Vocabulary Development

WEEK: 07

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What is Vocabulary?

- The word vocabulary originated from the Latin word vocabulum, meaning "a word, name."

- It is the foundation of all languages, providing us with the necessary building blocks to express ourselves, convey thoughts, ideas, emotions, and information, connect with others, develop critical thinking and confidence.

- It forms an essential component of language and communication.

What is Vocabulary?

- Even with a limited grasp of grammar, we can still communicate effectively through vocabulary alone.

- As British linguist David A. Wilkins noted, "without grammar, very little can be conveyed; without vocabulary, nothing can be conveyed."

Tips to improve your Vocabulary

- Write down new words.

- Revise new vocabulary regularly.

- Read!

- Learn from context.

- Use it or lose it!

Word Formation

- The English language is known for its wonderful quality of the way in which words and sentences are formed and used.

- Formation of new words from an existing root word by adding a syllable or another word is the general process; however, there are multiple ways in which it can be done.

- Let's dive into all the word formation processes one by one!

Derivation

This process is normally done through suffixation or prefixation, that is to say, adding a suffix or a prefix.

Affixation

Affixation is a way of forming new words by adding prefixes or suffixes to the root/base word.

According to their position in a word affixes are divided into:

- **Prefixes** which precede the word.
- **Suffixes** which follow the word.
- **Circumfixes** which occurs at the beginning and end of the word.

What is a base word

In English grammar, a base is the form of a word to which prefixes and suffixes can be added to create new words.

What is a base word

For Example:

un - **comfort** - able

(pre) - (base) - (suff)

celebration

celebrate- tion

(base) -   (suff)

re - **instruct**

(pre) - (base)

Adding Prefixes

The term 'prefix' refers to one or more alphabets added to the stem of a word, mostly to make it negative. The most commonly used prefixes include:

un - unexpected

dis - discomfort

im - impatient

ir - irresponsible

Adding Prefixes

Add prefixes to these words:

Discipline

Comfortable

Just

Tidy

Respect

Understand

Adding Prefixes

Add prefixes to these words:

Discipline - indiscipline

Comfortable - uncomfortable

Just - unjust

Tidy - untidy

Respect - disrespect

Understand - misunderstand

Adding Prefixes

- Add words to these prefixes

- hyper -

- anti -

- pre -

- semi -

- post -

Adding Prefixes

Add words to these prefixes

- **hyper –** hyperactive, hyperallergic

- **anti –** antibody, antivirus

- **pre –** predetermine, precaution, preschool

- **semi –** semifinal, semicircle

- **post –** postwar, postgraduate, postmortem

Adding Suffixes

A suffix is a short syllable added at the end of a base word. The addition of suffixes usually changes the word class of the particular word. The most common suffixes include '-ment', '- ness', '-ity', '-ous', '-tion', '-sion', '-al', '-able', '-ible', '-ive', '-ly', '-ate', '-er', '-or', etc.

- ment- development
- tion - celebration
- able - comfortable
- ness - rudeness

Adding Suffixes

Examples:

- Comprehend (verb) – comprehension (noun) – comprehensible (adjective)

- Inform (verb) – information (noun) – informative (adjective)

- Invest (verb) – Investment (noun) – Investor (noun)

- Write (verb) – writer (noun)

- Authorise (verb) – authorisation/authority (noun)

Circumfixes

- In affixation, circumfixes are less common than prefixes and suffixes and typically involve adding affixes to both the beginning and the end of a base word.

- **Few examples of circumfixes are:**

1. **en**light**en**
2. **un**attain**able**
3. **in**correct**ly**

Circumfixes - Task

Add affixes to the following words

- **human**

- **imagine**

- **correct**

- **perfect**

- **appropriate**

Circumfixes - Task

Add affixes to the following words

- **human** - inhumanity
- **imagine** - unimagineable
- **correct -** incorrectly
- **perfect** - imperfection/imperfectly
- **appropriate** - inappropriateness

Compounding

Compounding means creating a word by adding up two or more different words. Compound words have a new meaning, which is obviously related to the meanings of the other words.

For example:

- book + case = bookcase

- ice + cream= ice-cream

- watch + man = watchman

- traffic + lights = traffic lights

Conversion

Conversion happens when a word changes from one word class to another. For instance, the verb to google is formed from the noun Google; or the noun read (as in a good read) is formed from the verb to read. **For example:**

- I emailed this document to John. (emailed is a verb formed from the noun email).

