serve
else	wear	party	child
plains	bad	seeds	desert
gas	save	suppose	increase
England	experiment	woman	history
burning	engine	coast	cost
design	alone	bank	maybe
joined	drawing	period	business
foot	east	wire	separate
law	pay	choose	break
ears	single	clean	uncle
grass	touch	visit	hunting
you're	information	bit	flow
grew	express	whose	lady
skin	mouth	received	students
valley	yard	garden	human
cents	equal	please	art
key	decimal	strange	feeling

## The Ninth Hundred Words

Column 33  
Words 801-825

Column 34  
Words 826-850

Column 35  
Words 851-875

Column 36  
Words 876-900

supply  
corner  
electric  
insects  
crops  
tone  
hit  
sand  
doctor  
provide  
thus  
won't  
cook  
bones  
tail  
board  
modern  
compound  
mine  
wasn't  
fit  
addition  
belong  
safe  
soldiers

guess  
silent  
trade  
rather  
compare  
crowd  
poem  
enjoy  
elements  
indicate  
except  
expect  
flat  
seven  
interesting  
sense  
string  
blow  
famous  
value  
wings  
movement  
pole  
exciting  
branches

thick  
blood  
lie  
spot  
bell  
fun  
loud  
consider  
suggested  
thin  
position  
entered  
fruit  
tied  
rich  
dollars  
send  
sight  
chief  
Japanese  
stream  
planets  
rhythm  
eight  
science

major  
observe  
tube  
necessary  
weight  
meat  
lifted  
process  
army  
hat  
property  
particular  
swim  
terms  
current  
park  
sell  
shoulder  
industry  
wash  
block  
spread  
cattle  
wife  
sharp

## The LAST Hundred Instant Words

Column 37 Words 901-925	Column 38 Words 926-950	Column 39 Words 951-975	Column 40 Words 976-1000
company	sister	gun	total
radio	oxygen	similar	deal
we'll	plural	death	determine
auction	various	score	evening
capital	agreed	forward	nor
factories	opposite	stretched	rope
settled	wrong	experience	cotton
yellow	chart	rose	apple
isn't	prepared	allow	details
southern	pretty	fear	entire
truck	solution	workers	corn
fair	fresh	Washington	substances
printed	shop	Greek	smell
wouldn't	suffix	women	tools
ahead	especially	bought	conditions
chance	shoes	led	cows
born	actually	march	track
level	nose	northern	arrived
triangle	afraid	create	located
molecules	dead	British	sir
France	sugar	difficult	seat
repeated	adjective	match	division
column	fig	win	effect
western	office	doesn't	underline
church	huge	steel	view