**Word Frequency List of American English**

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These are entries 1-20,000 from the frequency lists that are available from [www.wordfrequency.info](http://www.wordfrequency.info/). They are based on the 400+ million word [Corpus of Contemporary American English](http://www.americancorpus.org/) (COCA), which is the only large, recent, and genre-balanced corpus of American English. Due to the characteristics of the corpus on which the data is based, you can be sure that the words that you find here are ones that you would encounter in the "real world". Because the entries are arranged in order of frequency, you can maximize your study of English vocabulary in a way that is probably not available with any other resource.

Other frequency lists are available from [www.wordfrequency.info](http://www.wordfrequency.info/), including 5,000 and 10,000 word lists that have the same format as this one. In addition, it is possible to purchase frequency and collocates lists that contain 200-300 collocates for each word (compared to the 20-30 here), for a total of about 5,000,000 collocates for the 20,000 word list. Unlike this PDF version, the expanded collocates lists allow you to edit, copy from, and print from the files. On the other hand, those versions are not formatted as nicely as what you have here, they are more expensive, and they are designed mainly for use by (computational) linguists.

In addition to the frequency lists, you can also purchase complete 2-gram and 3-gram lists from the entire 400 million word corpus, containing more than 100 million n-grams. You can also purchase a printed (book) version of the entries 1-5,000, which was published by [Routledge](http://www.routledge.com/books/A-Frequency-Dictionary-of-Contemporary-American-English-isbn9780415490634) in 2010 as the *Frequency Dictionary of American English: word sketches, collocates, and thematic lists*. (Note that this list has about 30-40% fewer collocates for the words 1-5,000 than in the printed book, because of a copyright agreement with Routledge in which we promised not to duplicate the contents of the book.)

Finally, a note on accuracy. We believe that the frequency list itself (the words #1-5,000, 10,000 or 20,000) is very accurate -- probably more so than any other frequency list of English. In addition, the more than 100,000 collocates for words 1-5,000 have been corrected manually, although there are undoubtedly a few remaining problems. There are more than 250,000 collocates for the 10,000 word list and more than 500,000 collocates for the 20,000 word list. Because of the number of collocates, these have not been checked individually for accuracy, although many efforts have been made to correct the list as a whole.

If you would like to see detailed information on the composition of the corpus, and details on exactly how the frequency list was created (tokenization, part of speech tagging, lemmatization, frequency and dispersion calculations, extracting collocates, etc), please see the introductory material in the [book](http://www.wordfrequency.info/files/book.pdf) [sample](http://www.wordfrequency.info/files/book.pdf).

Thank you for purchasing this frequency list. We hope that it will be a useful tool for you in your study, teaching, and research of English.

**ALPHABETICAL INDEX**

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

**PART OF SPEECH INDEX**

verb noun adjective adverb function word

(Note: use **ALT ←** to return to indexes from frequency-based entries)

**Format of entries**

**Rank frequency** (1, 2, 3, …), **lemma**, *part of speech*

Collocates

(● Synonyms, when available)

Raw frequency, dispersion (0.00 – 1.00), (register variation: Spoken, Fiction, Magazines, Newspapers, Academic)

Note that the collocates are grouped by part of speech and ordered by frequency (most frequent first). The \* • +

symbol indicates pre/post placement with regards to the headword.

## the *a*

of, first, year, most, •world, over, •same, day, end, between, •United States, next, during•

22038615 | 0.98

1. **be** *v*

misc there, if, many, •able, long, always, likely, since, never, sure, often, •available, •aware, afraid

* exist, live, have being || take place, happen, occur

|| be situated, be located, remain 12545825 | 0.97

## and *c*

her, their, other, up, between•, •then, both, back, over, year, down, off, family, friend

* then, after that, afterward || plus, in addition to, as well as || furthermore, moreover, also 10741073 | 0.99

1. **of** *i*

out•, because•, front•, instead•, terms•, way, top•, ahead•, outside•, favor•, place, charge•, light, spite• 10343885 | 0.97

1. **a** *a*

* lot, •few, while, month, •single, •minute, •chance,
* bit, •series, hour, •variety, •huge, •dozen, mile

## in *i*

which, year, new, way, place, •world, life, school, country, case, •area, city, •United States, •fact

* around, inside, within || appearing in, taking part in, participating in, featuring in

6996437 | 0.98

1. **to** *t*

in, want•, try•, back•, need•, able•, lead•, return•, allow•, enough•, continue, listen•, close•, refer• 6332195 | 0.98

## have *v*

noun •trouble, •knack, •qualm, •repercussion,

* recourse, •inkling, misgiving, •foresight misc already,
* been, •done, •shown, •begun, •seen, •gotten
* possess, own || must, need || make sure, make certain || receive, obtain || consume, take || think of, come up with || experience, undergo || be affected by, suffer from || organize, carry out || tolerate, put up with || produce, bear

4303955 | 0.97

1. **to** *i*

in, want•, try•, back•, need•, able•, lead•, return•, allow•, enough•, continue, listen•, close•, refer• 3856916 | 0.99