- He was bullied at school as a child. (bullied is a verb formed from the noun bully)

Blending

Blending involves taking a part of two different words to make a new word, like merging two words based on the sounds of these words, whose meanings is a mixture of the meanings of the original words.

Let's see some examples:

- breakfast + lunch = brunch

- motor + hotel = motel

- work + alcoholic = workaholic

Abbreviation

When we abbreviate a word, we form another word by shortening it or simply by using only part of the word:

- Celebrities - celebs
- Photograph - photo
- Examination - exam
- Influenza - flu
- ASAP - as soon as possible
- fr - for real

Abbreviation

In general, we can talk about two types of abbreviation:

- **Clipping**

- **Acronyms**

Abbreviation - Clipping

This means literally clipping the word, which means «cutting» the word to make it shorter. This normally makes the word more informal and/or appealing.

Some examples are:

- advertisement = ad
- introduction - intro
- demonstration = demo

Abbreviation - Acronyms

Acronyms, which are a form of abbreviation, are words formed by using only the first letter(s) of the words. By creating an acronym, we are reducing the meaning of a whole phrase o sentence to a single word.

Let's see some popular examples:

- laughing out loud = LOL
- United Nations = UN
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration = NASA

Abbreviation - Acronyms

Guess the following acronyms

- BRB
- LMK
- FOMO
- AKA
- DIY
- IMO
- DOB

- IKR
- OMW

Abbreviation - Acronyms

Guess the following acronyms

- BRB - be right back
- LMK - let me know
- FOMO - fear of missing out
- AKA - also known as
- DIY - do it yourself
- IMO - in my opinion
- DOB - date of birth

- IKR - i know right
- OMW - on my way

Lexical Relationships

- According to Yule, (2010) the meaning of word can be defined not only by its component features, but also by its relationship to other words.

- Lexical relations describe the relationships between the meanings of words.

- There are several types of lexical relations, such as: synonyms, antonyms, homonym, polysemy, synonym, antonym, hyponymy.

Lexical Relationships

Ready to learn lexical relations?

Let's go!

Synonyms

Gimaletdinova et al., (2021) define synonyms as lexical terms with the similar meanings depending on the context. Two or more words with very closely related meanings are called synonyms.

Synonyms are the pairs: almost/nearly, big/large, broad/wide, buy/purchase, cab/taxi, car/automobile, couch/sofa, freedom/liberty.

Task - Synonyms

Read the paragraph and underline the synonym of the word in bold.

Despite the mountain of opposing evidence, Ted stubbornly refused to change his opinion on the virtues—or lack thereof of getting eight hours of sleep every night. He **obdurately** insisted that his brain was more alert with only five hours of sleep and that more sleep simply made him feel lazy.

Task - Synonyms

Read the paragraph and underline the synonym of the word in bold.

Although Caden wasn't a particularly sentimental type in general, he had always held up his grandmother, a lifelong teacher and caretaker, as an ideal to aspire to. Her devotion to the well-being of others made her, in Caden's eyes, a **paragon** of selflessness.

Task - Synonyms

Read the paragraph and underline the synonym of the word in bold.

Although the silver carp was originally imported into the United States in 1973 to help with plankton control, this fish is now considered harmful to the environment because it competes with other species that feed on plankton. The Department of Agriculture has made it illegal to import or export this **pernicious** animal without a permit.

Antonyms

According to Zheng & Gao (2014), antonym are the words that has contradictory meaning. It means that an antonym is a semantic relationship between two unit of speech whose meaning are the absolutely opposed. Antonymy are two words with opposite meanings.

Some examples of antonyms are:

- **Wicked** - Good, Virtuous, Kind
- **Significant** - Minor, Irrelevant, Meaningless
- **Initial** - Lastly, Ongoing, Final

Homophones

When two or more different (written) words with different spelling and meanings have the same pronunciation, they are defined as homophones.

Common examples of homophones are:

bare / bear, meat / meet, flour / flower, pail / pale, right / write, and to / too / two.

