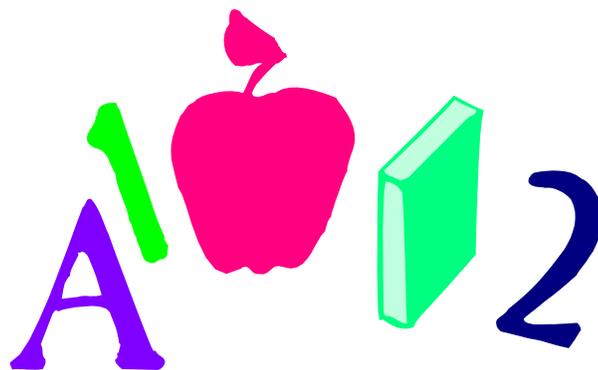


Instant Words

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. The fourth and fifth hundred should be mastered by the end of third grade. After mastering the first five 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 9
Words 201-225

Column 10
Words 226-150

Column 11
Words 251-175

Column 12
Words 276-300

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

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

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

row

least

catch

climbed

wrote

shouted

continued

itself

else

plains

gas

England

burning

design

joined

foot

law

ears

grass

you're

grew

skin

valley

cents

key

president

brown

trouble

cool

cloud

lost

sent

symbols

wear

bad

save

experiment

engine

alone

drawing

east

pay

single

touch

information

express

mouth

yard

equal

decimal

yourself

control

practice

report

straight

rise

statement

stick

party

seeds

suppose

woman

coast

bank

period

wire

choose

clean

visit

bit

whose

received

garden

please

strange

caught

fell

team

God

captain

direct

ring

serve

child

desert

increase

history

cost

maybe

business

separate

break

uncle

hunting

flow

lady

students

human

art

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
radio
we'll
auction
capital
factories
settled
yellow
isn't
southern
truck
fair
printed
wouldn't
ahead
chance
born
level
triangle
molecules
France
repeated
column
western
church

sister
oxygen
plural
various
agreed
opposite
wrong
chart
prepared
pretty
solution
fresh
shop
suffix
especially
shoes
actually
nose
afraid
dead
sugar
adjective
fig
office
huge

gun
similar
death
score
forward
stretched
experience
rose
allow
fear
workers
Washington
Greek
women
bought
led
march
northern
create
British
difficult
match
win
doesn't
steel

total
deal
determine
evening
nor
rope
cotton
apple
details
entire
corn
substances
smell
tools
conditions
cows
track
arrived
located
sir
seat
division
effect
underline
view