10144200 | 0.98

1. **it** *p*

think•, so, because, •seem, even, hard, •easy, •clear, whether•, •difficult, •possible, sound, worth,

* impossible
* the aforementioned, he, she, her || the situation, the problem, the issue, the subject

3872477 | 0.96

1. **I** *p*

* think, know, like, •mean, •believe, love, guess, sure, myself, •remember, sorry, •wonder, wish, afraid
* myself, I myself, I for one, I personally, yours truly, me

3978265 | 0.93

## that *c*

fact•, believe•, suggest•, indicate•, argue•, realize•, note•, clear•, evidence•, ensure•, aware•, notion•, stuff, •correct

3430996 | 0.97

## for *i*

* year, reason, wait•, need•, while, support, •month,
* minute, •hour, search•, responsible•, account•,

•second, prepare•

* aimed at, intended for, designed for, meant for || in favor of, in support of, pro

3281454 | 0.98

## you *p*

know, if•, get, think, want, see, tell, me, thank•, ask, let, •need, mean, talk

3081151 | 0.92 S

1. **he** *p*

say, when•, tell, like, ask, feel, before, himself, believe, though•, •write, •add, speak, die 2909254 | 0.94

## with *i*

deal•, associate•, fill•, relationship•, compare•, contact•, charge•, interview•, consistent•, familiar•, conversation•, cope•, •exception, comfortable•

* by means of, by, through || together with, along with, in conjunction with || in addition to, plus, including

2683014 | 0.99

## on *i*

base•, •side, focus•, •street, •floor, •ground, depend•,

* basis, effect•, rely•, impact•, •list, attack•, •page
* sitting on, on top of, resting on, lying on || at, next to, by the side of, by

2485306 | 0.99

1. **do** *v*

noun •homework, harm, me, •laundry, •talking,

* disservice, •bidding, •housework, •push-up misc you, what, •not, •know, •think, want, why•, mean,
* believe, •care, •mind
* perform, accomplish, act || see to, fix, prepare || solve, work out, resolve

2573587 | 0.95

## say *v*

noun official•, expert•, spokesman, analyst, critic•, prosecutor, spokeswoman, diplomat misc •goodbye,

* quietly, •softly, needless•, •aloud, •proudly, •flatly,

suffice•, quoted

* speak, utter, articulate, declare || give away, express, disclose, display

1915138 | 0.95

## this *d*

* year, •country, •case, •week, point, •morning, early•,
* season, month, •article, •stuff, •weekend, •summer,
* particular

1885366 | 0.96

## they *p*

because•, so, •want, like, before, believe, themselves, once, decide, realize, eat, insist, •perceive, •deserve 1865580 | 0.96

1. **at** *i*

look•, •time, •university, •point, •end, •home, •level, stare•, •center, •moment, •age, PM, •top, professor•

* on, next to, by the side of, by 1767638 | 0.98

## but *c*

* also, •for, •rather, nothing•, necessarily,
* nonetheless, •now, •reason, everything•, truth,
* moment, wear•, •sake, whole 1776767 | 0.97

1. **we** *p*

* go, know, think, so•, •see, our, •need, •talk, •want,
* hear, before, believe, •learn, ourselves 1820935 | 0.94 S

## his *a*

hand, •own, •head, •wife, •eye, father, face, arm,

* mother, shake•, •son, •brother, •career, •shoulder

1801708 | 0.95

## from *i*

range•, different, remove•, prevent•, benefit•, suffer•, across, emerge•, separate•, derive•, mile•,

* perspective, distance, •beginning
* as of, after, on or after, beginning, starting, commencing

1635914 | 0.99

## that *d*

fact•, believe•, suggest•, indicate•, argue•, realize•, note•, clear•, evidence•, ensure•, aware•, notion•, stuff, •correct

1712406 | 0.94 S

## not *x*

* only, •enough, •yet, •sure, or•, whether•, simply, certainly•, •necessarily, •mention, •anymore,
* proofread, •surprising, •merely

1638830 | 0.98

## n''t *x*

do•, can•, •know, •want, •any, why, •anything, really,

* enough, •understand, •care, •anymore, •worry,
* matter

1619007 | 0.94

1. **by** *i*

own, cause•, surround•, back, influence•, affect•,

* inch, accompany•, replace•, publish•, inspire•, mark, fund, dominate•
* through, via, in || with, next to, near || not later than, before, sooner than

1490548 | 0.96

## she *p*

her, say, like, herself, before, realize, cry, marry, soon, whisper, pregnant, reply, asleep, softly

* this woman, that woman, the woman in question, this girl, that girl, the girl in question

1484869 | 0.91 F

1. **or** *c*

either•, whether•, minute•, hour, •whatever, month, search, modify•, •otherwise, sooner•, mile,

* depending

1379320 | 0.97

## as *c*

well, such•, much•, long•, such•, far•, same•, •result,

•part, •though, soon•, serve•, •possible, describe•

* while, when, during || because, since, seeing that

|| like, identical to, the same as || to such an extent, equally, to the same degree

1296879 | 0.98

## what *d*

do, know•, about, •happen, tell, like, •mean, •call, exactly•, matter, •wrong, wonder•, •hell, •supposed 1181023 | 0.94