Homonym

When words with the same spelling and pronunciation have different meanings, they are described as homonyms. **For example:**

- Bear – animal / bear – to carry

- Bat – a bird/ bat – gaming instrument

- Park – playground / park – car parking

- Trunk – of tree / of the elephant

- Saw – to see / saw – kind of an axe

Polysemy

When we encounter two or more words with the same form and related meanings, we have what is known as polysemy. The relatedness of meaning found in polysemy is essentially based on similarity.

For example:

The head of a company is similar to the head of aperson on top of and controlling the body

Polysemy

HEAD - object on top of your body

HEAD - at the top of a company or department

FOOT - of a person

FOOT - of a tree/chair/document

MOUTH - of a person

MOUTH - of a river/cave

Hyponym

- According to Al-SHemmery & Alshemmery (2017), hyponym has a meaning that is related to one another and forms a sequence based on the arranged meaning.

- Simply put, a hyponym means when the meaning of one form is includes meaning of another.

Hyponym

- For example, the meaning of musical instrument is included in the meaning of Piano. Musical instrument is the superordinate term; Piano is hyponym of musical instrument (Piano is a kind of musical instrument).

- **Some other examples are:**

1. Carrot-vegetable
2. Horse-animal
3. Cyan/Navy-blue

Learning vocabulary by inferring meaning from context

- One of the most important strategies to help build your vocabulary is by learning in context.

- "In context" means using the situation that you understand in the sentences you have read/ heard so far to guess the meaning of new vocabulary without depending on a dictionary constantly.

TASK

- **Choose the correct meaning of the bold word:**

1. Our baseball team's pitcher has a few **eccentric** habits, such as throwing exactly thirteen warm-up pitches and never wearing socks.

A) normal

B) strange

C) messy

TASK

- **Choose the correct meaning of the bold word:**

2. After the heavy rains, the stream became **murky**; in fact, the water was so cloudy you couldn't see the bottom.

A) cloudy

B) bottomless

C) clear

TASK

- **Choose the correct meaning of the bold word:**

3. The **debris** on the stadium floor included numerous paper cups, ticket stubs, and cigarette butts.

A) products

B) papers

C) trash

TASK

- **Choose the correct meaning of the bold word:**

4. The coach takes every opportunity to **censure** his players, yet he ignores every opportunity to praise them.

A) approve of

B) criticize

C) choose

TASK

- **Choose the correct meaning of the bold word:**

5. The newlyweds agreed to be very **frugal** in their shopping because they wanted to save enough money to buy a house.

A) economical

B) wasteful

C) interested

TASK

- **Choose the correct meaning of the bold word:**

6. Although Alex usually looks **unkempt**, he had a very neat appearance at his job interview.

A) orderly

B) handsome

C) messy

TASK - Answers

1. B

2. A

3. C

4. B

5. A

6. C

Idioms

- An idiom is a group of words, or in other words, a phrase that has a meaning different from the literal meaning of the words in it.

- **According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionary**, an idiom is defined as "a group of words whose meaning is different from the meanings of the individual words".

- **According to the Cambridge Dictionary**, an idiom is defined as "a group of words in a fixed order that has a particular meaning that is different from the meanings of each word on its own".

Idioms

Some examples of idioms are:

- Under the weather - feeling ill

- Kill two birds with a stone - Achieve two results by doing one thing

- Break a leg - Used instead of good luck

- Hang in there - Stay strong in a difficult situation

- Call it a day - To stop doing something

- Let the cat out of the bag - Reveal a secret carelessly

- A piece of cake - An easy task

Idioms - List

https://byjus.com/english/idioms-in-english/

Task - Idioms

- **Select the correct idiom for the given situation**

1. Rashid Latif announces on media that he will soon tell the secret life of corrupt Pakistani players.

A) Spill the beans

B) Red tape

C) A dark horse

D) Hit the wall

Task - Idioms

- **Select the correct idiom for the given situation**

1. Rashid Latif announces on media that he will soon tell the secret life of corrupt Pakistani players.

A) Spill the beans

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D) Hit the wall

Task - Idioms

- **Select the correct idiom for the given situation**

2. According to a survey conducted in Pakistan, not every individual can play badminton well.

A) A whole new ball game

B) Off the hook

C) Not somebody's cup of tea

D) Show colors

Task - Idioms

- **Select the correct idiom for the given situation**

2. According to a survey conducted in Pakistan, not every individual can play badminton well.

A) A whole new ball game

B) Off the hook

C) Not somebody's cup of tea

D) Show colors

THANKYOU