1. **go** *v*

noun •bed, •bathroom, •mile, •nut, •berserk, jail misc

* through, let•, •home, •away, •happen, •ahead,
* beyond, •sleep, •anywhere, •crazy

**on** what•, •inside, list•, •forever, hell•, fighting•,

* length, •usual, heck•, •indefinitely **off** bomb•, alarm•, siren•, beeper•, bulb•, pager•, •tangent, firework•, flashbulb•, firecracker• **back** let•, •home, •forth,
* sleep, •inside, •upstairs, •downstairs, •jail **up** •flame,
* smoke, curtain•, cheer•, eyebrow•, •dramatically,

roar•, •chimney **down** sun•, •tube, swelling•,

* breakfast, Titanic **out** •dinner, •public, party, breakfast
* leave, go away || travel, move || work, run || reach, extend || become, get || die, pass away 1151045 | 0.93 S

## their *a*

* own, child, •life, •home, parent, •ability, •daughter,
* counterpart, •peer, •identity, •neighbor, •respective, relative, •participation

1083029 | 0.97

## can *v*

noun others, Mr, equation•, Dr, counselor•, mean, anytime, me, Mrs, certainty, calorie, criteria, •havoc, teacher-librarian• misc you, n't, see, how, so, help, believe, afford, anything, imagine, understand, easily, cause, anyone, handle

* dismiss, fire, sack, discharge, give notice, let go 1022775 | 0.98

## who *p*

people•, those•, man•, one•, woman•, •live, someone•, person•, guy•, anyone•, care, individual•, somebody•, anybody•

1018283 | 0.97

## get *v*

noun •job, chance, trouble, •call, help, message,

* sleep, •impression misc better, •home, •rid, •ready,
* marry, •involved, •sick, •closer, •married, worse

**out** •there, •vote, •alive, ahead, •safely, •underneath, wallet, •handkerchief, bail, •checkbook **back** •home,

* together, •normal, •track, •basic, •touch, till•, eager•, anxious• **up** •walk, •early, •speed, slowly, •nerve,
* courage, •dawn, •pace, abruptly **off** •bus, •easy, •ass,
* butt, •lightly, •scot-free, •duff
* become, grow || understand, comprehend || cause, make || contract, pick up || move, step || obtain, acquire

992596 | 0.94

1. **if** *c*

* you, even•, ask, wonder•, •ever, •anything,
* necessary, mind, •somebody, •desire, lucky, •convict,
* correctly

933542 | 0.97

## would *v*

noun proposal•, legislation•, dollar, Dr, likelihood, guess, assurance•, criteria, voucher, be-, Iraqi, acre, re-election, •understatement, grandchild misc like, never, probably, hope, allow, able, expect, require, soon, rather, agree, certainly, otherwise, anyone, wonder

925515 | 0.97

## her *a*

she, •she, hand, mother, •eye, •husband, •own,

* head, tell•, •face, •father, hair, arm, •daughter

969591 | 0.91 F

## all *d*

after•, well, above•, •sort, •along, while, •stuff, virtually•, equal, •ingredient, •due

892102 | 0.98

1. **my** *a*

* mother, •father, •life, •own, •friend, hand, •head,
* eye, •wife, •mind, •husband, •brother, •son, •name

919821 | 0.93 F

## make *v*

noun decision, •sense, money, •difference, •mistake, point, choice, change, effort, statement, progress, movie, sound, •love, deal misc •sure, •feel, •easy,

* clear, •possible, •difficult, •impossible, •worse,
* easier

**up** •mind, •percent, •story, •own, group, •difference,

* lost, try•, •majority, mostly **out** can•, •word, barely•, check, •shape, •bandit
* create, build || put together, assemble || manufacture, yield || throw together, cook || cause, bring about || earn, bring in || force, compel || turn into, become || appoint, elect || manage, accomplish || achieve, get into || make up, constitute || reach, get to

857168 | 0.98

## about *i*

talk•, what, think•, how, tell•, worry•, something, question•, write•, hear•, care•, learn•, information•, story•

* concerning, regarding, in relation to, on the subject of, on, with reference to

874406 | 0.96

## know *v*

noun guy, truth, stuff, hell, •certainty, whereabouts,

* bound misc you•, do•, •what, •how, everyone,
* exactly, everybody, nobody•, anybody, •firsthand,

instinctively, •intimately, collectively

* understand, be aware of, be knowledgeable about

|| experience, go through, undergo || be acquainted with, be familiar with, distinguish 892535 | 0.93 S

## will *v*

noun proposal, legislation, mistake, dollar, amendment, Dr, mile, neighbor, likelihood•, be-, understatement, would-, in, is• misc that, n't, think, like, like, never, why, probably, such, happen, so, hope, believe, allow, able

* want, wish, yearn, desire, long, hope against hope 824568 | 0.97

1. **as** *i*

well, such•, much•, long•, such•, far•, same•, •result,

•part, •though, soon•, serve•, •possible, describe•

* in the role of, in the function of, having the status of, being

829018 | 0.95